
News Release

For Immediate Release

Federal government giving young Canadians in Toronto and across Canada the digital skills needed for future jobs

More than 20,000 students in Toronto to learn coding and digital skills required for the middle-class jobs of tomorrow through Canada Learning Code

January 24, 2018 – Toronto, ON – Government of Canada

The federal government is investing in young Canadians to provide them with the digital skills needed for the middle-class jobs of tomorrow. Thanks to a \$7.9 million investment in coding and digital skills training at Canada Learning Code, more young Canadians will be equipped with the in-demand digital literacy and problem-solving skills required by today's employers.

The funding was announced by Etobicoke Lakeshore Member of Parliament James Maloney and Willowdale Member of Parliament Ali Ehsassi, along with Toronto Liberal MPs, during a visit to Canada Learning Code headquarters in Toronto.

The investment is being allocated through [CanCode](#), a \$50-million federal program that gives students from kindergarten to grade 12 the opportunity to learn coding and other digital skills. The funding will also provide thousands of Canadian teachers with the tools needed to educate Canadian youth on these skills.

CanCode is a Budget 2017 commitment aiming to teach digital skills to over one million Canadian students and their teachers.

Quotes

“Becoming the most innovative country begins with investing in Canadian talent. Our government is committed to equipping Canadian youth with the digital skills they need for the jobs of the future. By teaching kids to code today, we're positioning Canada for future success across all industries and sectors because these kids will facilitate digital adoption, making all Canadian industries more profitable and globally competitive.”

– The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development

“Coding is the next big job. Industries ranging from automotive and agri-food to the life sciences and clean technology need coders, given their increasingly digital nature. That's why our government is equipping Canadian youth with the digital skills they need for the jobs of the future.”

– Ali Ehsassi, MP – Willowdale and Toronto Liberal Caucus Co-Chair

“This investment is great news for students across Toronto. It gives our youth the opportunity to learn the digital skills they need for future employment and further study in high-demand STEM fields.”

– James Maloney, MP – Etobicoke Lakeshore and Toronto Liberal Caucus Co-Chair

Quick facts

- CanCode will invest \$50 million over two years, starting in 2017–18, to support initiatives providing educational opportunities for coding and digital skills development to Canadian youth from kindergarten to grade 12.
- The program will also equip 63,000 teachers across the country with the training and tools to teach digital skills and coding.

Associated links

- [CanCode](#)
- [Innovation and Skills Plan](#)

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- 30 -

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