

# AI POLICY AND FUNDING IN CANADA: PUBLIC INVESTMENTS, PRIVATE INTERESTS

## How is the Canadian government building the innovation economy under AI?

Artificial intelligence (AI) permeates all industries and is not a standalone sector.

AI is ubiquitous through the research, products and services it offers: machine learning, deep learning, data analytics, data science, and/or automated decision making.



## Who are the 10 most funded AI entities by the Canadian government?

1. Scale AI: \$229.8M
2. AbCellera Biologics Inc: \$175.6M
3. Digital Technology Supercluster: \$152.8M
4. CAE Inc: \$150M
5. North Inc: \$48M
6. University of Toronto: \$33M
7. Université de Montréal: \$28M
8. Element AI: \$20M
9. MindBridge Analytics: \$14.5M
10. University of British Columbia: \$8M

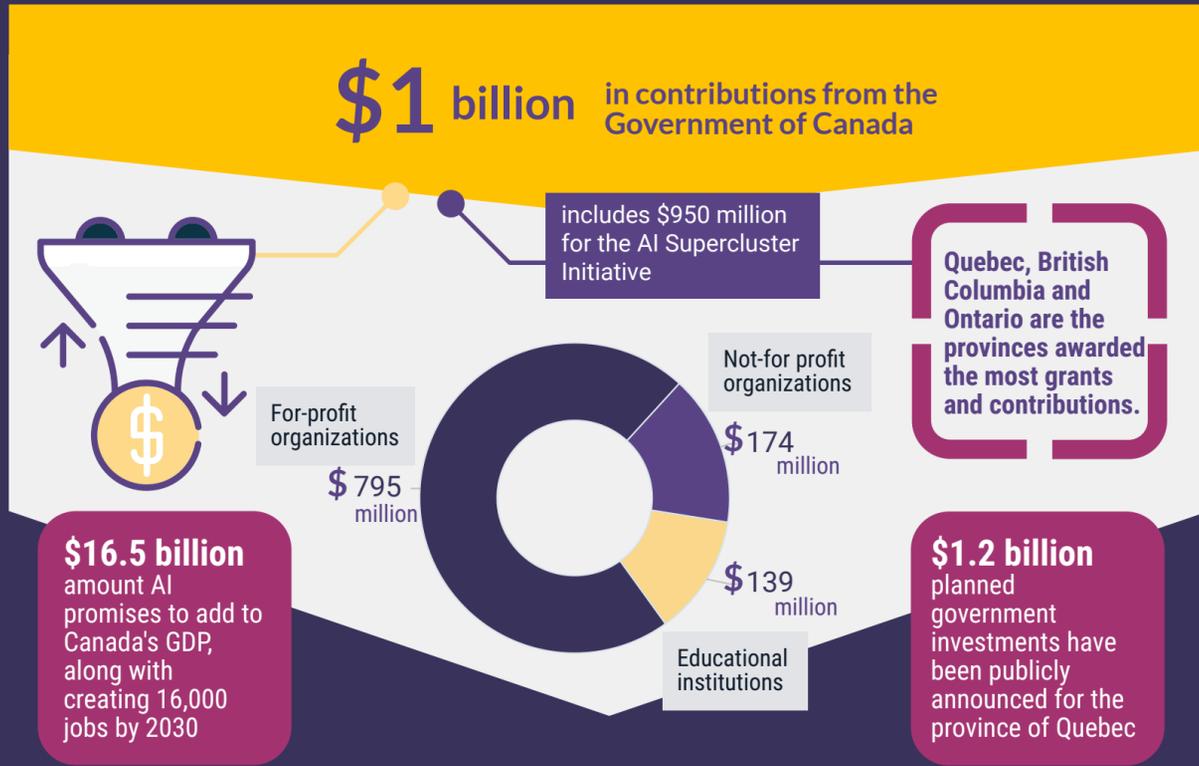
## What is our AI ecosystem dataset?

A 'living' list of AI entities that operate in Canada, open for feedback and collaboration: [tiny.one/CanadaAIEcosystem](https://tiny.one/CanadaAIEcosystem)



- Explore our AI funding datasets
1. AI grants & contributions
  2. AI contracts
  3. Contracts of vendors found in the pre-qualified AI suppliers list

Read the report: [tiny.one/CanadaAIPolicyFunding](https://tiny.one/CanadaAIPolicyFunding)



## Who is involved?

**Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS)**  
Creates and leads on AI policy in the federal government, provides leadership on digital government and open government.

