Statistics Canada – CANDEV Data Challenge

Participant Information Package

Event Overview

CANDEV is a 24 hour data challenge centered on solving problems related to data management, specifically challenges encountered in government departments. Participants are asked to build solutions to user stories provided by government departments partnered with CANDEV. These solutions will be presented in front of a panel of judges.

After arriving at the event and completing registration, participants are free to mingle and visit the booths set up by our partners located in the lobby of the Learning Crossroads building (CRX). Please ensure that you arrive on time to required events.

- The registration is at 9:00am on Saturday, October 20th, 2018;
- The opening ceremony begins at 12:00pm in the CRX amphitheatre (C140);
- The CANDEV Data Challenge will begin at 12:30pm on October 20th;
- The projects will be due for submission at 12:00pm on October 21st.

After the opening ceremony, teams will go to their assigned study rooms where mentors from CANDEV's partners will answer questions and provide guidance regarding user stories.

Besides working on their projects, teams are free to access the Dining Hall, attend workshops, participate in the recruitment session and enjoy the late night activities. Please consult the section Schedule Details of this document for more information about each activity.

How to Prepare?

The email received with this information package contains the list of your team members, as well as the user story to be solved during the event. It is forbidden to start the actual work on your project before the challenge starts (October 20th at 12:30pm). However, we suggest you familiarize yourself with the user story and brainstorm on potential solutions with your team mates, in order to be ready when the challenge begins. If your team mates don't show up at the event, you may be paired with others to form a complete team (4 members).

Since most user stories involve database manipulation and advanced statistical methods (web scraping, text mining, classification algorithms, etc.), we ask you to download the following software:

- R & RStudio
- Anaconda (pour Python 3.7)
- Microsoft Power BI Desktop

If you want to learn more on how to use these software for statistical purposes, workshops will be given during the event. The schedule of those workshops will be given the day-of.

It is suggested you create a GitHub account to share your code with the online community. Please make your projects available under the CANDEV repository created for the challenge.

What to Bring?

Each participants should bring:

- Laptop and charger
- HDMI cable
- Student ID
- Résumé (multiple copies)
- Cellphone and charger
- Reusable water bottle
- Power bar or extension cable
- Optional:
  - Toiletries (Toothbrush, deodorant, etc.)
  - Sleeping bag and small pillow
  - Comfortable change of clothes
  - Ethernet cable
  - USB key
  - Writing supplies and paper
  - Sharpies for whiteboards

Please be aware that you are responsible for your belongings and that there are no lockers on-site.
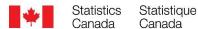
<u>Schedule Details</u>

Registration

Participants will have to check-in when they arrive on-site on October 20, 2018, in the lobby of the Learning Crossroads Building (CRX) at the University of Ottawa. Registration will take place at 9:00am. Volunteers will be present to guide you. Please **bring your student ID in order to complete your registration**. Participants will be required to **sign the rules and code of conduct, and the consent and release form** to compete in the Data Challenge. Participants that register early will have the opportunity to visit the recruitment booths before the start of CANDEV. A coupon to access the Dining hall will also be given at registration.

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Learning Crossroads building (CRX)
100 Louis-Pasteur
Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5

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The main entrance to the CRX is located by the pedestrian walkway near the intersection of Louis-Pasteur and Marie Curie.

Partner Expo

The Data Challenge is your opportunity to get to know more about the different agencies and departments of the federal government. Recruiters and agency representatives from the departments partnered with CANDEV will hold a Partner Expo where you can learn more about job opportunities and the working environment of the federal government. The Partner Expo will be open from 9:00am to 11:45am and from 3:15pm to 4pm on Saturday. It will be held in the main hall of CRX (first floor, behind the central stairs).

List of federal departments and agencies at the Partner Expo:

- Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
- Canadian Heritage
- Canadian Space Agency (CSA)
- Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)
- Employment Social Development Canada (ESDC)
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
- Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED)
- Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)
- Public Services Commission (PSC)
- Shared Services Canada (SSC)
- Statistics Canada

Food

Statistics Canada and the University of Ottawa Student Life are offering four meals to all the students participating in the Data Challenge. Food and drinks will be provided at the Dining Hall of the University Center (UCU). Participants will be allowed a maximum of four coupons and can access the dining hall at specified meal times, but will only be able to use a coupon once per meal time (ex. Can only have lunch on Sunday once). Specific meal times are listed below:

Time of day
Lunch (10:30 to 11:30) **(Saturday)**
Diner (4 pm to 11 pm) **(Saturday)**
Breakfast (6 am to 9 am) **(Sunday)**
Lunch (11:30 am to 3:15pm) **(Sunday)**

The first coupon for Saturday's lunch will be given at registration.

