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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: Contract Researcher

The Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF/FCE) is requesting proposals from researchers with expertise in artificial intelligence (AI) system governance, legislation, and policies in Canada. We are seeking a Researcher to conduct a multi-jurisdictional scan and produce a summary report on the AI legislation and policy landscape across Canada, as it relates to the potential risks of AI systems on K-12 students and teachers.

Work should begin as soon as possible. Proposals are due **March 6, 2024** (see full details in the **Proposal Submission Process** section below).

1. Background

Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF/FCE)

Founded in 1920, the Canadian Teachers' Federation is the national voice for the teaching profession. A national alliance of provincial and territorial teacher organizations, the CTF/FCE represents 18 organizations and over 365,000 elementary and secondary school teachers and educators across Canada. [The CTF/FCE](#) promotes and supports quality, inclusive, publicly funded public education, in all its forms. We uphold teaching as a profession and advocate for adequate resourcing, labour rights, and social justice across Canada and around the world.

CTF/FCE research on the impacts of AI within public education

Driven by the concerns of Member and Associate Organizations, the CTF/FCE is undertaking a multi-year research and advocacy strategy to promote an ethical, responsible future of AI use in Canadian public education.

2. Scope of Work

An immediate priority is to understand the current legislative and policy landscape across Canada as it relates to protections for students and teachers interacting with AI-enabled education technologies. We are interested in any laws and policies at the federal and provincial/territorial levels that may protect students/teachers against AI risks such as:

- Data protection and security risks
- Exposure to bias and discrimination in AI systems
- Negative impacts of AI systems on learning and/or teaching

Relevant legislation and policy may include (but not limited to):

- Federal level: Artificial Intelligence and Data Act (AIDA)
- Provincial/Territorial level: Privacy Legislation; Education/School Act; Ministry of Education policies

Additionally, we would like to understand any gaps in protections, including those that may enable commercial exploitation of K-12 public education students and teachers.

We are not expecting a review of any protections in place at the school board or school level, which we will engage with in future work.



3. Tasks and Deliverables

1. Provide a work plan, including a summary of proposed methods and a timeline, for review and discussion with the CTF/FCE research team.
2. Scan federal and provincial/territorial legislation and policies which may have implications for protecting K-12 students and teachers against potential negative effects of AI-enabled education technologies.
3. Assess gaps in Canada's legislative and policy landscape that may leave students and/or teachers vulnerable to AI-related harms (e.g. impacts to data protection/security; exposure to bias and discrimination; negative learning/teaching outcomes; deprofessionalization of the teaching profession).
4. Produce a summary report. We are open to different formats based on the Researcher's recommendation.

4. Desired Experience

- **Research Expertise:** A track record of designing and executing high quality research studies using relevant methods (e.g. policy and governmental document analysis; content and discourse analysis), and publications or reports on AI legislation and policy issues.
- **Knowledge in AI and Technology Legislation and Policy:** Specific knowledge and experience researching the field of artificial intelligence, with a focus on legislative and policy considerations. Knowledge of Canadian K-12 education systems is an asset.
- **Effective Communication Skills:** Strong written communications skills, with the ability to clearly, concisely articulate complex research findings.
- **Research Leadership:** Ability to lead research initiatives from initiation to completion, meeting deadlines and delivering results within scope and budget.
- **Collaborative and Adaptable Approach:** Ability to work collaboratively with teams and adapt to shifting project requirements if needed.

5. Terms of Contract

The contract should start as soon as possible continue until the tasks are complete. Deliverables will be required in part or in full for the above tasks in April 2024, though we are open to discussion and negotiation based on the Researcher's recommendations.

6. Proposal Submission Process

Interested applicants are invited to submit the following:

- A cover letter and CV noting your relevant experience;
- A brief work plan for completing tasks and deliverables, including a suggested timeline, and any specific software and methods you will use;
- A proposed budget/fee for service;
- Two references.

Please submit the above to Assistant Executive Director Claudia Guidolin, at cguidolin@ctf-fce.ca, by 10 a.m. (ET) on March 6, 2024.

If you have any questions, please email Mia Travers Hayward, at mtravers@ctf-fce.ca.