**Innovation, Science and Development Canada (ISED)**  
Coordinates the pan-Canadian AI strategy, the AI Supercluster Initiative and international partnerships.

**Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR)**  
Leads the pan-Canadian AI (research) strategy.

**Public Services and Procurement Canada**  
Leads procurement across the government, including procurement of AI.

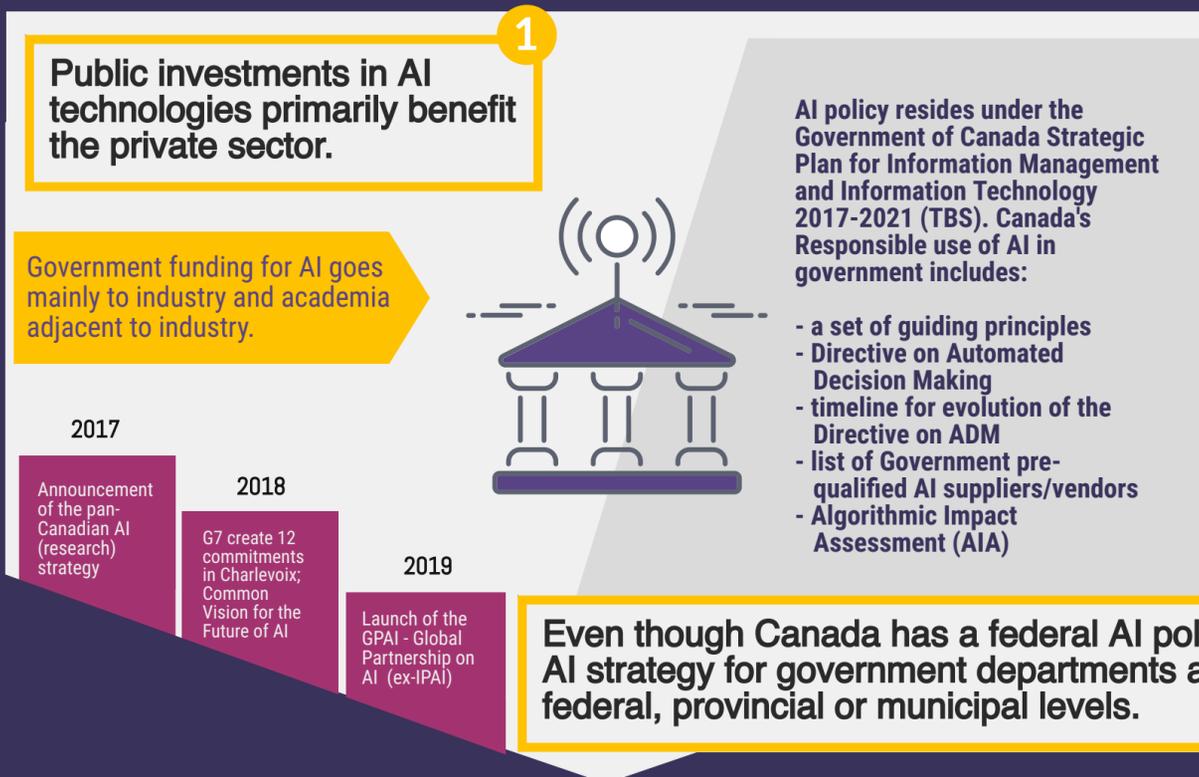
**Global Affairs Canada (GAC)**  
Sets the international AI policy agenda.

**Justice Canada**  
Reviews and provides legal opinions on law and AI.

Other departments and agencies involved include:

- Canada School of Public Service
- Canadian Digital Service
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- National Defence
- National Research Council
- Shared Services Canada
- Statistics Canada
- Transport Canada

## THE MAKING OF PUBLIC POLICY



## THE AI ECOSYSTEM



## Who is in the AI ecosystem?

- Private entities**
- accelerators
  - angel investors
  - big consulting/audit firms
  - big tech companies
  - incubators
  - institutional investors
  - startups
  - venture capital funds

- Public entities**
- academic labs & initiatives
  - accelerators
  - incubators
  - nonprofits
  - government institutions

**4 Concentrations of power provide advantages to a handful of entities, with financial resources, data and technologies.**

Ana Brandusescu  
2019-2021 McConnell Professor of Practice  
[ana.brandusescu@mcgill.ca](mailto:ana.brandusescu@mcgill.ca) | @anabmap

Design: A. Brandusescu and J. van Geuns