



# CANADA COMEBACK CHALLENGE

**Post-Secondary Institution Name: University of Toronto – All Campuses**

## **1. Background**

### **What is the Canada Comeback Challenge?**

The Canada Comeback Challenge creates opportunities for post-secondary students to contribute to Canada's COVID-19 recovery while gaining valuable work-integrated learning (WIL) experience. Through a fun, skill-building national competition in an entirely online format, students will tackle real-world problems facing employers in Canada's public, private, and non-profit sectors and compete for a chance to pitch their ideas to an esteemed panel of judges.

### **Why do we need the Canada Comeback Challenge?**

The time is right for students and employers to work together to address the unprecedented transformation brought about by COVID-19. This federally-funded initiative, announced by Prime Minister Trudeau in June 2020 as part of a \$9 billion support package for post-secondary students and recent graduates, empowers students, links them with employers, and increases Canada's capacity to address the social and economic challenges brought about by the global pandemic.

## **2. Benefits**

### **Why should students participate in the Canada Comeback Challenge?**

Canada Comeback Challenge aims to:

- Provide the kind of WIL experience that kick-starts careers.
- Provide students with opportunities to apply their skills, develop new ones, and expand their professional networks.
- Provide access to curated resources for professional and career development, health and wellness, and diversity and inclusion.
- Provide access to a virtual mentorship community and dedicated employer mentors for teams that make it to the final round.
- Provide opportunities for students to create meaningful solutions to real-world challenges facing Canada's public, private, and non-profit sectors.



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### 3. Participation

#### What does participation look like?

Students from across Canadian post secondary institutions have been asked to find solutions to the most pressing issues of our time. There are two different cohorts of the Canada Comeback Challenge that are ongoing.

The first is the national challenge that started in October 2020 where students from across Canada participated in teams. The second cohort starting in January 2021 will have students in their specific institution and classrooms tackling these issues. Your deliverable and rules of participation will depend on your institution. If you have questions about your participation, please contact either your institution instructor or [campuschallenge@bher.ca](mailto:campuschallenge@bher.ca)!

For students participating from the University of Toronto, you can participate individually or in groups of 2-5.

### 4. Financial Support

Here at BHER, we are committed to reducing the barriers students may be facing in accessing the resources necessary to participate. Students have up to \$250 to seek reimbursement for costs associated with participating in this competition. Students participating from the University of Toronto-all campuses, qualify for this access grant.

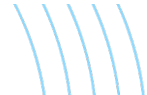
Eligible expenses include the following:

- Office supplies: consumables such as paper, ink cartridges, pens, pencils, etc.
- Software licenses, software subscriptions
- Postage and courier
- Cellphone: air and data charges
- Internet: connection and data charges
- IP Fees and licenses: costs to access intellectual property
- Prototype equipment & materials: equipment and materials related to solution
- Learning resources: books, e-books, conferences, webinars, registration
- Daycare: daycare charges as a result of COVID financial challenges

The expense reimbursement limit for each participant in Round One is \$250 including tax. A complete guide to submit reimbursement is available on the website.

### 5. Challenge Scope

For University of Toronto students, you will find over 80 challenges offered by 26 different organizations across Canada that you can choose to find solutions to. These challenges cover the public, private and not-for profit sectors in Canada.



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When you join the challenge, you will select one of these focus areas, which will aid you in selecting the case challenge that best suits your interests. Here are some interesting statistics from each to get you started:

**Public Sector:** Canada's public sector includes all government-controlled entities such as ministries, departments, funds, organizations, and business enterprises and makes up 15 percent of Canada's economy.

**Private Sector:** Canada's private sector is made up of for-profit companies, including small and medium-sized enterprises as well as large businesses, that are not owned or operated by any level of government and makes up 76 percent of Canada's economy.

**Not-For-Profit:** Canada's not-for-profit sector is divided into three categories: community non-profits (e.g. social services, advocacy groups); business non-profit institutions (business associations or chambers of commerce); and government non-profit institutions (hospitals, universities and colleges). This sector makes up about 9 percent of Canada's economy.

Challenges will become public on the website in the 3rd week of January.

## **6. Submission**

For University of Toronto students, there will be 2 rounds of submission from each individual or group. The outputs will be:

- Round 1: Executive Summary of 2 pages with an additional 3 pages allowed for supporting appendices.
- Round 2: A 5-minute video presentation of your entire solution with feedback from your Round 1 submission incorporated into the pitch.

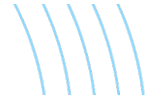
The general rubric for submission will be based on the following criteria:

- Proposed Solution
- Implementation
- Stakeholder Engagement and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
- Barriers and Risks
- Costs and Budget

Details on each round will be provided throughout the competition. Feedback provided each round will be qualitative in nature.

## **7. Timeline**

- Registration opens on the 25th Jan.
- Teams have to be reported by 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb.
- Round 1 runs from 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb till the 26th Feb.
- Feedback for Round 1 on 1st March.
- Round 2 runs from 1st March till 29th March.
- Feedback for Round 2 on 9th April.

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- All reimbursements have to be submitted by 15th March.
  - Wrap up and reflection till 12th of April.

## **8. Professional Development**

We have partnered with multiple organizations across the country to curate concurrent professional development that will be available for all students to use throughout the challenge. Some participating partners include Jack.org, Venture of Canada, Future Design School and Bridgespace. Many asynchronous resources on design and human-centred thinking have been collected courtesy of the award winning organization IDEO.

Resources provided are both synchronous and asynchronous in nature to provide multiple forms of engagement. They are all timed to give a clear idea of duration of participation and are supplemented with worksheets. The topics covered include team fundamentals, design thinking tools and methods as well as mental health and wellness.

All resources will be available through the website after the 3rd week of January.

## **9. Mentorship**

BHER considers mentorship an essential component of a work-integrated learning experience. As such, we are committed to providing participating students the chance to connect with our network of talented mentors across Canada. Each institution will be provided with a list of mentors chosen from over 100 mentors in our network who will be able to provide meaningful insight and guidance to students. Along with the list, a guide for facilitating conversations between students and mentors will also be provided.

## **10. Contact Information**

For institution specific information, contact your instructor or department administering the Canada Comeback Challenge.

After reading through this website and this document, if you have any questions, please contact [campuschallenge@bher.ca](mailto:campuschallenge@bher.ca)