



August 2025

Dear colleagues,

This newsletter celebrates the one-year anniversary of Canada's association to Horizon Europe (HE). It highlights the Secretariat's key achievements, outlines essential resources and support networks for applicants, and provides updates on key program developments.

We invite you to share this newsletter with your professional networks. We wish you a restful summer holiday.

Sincerely,

Canadian Horizon Europe Secretariat
Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) Canada

Remarks from the Delegation of the European Union to Canada

Canada's association to Horizon Europe, the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation, marked a milestone development in the long-standing research cooperation between the European Union and Canada. Canadian entities can now join and lead research international consortia to tackle some of the most pressing global challenges today.

Following Canada's association to Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe, the European Union and Canada have collaborated to realize the agreement's full potential. One year into this partnership, the results are promising, with a steady increase in Canadian participation in Horizon Europe projects. While there is still more to accomplish, conversations and collaborative efforts are ongoing.

The recent EU-Canada Summit on June 23, 2025, highlighted Canada's association to the program and the EU-Canada Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement as key drivers of the bilateral strategic partnership. These initiatives underscore the belief that science and innovation can foster global unity and address the complexities of a fragmented world.





Key Milestones in Canada's First Year of Association

In 2024-25, the Canadian HE Secretariat achieved key milestones to raise awareness of the programme including:

- Establishing the national contact point network with sector expertise to help applicants navigate the program
- Delivering more than 70 webinars and in-person information sessions attended by hundreds of stakeholders across the country
- Coordinating five matchmaking events (health, digital, industry, clean tech) with more than 20 partner countries



The Secretariat continues to develop targeted applicant support, provide technical guidance, and facilitate partner searches and matchmaking events. Stay tuned for more technical information sessions, events and resources!

Celebrating Canadian Success in Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe

Canadians are showcasing their expertise in international consortia. Here is a short selection of successful projects with Canadian participants in 2024:

- **World Ovarian Cancer Coalition:** [Disarming the silent threat of ovarian cancer](#)
- **McGill University:** [Detection and enhanced food safety and security through efficient networks for supply chain enhancement](#)
- **Vector Institute:** [An agentic, multi-layer, GenAI-powered backbone to make an AI system explainable, accountable, and transparent](#)
- **Capacitor Metals Corporation:** [Liberation analysis for optimizing extraction and processing of critical raw materials](#)
- **École de Technologie Supérieure:** [Unified modeling and automated scheduling for manufacturing as a service](#)
- **Innovée :** [Multimodal optimisation leveraging data acquisition from local stakeholders towards holistic improvement of freight and people transport](#)
- **TerraVerdae Bioworks:** [Avoiding the negative impacts produced by plastic materials in humanitarian contexts](#)
- **University of Guelph:** [Understanding and managing soil health impacts to protect soil-dependent pollinators](#)





We look forward to continue supporting Canadians navigate the Horizon Europe program. If you have success stories to share, please feel free to reach out at horizoneurope@ised-isde.gc.ca.

Updates from Canada's Horizon Europe Secretariat

- **Work Programme 2025:** Call for proposals are available on the [EU Funding & Tenders Portal](#). Deadlines are fast approaching with most call deadlines in September and October! Please do not hesitate to contact the [Secretariat](#) and [Canada's National Contact Point network](#) if you have any questions.
- **Work Programme 2026-2027:** The European Commission has shared drafts of the upcoming work programme on the [Comitology Register](#).
 - To download these drafts, use “*Horizon Europe*” as the committee title and “*RTD*” as the service responsible. Drafts are found under the document section of the programme committee meeting and are titled “*Draft Implementing Decision – Work Programme 2026-2027*”. **Please note:** These drafts are subject to change. Final or official copies are expected to be published by late December/early January.

Canada has been granted access to “sensitive calls” under the 2025 Work Programme.

This is a great opportunity to showcase Canadian expertise in artificial intelligence, high performance computing, quantum, and space! Reach out to the [Secretariat](#) to learn more!