Coffee and snacks will also be offered Saturday night, thanks to the **University of Ottawa CO-OP and Careers**. It will be served in the Mall Hall of CRX, no coupon required.

If you are already registered to the Dining Hall meal plan (e.g. all first year students of the University of Ottawa living in student residence), you will not require coupons.

24/7 Dining Hall
Jock-Turcot University Centre, 85 University Private, Ottawa, ON K1N 9A7

Opening Ceremony

All participating students are invited to the opening ceremony at noon on Saturday. Keynote speakers will introduce the CANDEV Data Challenge and the end of the ceremony will mark the start of the challenge. The ceremony will be held in the amphitheatre (C140) on the first floor of the CRX building.

Introduction to the User Stories

You have been assigned a user story developed by one of our partners. Each user story will be introduced to you by a mentor. After the opening ceremony, you will head to an assigned room where a mentor will give a presentation and provide guidance regarding your user story. It's your opportunity to ask all of the questions that you may have.

Recruitment Session

Between 3:15 pm and 4 pm on Saturday, Statistics Canada will give an information session about the Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP) inventory posting specially created for the participants of this Data Challenge. There are currently **18 student jobs offered** through this program by multiple federal departments. You will be shown how to apply and qualify to this pool. Two sessions will be given (one in French and one in English) in the amphitheatre (C140) on the first floor of CRX building.

Meanwhile, the Partner Expo will be open in the main hall (in front of the amphitheatre). It is your opportunity to get to know more about the post-secondary recruitment programs offered by the Government of Canada. Ask our partners during the Partner Expo for some tips on how to qualify for the recruitment pools. Note that most post-secondary recruitment programs for computer science and economics/social graduates close on October 24th, 2018.

Workshops, Activities and Over-night Snacks

On Saturday evening, special guests will give workshops on the specific use of new technology and software related to treating, managing, and analyzing database. If you have technical questions on statistical tools like R, Python, and Microsoft Power BI, experts will be there to answer them.

Overnight, snacks and coffee will be offered, as well as games and other activities for you to relax after long hours of problem-solving.

More information on those activities will be provided the day-of the event.

Project Submission

By Sunday October 21st, 2018 at noon (12:00pm), your project needs to be sent to the CANDEV team using the provided google form. The link to access the Google form will be send to you by email during the event.

Pitches and Project Judging

Demonstrations will begin after project submission at 12:30pm on October 21st, 2018. After submission of their projects, teams will first provide a **2 minute** proof of concept presentation in front of two judges in a study room of the fourth floor (CRX). From that phase one of judging, a winner will be chosen for each user story. The selected 14 teams will then head to the amphitheatre (C140) to present in front of

all judges where five overall winners will be chosen. Each presentation in the amphitheatre will last for a maximum of **4 minutes**.

Projects will be evaluated based the following criteria:

- Technical Difficulty
    - Is the project technically impressive?
- User Experience
    - Was the project polished and easily useable?
- Usefulness
    - Does the project fulfill the requirements of the user story? How well does the project solve the user story?
- Innovation & Creativity
    - Did the project solve the user story in a creative and unique way?
- Overall Execution
    - How well was the overall project delivered and communicated?

Closing Ceremony

The last activity of the Data Challenge is the closing ceremony in the amphitheatre (C140) where Dr. Marcel Turcotte, former Academic Vice-Dean and professor at the Faculty and Engineering of the University of Ottawa, will be announcing the 5 winning teams.

Prizes

Statistics Canada is inviting the 5 winning teams to the Government of Canada Data Conference held in January 2019. It is high-profile event falling under the new federal data modernization strategy. More information will be given to the winners.

The University of Ottawa is offering a $100 Amazon gift card to each member of the 5 winning teams.