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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION OF CANADA   ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE LA TECHNOLOGIE DE L'INFORMATION

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ITAC FOCUSES ON THE IMMEDIATE NEED TO DEVELOP SKILLS LOCALLY WHILE ATTRACTING TALENT GLOBALLY

KEY FOR CANADA TO BE A LEADER IN GLOBAL DIGITAL ECONOMY

Ottawa, ON – The Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC) delivers home the message to the Government of Canada that the single biggest issue standing in the way of CIO's achieving their objectives in today's digital economy is the limited access to skilled talent both locally and globally. ITAC's fourth innovation paper, **ITAC on Talent**, outlines key recommendations from the information and communications technology sector (ICT) to support the Government of Canada's transformation, modernization and digitization strategies.

"Stats clearly show the shortage of skilled ICT talent in the technology sector is an issue not only in Canada but in countries around the world." says Robert Watson the President and CEO of ITAC. "Without the support of Government, Canadian companies will not be in a position to innovate, scale or compete in the global market."

ITAC on Talent:
- **Solve the Problem Domestically** – greater emphasis must be placed on three things: recognizing and improving upon gender diversity issues in ICT, offering more skills training options to youth and updating the categorization and collection of employment data.
- **Solve the Problem Internationally** – to ensure Canada remains competitive, our country needs regular access to the best and brightest minds: some are born outside of Canadian borders and others are Canadian-born but internationally trained. Smoother processes need to be put in place to access this talent pool.

Click to read: ITAC on Talent

Click to read: **ITAC on Digital Government**
Click to read: ITAC on Digital Economy
Click to read: ITAC on Trade and Competitiveness
Click to read: ITAC on Innovation Agenda Fundamentals

To raise the dialogue around all four papers, ITAC will showcase the thought leadership behind each innovation paper through a policy debate in Ottawa in early 2017. This event will provide an opportunity for policy makers to hear perspectives from industry on what they would like to see from Canada's Innovation Agenda.

About ITAC

As Canada's national ICT business association, the Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC) champions the development of a robust and sustainable digital economy in Canada. A vital connection between business and government, we provide our members with the advocacy, networking and professional development services that help them to thrive nationally and compete globally. A prominent advocate for the expansion of Canada's innovative capacity, ITAC encourages technology adoption to capitalize on productivity and performance opportunities across all sectors.

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