February 9, 2022
Invitation to Submit Expression of Interest

ABOUT TECHNL
The technology and innovation sector in Newfoundland and Labrador is a significant economic driver, contributing more than $1.6 billion to the economy each year, and employing almost 6,500 people with a customer base that spans the globe. As other industries begin to focus on digitalization, the cumulative economic impact of the technology and innovation sector is even greater, employing more than 8,700 people locally.

techNL is a non-profit organization that helps its members create new possibilities through technology and innovation. Through the delivery of day-to-day programs and services, expanding business development opportunities, building capacity to support accelerated growth, and advocating on the issues that are most important to the sector, techNL is committed to working with members, industry and partners to help local technology companies scale-up and grow; create a talent pipeline to further fuel the growth of the sector; and work together with other industries as they move toward digitalization.

THE PROJECT
On January 31, 2022, Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) announced a call for funding requests for the Sectoral Workforce Solutions Program (SWSP). Click here for press release.

The SWSP helps key sectors of the economy to develop and implement solutions to address current and emerging workforce needs. The Program will support projects that focus on a range of industry-driven activities such as training and reskilling workers, helping employers retain and attract a skilled and diverse workforce and other creative solutions to help sectors address labour market needs.

techNL will be submitting a request for funding centred on training and upskilling individuals to work within the technology sector as well as technology-enabled roles in other key sectors. Technology roles include but are not limited to software development, computer science, game design, cyber security, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and more. Technology-enabled roles include but are not limited to digital marketing, UX/UI and digital design, technology sales, business development, leadership roles in tech companies, and more.

Importantly, our proposal will demonstrate how proposed activities will increase the participation of equity-deserving groups in these roles, and diversity and inclusion principles will be integrated throughout the program.

EOI REQUEST

As part of this proposal, techNL is soliciting expressions of interest from selected organizations for the creation and/or delivery of training or upskilling program(s). Details of selected EOIs will be included within techNL's request for funding.

Proponents must be able to carry out the prospective work under the following conditions:
- Activity must launch in June 2022 and be complete by March 2024
- Activity must aim to recruit a minimum of 25 individuals
- Activity must fully prepare participants to enter the workforce in the technology sector or in a technology-enabled role
- Activity must be accessible to equity-deserving groups. If a barrier to participation exists, proponent must identify said barrier and include potential routes to remove it.
- Activity must be created and/or delivered *entirely* by the proponent and their partners.

EOI SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All submissions should include the following:
1. Organizational overview including bios of involved staff
2. Proposed activity detail
   a. Program objectives
   b. Curriculum summary
   c. Educational outcomes
   d. Intended audience (including number of students)
   e. How results would be measured
   f. Potential career paths of program graduates
3. Critical path
4. Budget
5. Details of any in-kind or value-added contributions

Submissions should be digital files no longer than five pages. **The deadline for submission is Wednesday, February 16th, 2022 at 4PM NST**. Send your submissions by email to talent@technl.ca.

NEXT STEPS

techNL will confirm if an EOI will be included in the final funding application by March 1, 2022. If techNL is awarded the requested funding in full, each included proponent will be required to enter into a contract for the delivery of the activities outlined in that proponent's EOI.