**Innovation York AI Industry Partnership Fund**

**Supported by the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP)**

**Applicants:** Canadian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), who are, or will be, partnered with YorkU faculty members

**Deadline for SMEs Seeking Partner:** April 18, 2019, 4pm EST

**Full Application Deadline:** May 17, 2019, 4pm EST

**Funding Amount:** Up to $12,000 per selected research project (all funding will flow to academic partner)

**Project Length:** 2 to 4 months

**Use of Funds:** To execute industry-driven research projects in Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning in support of industry-academia partnerships. The funds can be used toward student stipend. Travel, living expenses and seminar costs are ineligible.

**Eligibility:**

* The industry partner must be a Canadian SME with up to 500 employees, capable of exploiting the results of the research.
* The industry partner must be in business for a minimum of one year and have assigned NRC IRAP industrial technology advisor (ITA).
* The research project must be jointly supervised by the faculty member and the industry partner, with the work being performed by Masters, PhD or PostDoc.

**Intellectual Property**

* All prior intellectual property belongs to the inventor/owner. As required by NRC IRAP, all intellectual property developed under the project belongs to the industry partner.

**Impact**

For these programs, we anticipate the impact for the company will be a combination of the following, depending on the individual project:

* Proof of Concept or working prototype
* Recommended Machine Learning models and algorithms
* Assessment of company’s existing dataset and recommended data strategy

The goal is to have projects funded under this program evolve into larger long-term initiatives.

**Proposals:** The proposal includes the following sections:

* Company and researcher contact information
* Title of the proposal
* Project description (250 words)
* Milestones (100 words)
* Budget (all expenditures must be in support of the research project, with no overhead component)
* Future plans for commercialization (250 words)

**Completed applications must be submitted by email to** [**rsung@yorku.ca**](mailto:rsung@yorku.ca). Once the proposal is submitted, a review panel comprised of three representatives, one from Innovation York, one from NRC IRAP, and an independent reviewer will review it for eligibility and quality. Proposals will be ranked based on (a) research description, (b) project plan and (c) company plans for commercialization. The funding will be awarded to the top proposals.

**Project Execution:** Once funding has been awarded, projects will begin. Projects must be completed no later than September 13, 2019. Work performed by York University resources on the projects will be claimed monthly for NRC IRAP reimbursement. The final financial claim must be submitted by the York University researcher by September 20, 2019.

**Reporting:** A final report will be due sixty days following the completion of the project (see project length above) that will include the following sections:

* Overall outcome of the project (100 words)
* Milestones achieved
* Milestones not achieved and the reasons
* Use of funds
* Next steps (50 words)

1. **Company Name and Contact Information: CRA Business Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **First & Last Name** | **Title** | **Organization** | **Email & Phone** |
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IRAP Industrial Technology Advisor name: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** email: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **Researcher Name and Contact Information, if known**

|  |  |  |  |
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| **First & Last Name** | **Title** | **Department / Faculty** | **Email & Phone** |
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1. **The Research Project**

1. **Title:**
2. **Description**. Please describe your research project. What industry challenges are you seeking to answer? What business problems are you looking to solve? (Max 250 words)

1. **Milestones (Max 100 words)**
2. **Budget**

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1. **Company Plans for Commercialization (Maximum 250 words)**
2. **Research Project Support**
3. **Partner Funding.**  Please list level of research collaboration, financial, or in-kind contributions you will be able to contribute to the project.
4. **The Company and Researcher** listed in Sections 1 and 2 have read, understood and agree to all of the preceding and declare that all of the information provided in this disclosure is complete and correct.

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Company Signature:

Name:

Date:

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Researcher Signature:

Name:

Date: