# CodeAcross 2017: Challenge Template

# **Challenge owner:**

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Tag: Dream the Postsecondary Sector in Ontario for the year 2030

Objective: To research and understand the impacts of long-term trends and technology on the postsecondary sector for the year 2030

**Description:** The world is rapidly changing. Digital technologies have dramatically reshaped the way that education is delivered. The postsecondary education system currently serves today's needs but, what about 10-15 years from now? What will postsecondary education in Ontario look like in 2030? How is government going to support it?

This challenge is to use the methods of strategic foresight, including scanned inputs, forecast, alternative future exploration, analysis and current technology trends to help guide MAESD in planning and creating the future of the postsecondary education.

This challenge will have two streams. Participants will spend the morning researching future trends and scenarios that impact higher education in the year 2030. In the afternoon, participants may either create a 1) Policy Briefing Note, or a 2) Snapshot

# Morning: Research Future Scenarios

Help us identify challenges and opportunities related to postsecondary education in the year 2030. Research insights on impacts to higher education sector in Ontario from long-term trends or technology shocks (e.g., demographics, transportation, globalization, credentialization, automation, AI, etc.)

### **Outputs**

- Future scenarios
  - What the world could look like in the year 2030 and implications for PSE
  - What are the main considerations that the provincial government needs to bear in mind when developing programs or policy
- Key assumptions (or proposals) based on potential user needs (e.g., students, newcomers, employers, etc.) in the year 2030
- What features and key policies will the government need to enact in order to have a healthy post secondary system (What would a university/college offer? How is it different from what it offers today?

# Afternoon: Option 1 - Write a policy briefing note

Prepare a briefing note (we'll provide a potential template for it, but edit as you see fit!) that summarizes potential future scenarios, and proposes ways to mitigate risks and take advantage of opportunities (e.g., new programs/policies)

### Template here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o-Hi5Ua6Rx\_P1Q2T\_jXSQ075grUAfsWbXNNmgYdoOV E/edit?usp=sharing

# Afternoon: Option 2 - Create a snapshot of postsecondary education in Ontario in 2030 (speculative design)

Mockup or prototype a postsecondary education method that would be used in the year 2030. This may include:

- Course curriculums
- Physical/online learning environments
- Educational credentials
- Training and apprenticeship programs
- Anything!

### What skills are likely required?

Education Policy, Economics, Demography, Design, Geography, Strategic Foresight, Research Experts

### Who will use the output?

MAESD does a range of research on policies and programs to help improve quality and access of postsecondary education in Ontario. The outputs of this challenge will be used to inform our research agenda, and determine what topics we need to explore next. Your outputs will be shared with Assistant Deputy Ministers at the ministry.

### What data or other resources are required? Are all of these available?

- A computer to do research and write will be helpful
- Materials or tools to create your "snapshot" (e.g. online sketching tools, real life materials, etc.)

Tweet to promote it: #DreamOn2030 #postsec2030

#### **Challenge description for the CodeAcross website:**

What could Ontario's postsecondary system look like in 2030? How can universities, colleges, and the government prepare for the future of postsecondary education (PSE)? Demographics, migration, technology and globalization will impact our systems, and the PSE system must evolve to reflect the rapidly changing needs of students, employers and the workforce.

This strategic foresight exercise will emphasize Blue Sky thinking, and help the Ontario Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development from its research agenda to prepare for big trends and potential disruptions. Come help us prepare for a future full of surprises and opportunities!

# Helpful Links

- <a href="http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/capacity-building/global-centre-fo">http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/capacity-building/global-centre-fo</a> r-public-service-excellence/foresightmanual.html
- https://challenges.openideo.com/challenge/future-of-highered/brief
- <a href="http://www.oecd.org/site/schoolingfortomorrowknowledgebase/futuresthinking/overviewof">http://www.oecd.org/site/schoolingfortomorrowknowledgebase/futuresthinking/overviewof</a> methodologies.htm
- <a href="http://www.nesta.org.uk/blog/speculative-design-design-niche-or-new-tool-government-in-novation">http://www.nesta.org.uk/blog/speculative-design-design-niche-or-new-tool-government-in-novation</a>