

CIFAR &Mila

Call for Expert Group Members

Are you an AI expert interested in sharing your insights with policymakers to make a difference and help ensure AI's impact on society is beneficial?

<u>Apply</u> by <u>June 25, 2024</u> to join the Expert Group of the AI Insights for Policymakers program, co-led by <u>Mila</u> and <u>CIFAR</u>.

Overview of program

The AI information space is noisy, often highly technical, and full of competing claims and vested interests. Finding reliable, independent and, above all, relevant insights is challenging. This rings especially true for policymakers who are grappling with how best to approach, regulate or leverage AI for the public interest despite having limited access to technical AI expertise and no clear mechanism to engage with scientific experts.

The AI Insights for Policymakers program is a knowledge-brokering initiative that addresses this gap by providing a platform for policymakers and scientists to have timely and meaningful interactions on key issues.

We seek to bolster evidence-based policies across Canada by enabling policymakers to tap into the breadth and depth of the Canadian AI ecosystem's knowledge. Through a combination of "office hours" and policymaker-scientist Chatham Housestyle roundtables on specific topics, the project will connect policymakers with relevant experts to inform their thinking around AI and policy.

This initiative is led by a secretariat based out of Mila and CIFAR, with guidance from an Advisory Committee and two co-Chairs who provide strategic leadership.

On behalf of Mila and CIFAR, we are putting out an open call for members of our **Core Expert Group** to serve a one-year term from **September 2024 - August 2025.** We aim to secure a group of 8-12 experts with wideranging AI expertise to provide expert advice to Canadian policymakers through office hours, roundtable discussions, and policy red-teaming services.

These activities will be mediated by the two co-chairs, **Nidhi Hegde** (Canada CIFAR Chair at Amii) and **Blake Richards** (Canada CIFAR AI Chair at Mila).

We aim for a diverse group of experts with a mix of career stages, expertise, geographical representation, and backgrounds.



CIFAR &Mila

Role & Responsibilities

The primary mandate of the Expert Group is to provide targeted technical and sociotechnical advice, drawing on their expertise, to policymakers at all levels of government, in relation to specific challenges.

This one-year position will not include an honorarium, however all travel and accommodation costs will be covered, and an official letter of participation in this initiative will be issued by CIFAR, which can be used for reporting and performance review purposes.

More specifically, responsibilities and commitment include:

- Participate in in-person meetings (three full-days per year, one each in September, January, and June) of the Expert Group in locations across Canada;
- Provide advice to policymakers through office hours (in-person and virtual, 2 x 2-3h per year);
- Review drafts of written materials, such as policy briefs, to provide technical guidance (note that the primary writing responsibility will lie with the secretariat);
- Expected time commitment: On average, we will expect approx. 10-15 hours per quarter that you will spend as an expert.

Eligibility & Selection Criteria

- Relevant expertise in computer science (artificial intelligence, machine learning);
- Demonstrated interest in the sociotechnical impact of AI technologies (e.g. publications, op-eds, panel discussions);
- Interested and open to a broad range of policy-relevant topics in AI/ML;
- Hold an academic affiliation at a Canadian institution (including postdoctoral researchers);
- Solution-oriented and collegial with proven communication skills and a passion for the societal impacts of artificial intelligence/desire to make impact.

Application process

We are accepting both self-nominations and peer nominations for this call. To nominate yourself, please submit an <u>abridged</u> CV/resume including links/info on op-eds, publications, conferences and/or panels on the societal impact of AI (max. 5 pages) and a brief statement of interest (max. 1 page) which addresses how your background and skills connect to the mandate of this group.

To nominate a peer, please submit a brief statement of their qualifications and expertise and links to any relevant publications.

These materials should be submitted via <u>Google Form</u> by **June 25, 2024.**

Questions? Please reach out to <u>AIPP@mila.quebec</u>.