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# Canadian Colleges for a Resilient Recovery Impact Report



Canadian Colleges for a Resilient Recovery

Les Collèges canadiens pour une relance économique résiliente

# Overview

C2R2 is a coalition of 15 colleges, cégeps and polytechnics from across Canada with the proven ability to make an immediate impact and lead in training deployment and applied research that supports energy security and sustainability.

C2R2 is a truly Canadian coalition. With members and engaged institutes in all regions of Canada, C2R2's network reaches from coast to coast to coast.



# Benefits of C2R2

## A Proven and Powerful Mode

From 2020 to 2025, C2R2 secured and delivered \$61.6 million in funding, demonstrating national reach and capacity to achieve meaningful outcomes. Ongoing public and private support reflects confidence in the coalition's collaborative model and impact.

## Efficient Mechanisms

With Mohawk College serving as the Coordinating Secretariat for the coalition, C2R2 has established streamlined processes and structures that enable rapid engagement with member institutes, quick program deployment, immediate impact and reduced administrative burden for partners.

## Strong Track Record of Collaboration

With postsecondary partners in almost every province and territory, and continuous operation since 2020, C2R2 has built strong, trusted relationships across Canada. These institutional relationships act as a national nexus linking industry, community partners, and employers, enabling collaboration and alignment of expertise across Canada.

## National Yet Nimble

C2R2's coalition of accredited postsecondary institutes spans coast to coast to coast, combining national reach with local agility. Members use industry-aligned training, and innovative teaching to keep short-cycle training, applied research opportunities and programs, responsive to workforce needs while sharing insights and best practices nationally.



# Areas of Action

## National Curriculum Working Group

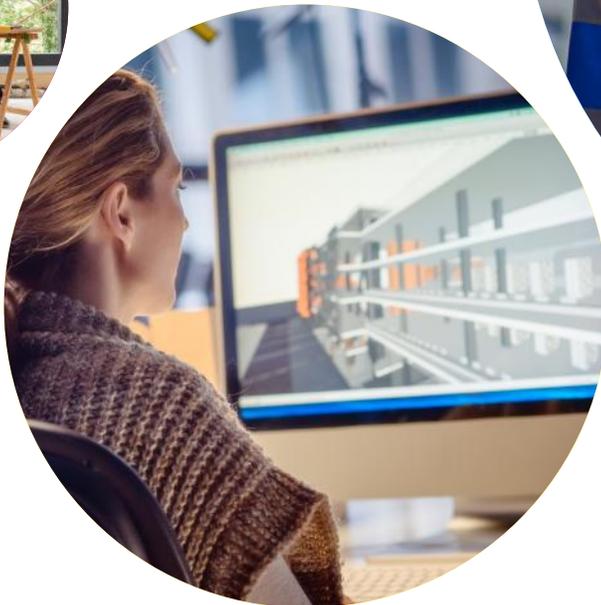
With representation from C2R2 members, the National Curriculum Working Group supports how institutions offer credentialing, quality assurance of curriculum, industry validation, assessment, pathways, stackability/trackability and sharing amongst institutes. The group created nine guiding principles the C2R2 partner institutes could follow to assist in curriculum development for courses offered through Quick Train Canada.

## Applied Research Working Group

Research representatives from C2R2 partner institutes meet regularly to explore applied research opportunities that can be shared across the country. The group identifies areas of focus that align with C2R2 goals and which institutes have areas of expertise, outlines project scope and develops proposals to access funding.

## Public Relations and Advocacy Working Group

With representation from across Canada, the team of government relations leads and communication leads connect to discuss positioning and access to funding opportunities and communicate coalition strengths and leadership to support C2R2 goals.



# Our Impact in Action

## C2R2: Demand-Driven Workforce Training Solutions for a Clean Economy Sectoral Workforce Solutions Program (SWSP) | \$46.5M

Launched [Quick Train Canada \(QTC\)](#) to develop and deliver training offerings to upskill Canadians in key sectors, including clean tech, transportation, construction, natural resources and the environment, and agriculture.

- Developed 120 microcredentials.
- Deployed 124 microcredentials.
- Licensed 40 microcredentials.
- Enrolled over 20,000 learners.

## Resilient Housing & Upskilling for Canada's Communities Community Workforce Development Program (CWDP) | \$3.06M

Supported workforce development in Indigenous and rural communities across Canada by enabling deep collaboration and skills training related to local buildings and construction.

- Engaged 5 postsecondary institutes across 3 provinces and in partnership with 14 Indigenous communities.
- Enrolled 215 learners.