Upcoming Events & Webinars

- **August 21, 2025:** [Euraxess North America](#) is hosting a webinar on [European Research Council grants](#) with officials from the ERC and current grantees.
- **September 16-17, 2025:** The European Commission is hosting [Research and Innovation Days](#) (hybrid event) to discuss the future of research and innovation in Europe and beyond. The event will focus on the EU's budget, Startup and Scaleup Strategy, the European Life Science Strategy, AI in Science Strategy, and European Innovation.
- **October 3, 2025:** The Canadian Science Policy Centre, in collaboration with the [European Union through its Delegation to Canada](#), will host a half-day event in Toronto. It will feature dynamic panel discussions on opportunities for EU–Canada research collaboration, youth engagement, and the evolving landscape of science diplomacy. Save the date — *more information to follow*.

The Secretariat is also organizing more webinars and matchmaking events. Stay up to date with all things Horizon Europe by visiting our [website](#) and subscribing to [our distribution list](#).





Benefits of Association – Access to the Joint Research Centre

- The European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) brings together scientists to provide independent advice to EU policymakers and ensures the integration of science in future policy initiatives. It actively contributes to the strategic planning and implementation of the HE programme.
- As a benefit of Canada's association to Pillar 2 of HE, Canadians can:
 - Access to [non-nuclear facilities](#) (e.g., energy storage research infrastructures, structural assessment labs, nanobiotechnology lab, etc.) and [JRC-led scientific traineeships](#) and other capacity building programmes
 - Access to [JRC Collaborative Doctoral Partnership](#) allowing PhD students to carry out part of their doctoral studies at the JRC and learn more about the science-policy interface.
- Stay tuned for a webinar on the JRC and the different opportunities for Canadians this fall!

Navigating Horizon Europe – Key Support Resources

- [ISED HE Secretariat Inbox](#): Provides guidance on general eligibility requirements, and the financial and administrative components of the program
- [Canada's National Contact Point \(NCP\) Network](#): NCPs offer both sector and work programme insights to Canadian applicants. They also work closely with the Trade Commissioner Service and the European HE NCP network to support partner search initiatives (e.g., matchmaking).
- [EURAXESS North America](#): Established by the European Commission to promote European research funding and R&I information in Canada and the United States. EURAXESS also provides expert insights on Pillar 1 programme such as the [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions](#) and [European Research Council Grants](#). Subscribe to their bimonthly [newsletter](#) to learn more upcoming info sessions and workshops.
- [Social Science and Humanities Research Council \(SSHRC\) Destination Grants](#): SSHRC is offering grants up to \$15,000 to support researchers affiliated with eligible Canadian post-secondary institutions working towards applying to Horizon Europe Pillar 2 calls. Applications are due on [September 22nd at 8PM EST](#).

If you are currently preparing a proposal and searching for more partners, please inform the Secretariat and your [national contact points](#) to promote your profile.





Tools for A Successful Horizon Europe Application

- **[ISED Horizon Europe Website](#)**: dedicated webpage for Canadians navigating HE with an overview of the programme, applicant resources, and NCP contact information
- **[Horizon Europe Glossary](#)**: explains the general HE concepts and terminology
- **[Horizon Academy](#)**: publicly accessible portal for NCPs with training modules, event information and applicant tools
- **[Delegation of the EU to Canada Info Session Recordings](#)**: cluster-specific information sessions offering best practices for proposal preparation and navigating the program
- **[European Commission Info Days Recordings](#)**: information session for applicants providing an overview of the topics in the work programme and the EU's policy priorities
- **[CORDIS](#)**: database of EU funded research with project descriptions (e.g., coordinator, participating countries, funding, and grant timelines)
- **[EU Funding & Tenders Portal Research Enquiry Service](#)**: dedicated service for questions regarding EU research and funding as well as the validation of appointed representatives

