

Election Proposal Costing

Doubling commercialization funding to National Artificial Intelligence Institutes

April 19, 2025

This measure would double the amount of federal funding that is provided to the 3 National Artificial Intelligence (AI) research institutes for commercialization initiatives, effective July 1, 2025.

Cost of Proposed Measure

Fiscal year	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030	Total
Total cost \$ millions	9	12	12	13	13	59

Notes

- Estimates are presented on an accrual basis as would appear in the budget and public accounts.
- A positive number implies a deterioration in the budgetary balance (lower revenues or higher spending). A negative number implies an improvement in the budgetary balance (higher revenues or lower spending).
- Totals may not add due to rounding.

Estimation and Projection Method

Currently, under the Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy (PCAIS), the 3 AI institutes are receiving up to \$20 million each for AI commercialization initiatives between 2021-22 and 2025-26. PCAIS funding will expire after 2025-26. The PCAIS provides \$20 million to each of the 3 AI institutes over 4 years, for an average of \$4 million per year. While the actual funding per year has vary between years and between institutes, the planned total disbursement for 2025-26 is an average of \$4 million per institute.

The PBO's baseline projection assumes that in the absence of this measure, funding would continue after 2025-26 and would grow by inflation in each subsequent year. Given that the measure would only be in place for 75% of 2025-26, the funding would be pro-rated to \$3 million per institute.

Sources of Uncertainty

The only source of uncertainty is whether the AI institutes would incur enough commercialization expenses to qualify for the full amount of funding provided.

Data Sources

Transfer payments as per the Public Accounts of Canada

[Open Government](#)

Transfer payments to Vector Institute

[Vector Institute Annual Reports](#)

Planned transfer payments

[Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada 2024–25 Departmental Plan: Supplementary information](#)

© Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer, Ottawa, Canada, 2025 / EL-45-1040408-P_e