## ...And There is More Coming!

### Advancing Access & Skills Training for Green Buildings & Retrofits SWSP | \$11.3M

Leverage successes from QTC to address current and emerging skills-gaps in the retrofit and green building sectors.

- Train **5,400 individuals**, in areas such as heat pump maintenance, energy efficient components, renewable energy systems, etc.
- Develop, launch, and scale training that responds to sector needs.

### Wawanesa Climate Champions: Youth Innovation Grants Wawanesa Mutual Insurance Company | \$525K

Launched in 2024, the Youth Innovation Grants support youth nationally in bringing their climate solutions to life.

- Awarded 10 youth \$30,000 each to advance practical climate solutions through youth-led, community-focused research.
- Five additional projects approved for launch in 2026–2027, expanding youth-driven innovation.





# Building on the Momentum

As C2R2 builds on the success of its national network of postsecondary institutions and partners, and applies lessons learned from previous initiatives, the coalition has identified the following strategic focus areas:

## 1. Grow the Role of Quick Train Canada

As leaders in education, we recognize the importance in diverse and innovative training opportunities. That is why C2R2 continues to invest in and grow QTC, C2R2's national platform for supporting the visibility, coordination, and delivery of short-cycle training across Canada.



### QTC is intended to...

- Centralize and showcase short-cycle training opportunities offered by accredited postsecondary institutes across Canada;
- Support national outreach and awareness of training aligned with workforce and sectoral needs;
- Enable coordination amongst institutes, including opportunities for collaboration, curriculum sharing and co-development;
- Facilitate engagement with delivery partners, industry and sector organizations to inform training relevance and responsiveness.

Learn more at [QuickTrainCanada.ca](https://QuickTrainCanada.ca)

## 2. Collaborate with Industry

Building on existing partnerships and momentum, C2R2 will strengthen engagement with industry, sector and employer organizations to support labour market aligned workforce development. Through coordinated collaboration, the coalition will advance demand-driven initiatives, participate in joint funding applications and support sector-informed program design that responds to current and emerging workforce needs.

## 3. Research and Scaling Up

Leveraging the applied research expertise and capacity of C2R2 members, the coalition plans to advance partnerships and initiatives that support Canadian companies in transitioning for a clean economy. This work will enable pathways to scale production, support commercialization, and strengthen Canada's economic competitiveness

## 4. Advocate with Government

C2R2 will maintain engagement with government officials to highlight the power of collective approach and unified voice, driving awareness of colleges, cégeps, polytechnics and institutes. This advocacy positions C2R2 to respond effectively to local and national training gaps with thoughtful solutions, delivery methods and inclusivity of all Canadians to build our economic competitiveness and workforce.



# Innovative Partnerships

C2R2 understands the value of partnering with organizations who share a commitment to sustainability—together, there is an opportunity to mutually amplify complementary mandates. C2R2 unlocks the ability to bring a national reach to regional expertise.

## Addressing Skills Gaps to Support Workforce Development

Colleges, polytechnics and cégeps have driven workforce development in Canada for decades. As Canada's workforce is rapidly evolving, it is essential that workers have access to the skills required to rapidly address labour market needs. C2R2 members recognize the value of employer, industry and community informed programs. Through a coalition mechanism, C2R2's national reach brings together perspectives from priority sectors to disseminate knowledge nationally, coordinate sustainable workforce development, and leverage member expertise to advance regional, national, government and industry priorities. Close partnerships with subject matter experts enable informed, relevant and even custom skills development opportunities.

## Connecting Expertise

C2R2 offers nationally coordinated, yet regionally relevant, applied research and training solutions across a broad range of sectors—zero emission vehicle service, agriculture techniques, residential and commercial retrofit methods, renewable energy solutions, marine technologies and many more. Collaboration with C2R2 members strengthens innovative opportunities where intellectual property remains with the industry, employer and community partners. As a single connection point to experts and networks across Canada, C2R2 streamlines capacity and navigates the complexities involved in making a coast to coast to coast impact.



## Looking Ahead

As C2R2 moves into its next phase, the coalition remains committed to advancing innovative, accessible and workforce-relevant programs across Canada. By leveraging the expertise of its member institutes, engaging industry and government partners and fostering applied research and collaboration, C2R2 will continue to strengthen Canada's workforce, its economic competitiveness, and drive sustainable growth.

We invite partners, funders, and stakeholders to join us in building on this momentum, expanding opportunities for Canadians, and shaping a resilient, future-ready workforce for Canada.





## Contact Information

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