



Making BC a great
place for technology
entrepreneurs

BC Innovation Council - Innovation Exchange™ **Data Visualization - Letter of Interest - Instructions and Form**

Background Information

BC Innovation Council and BC Stats are excited to offer a challenge opportunity that will provide up to \$75,000 to the B.C. innovations that best solve the needs of the Provincial Government for data visualization!

The Opportunity: The Province of B.C. is looking to collaborate with the B.C. technology community to improve its data visualization capacity and the usefulness of Crown data. Visualizations make large volumes of data more accessible, understandable and support government in evidence-based decision making. In this challenge, participants will develop and submit an engaging on-line visualization platform of B.C. housing market information, to enable community and infrastructure planners, and the wider public, to make decisions based on community growth and housing data.

Challenge Information: Please read the 'Data Visualization - Challenge Information' document in the accompanying email, or contact connect@bcic.ca to receive this information and pose any questions.

Challenge Stages and Timeline: Competing submissions from B.C. tech companies will move through three stages. Interested parties will submit a 'Letter of Interest' form providing initial information on their background and the proposed solution. The top five submissions will receive \$10,000 and mentorship from BC Innovation Council and BC Stats to develop their prototypes. The best solution will be chosen at the #BCTECH Summit, and will benefit from an additional \$25,000 to be put towards continued development of the visualization platform.

- December 21, 2016: Discovery Day in Vancouver
- January 10, 2017: Letters of Interest submitted describing potential solutions
- Late January, 2017: Panel selects up to 5 submissions as winners to move onto the next stage
- February, 2017: Innovation Sprint - Development of prototypes that address customer requirements
- March 14 to 15, 2017: Panel selection of winner at #BCTECHSummit
- March 15 to June 30, 2017: Design Sprint - On-going development of the winning solution

Submission Process: Complete and submit the 'Letter of Interest' form below by **Tuesday January 10, 2017 at 4:00pm PST** via email to the BC Innovation Council at connect@bcic.ca (Subject Line: Data Visualization Challenge, Letter of Interest). The 'Letter of Interest' should be a maximum of six-pages and it must include all relevant information, attachments will not be considered. The form must be submitted in arial 10 font, condensed fonts will not be accepted. You must be a B.C. resident in order to apply.

Non-Confidential: All content provided in the 'Letter of Interest' must be public. Please understand that by signing and submitting the 'Letter of Interest' you are acknowledging that the content provided is non-confidential information about your company, idea or innovation, and that the BC Innovation Council will be contacting you to discuss your submission and will share this information with reviewers as part of the evaluation process.

Letter of Interest Content

Please submit the 'Letter of Interest' form to the BC Innovation Council (six-pages maximum, arial font 10) by **Tuesday January 10, 2017 at 4:00pm PST**, to connect@bcic.ca (Subject Line: Data Visualization Challenge, Letter of Interest).

1.0 Applicant Information

Primary Applicant Information					
Organization/Institution (If Applicable)					
Website (If Applicable)					
Salutation		First Name		Last Name	
Job Title				Dept	
Email				Phone	
Address					
City		Prov		Postal Code	

2.0 Expertise (Evaluation Weighting: 10%)

Describe the expertise and background of the applicant/organization/institution in completing data visualization projects, and provide specific project examples (include links where possible).
Has the organization or primary applicant worked with or been contracted for services by the B.C. Provincial Government previously? If yes, describe the context of this work, when it was completed, and for what Provincial department.
Has the organization or primary applicant used the BC Developers' Exchange and Github previously? If yes, describe when, for what purpose, and any outcomes.

3.0 Housing Market Solution (Evaluation Weighting: 40%)

Describe the prototype you will build, and how it will serve the purpose of visualizing housing market data. Describe the specific housing market data you will use for this prototype (for example, population data, property assessments, land title records, and anonymized property transfer tax record), and define the audience(s) and purpose. Include how it will enable community and infrastructure planners, and the wider public, to interact with, understand and make decisions based on community growth and housing data. If possible, include images to showcase your plan. Below are some potential use cases to consider as an approach to your visualization, other ideas are welcome.
A. Using the Property Transfer Tax (PTT) data: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In which municipalities (or neighbourhood) is foreign participation in the residential real estate market occurring?- Is all foreign participation "at the top of the market"? Visualize the distribution of values relative to the market.- What is the state of foreign participation in the commercial property market?- What is the trend in housing price increase around B.C.?

B. Using Other Data Sources (BC Assessment):

- What proportion of the housing stock has changed hands versus the proportion that has not been sold (perhaps with varying time scales; what proportion has sold in the past year; what proportion in the past 5 years, etc.)?

C. Use of Census Data:

- There is also the possibility to gain insights from other housing-related data sets, such as the Census data.

**Will you be using only open-source data and technologies to build your data visualization prototype?
If no, what other data and technologies will you be integrating into your prototype?**

Describe how your housing market data visualization prototype will:

- Enable government and service providers under contract to incorporate other forms of data (model data, other government data, and external industry data), including adding confidential and/or licensed data into the visualizations in a secure environment.
- Make it easy for government to proactively include descriptions of how the visualizations were derived. For example, government will want to provide the different data sets, assumptions and calculations that were used, as well as include editorial notes and comments, and connect this information to the visualization.
- Generate visualizations that can easily be shared by government through engagement platforms (i.e. online, social media, events).

Will you use the BC Developers' Exchange and GitHub for the purposes of this project, as a collaborative platform that makes it easy for government teams and service providers to share code, works-in-progress and open data? If not, what platform will you use?

4.0 Usability For Audience (Evaluation Weighting: 40%)

Describe your approach to making the visualization intuitive, engaging, and useful for the outlined audience(s) and purpose. Including how you will make sure it resonates with this audience to encourage interaction and discovery.

5.0 General Data Visualization Solution (Evaluation Weighting: 20%)

Describe how the prototype is portable, scalable and cost effective for various areas of government. Include how the prototype could be adapted, enhanced, and applied to data visualization needs in other areas of government in a simple and straight-forward manner, using various sources of data (model data, actual government data, and external industry data).

6.0 Authorized Submission

By completing this authorization, the Primary Applicant in Section 1.0 is expressly acknowledging that:

- This submission is made with the knowledge and approval of the organization and key team members (if applicable), and that all submitted information outlined in this application is acceptable to the organization and key team members (if applicable).
- All applicants must adhere to the established legal practices of the Province of British Columbia, and that the BC Innovation Council reserves the right to determine whether submissions are within the appropriate legal guidelines.
- The information provided in this submission is of a public and non-confidential content, and that the BC Innovation Council will forward it to third parties to assist in the evaluation process, including the review panel that will adjudicate the submissions.
- The applicant and organization/institution (if applicable) have read and understand the terms of reference for working in the BC Developers' Exchange/Github environment, should they be selected as one of the five submissions chosen to proceed to the prototype/proposal stage. See terms link below.

Terms Link: [https://github.com/BCDevExchange/devex/blob/master/Code-with-Us%20Terms BC%20Developers%20Exchange.pdf](https://github.com/BCDevExchange/devex/blob/master/Code-with-Us%20Terms%20BC%20Developers%20Exchange.pdf)

Print Name and Signature of the Primary Applicant

On behalf of the BC Innovation Council and BC Stats, thank you for your submission! Please share this opportunity with other innovators!



BCStats