



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
ASSOCIATION OF CANADA



ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE
DE LA TECHNOLOGIE DE L'INFORMATION

ITAC Industry Insider Newsletter

November 26, 2018

Budget Hill Day created to promote digital technologies as a driver of economic growth and modernization and drive industry-government collaboration

To realize the economic, social and democratic benefits of the digital economy, Canada must work harder to create world-leading digital infrastructure and facilitate the broader adoption of technology. In an effort to promote digital technologies as a driver of economic growth modernizing all sectors of the economy, our cities and our government, ITAC hosted it's annual Budget Hill Day on October 29, 2018 in Ottawa.

Budget Hill Day was developed with input from all three of ITAC's Board of Directors and was designed for our members' leaders to engage directly with Cabinet Ministers and senior decision makers inside the Government of Canada on industry-wide issues that are highlighted in ITAC's pre-budget submission and recommend solutions documents. The purpose of the day was to help raise the profile of the ICT sector in Canada and demonstrate the value of working with industry as partners to build a strong digital economy.

Government departments ITAC and some of its members met with included:

- Employment and Social Development Canada
- Innovation, Science and Economic Development
- Innovative Solutions Canada
- Minister of Small Business and Export Promotion
- Shared Services Canada
- The Conservative Party of Canada

There were two teams that descended on Parliament Hill; one that focused on GovTech and another that focused on Digital Economy. Their goals were to:

- Garner support for the establishment of a GovTech Innovation Hub in Ottawa;
- Better understand the initiatives underway to improve IT service delivery, including legislative amendments;
- Identify how industry can work with Government to accelerate the "implementation" of the procurement policy reforms;
- Identify ways to encourage technology partnerships between Government and industry;
- Explore opportunities to get involved in the development of digital experiments, including the Canadian Digital Service, Innovative Solutions Canada, Innovation for Defence and Security (IDEaS);
- Look at ways to continue to work with Government on industry/government partnerships so that industry can be involved in helping transform, modernize and digitize public service delivery to Canadians from the idea stage;
- Garner support for the establishment of a GovTech Innovation Hub in Ottawa;

- Better understand the initiatives underway to improve IT service delivery, including legislative amendments
- Identify how industry can work with Government to accelerate the “implementation” of the procurement policy reforms; and
- Determine how to get involved in the development of digital experiments, including the Canadian Digital Service, Innovative Solutions Canada, Innovation for Defence and Security (IDEaS).

ITAC Advocacy Positions

1. **Establish a Government Technology Hub**, to act a centre of excellence for digital government collaboration with industry and academia. This will allow the Government to: pilot and experiment with technology prior to purchase; access talent; support and incubate start-ups and micro-firms; and provide a virtual hub for SMEs to develop solutions on a Government infrastructure and platforms.
2. **Expand funding for digital experiments**. Create a government funding portal for digital experimentation under Innovative Solutions Canada, Innovation for Defence and Security (IDEaS) and the Canadian Digital Service.
3. **Invest in Back Office Transformation**. Modernize back office services that support government innovations and digitizes operations.
4. **Innovate contracts, terms and conditions** to align with industry norms focusing on fairness, limiting allocation of risk, and opening the possibility of negotiations with bidders to access confidential inputs. • Partner with the ICT industry to modernize their IT procurement processes, contracting and delivery to meet the following critical objectives.
5. **Support the Socio-economic goals of the GoC** (i.e. SME’s, Indigenous, youth employment, women owned business, geographical diversity of companies, etc.) while balancing the ability to share risk and deliver on IT projects.
6. **Raise the sole sourcing threshold** to the USMCA limits so SMEs can take full advantage of allowable limits.

For Budget Hill Day questions, please contact Andre Leduc at aleduc@itac.ca.