



Media Release

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**C21 Canada CIO Alliance Announces Launch of Landmark Report on the Future of AI in K12 Education at C21 CEO Academy Summit**  
**-C21 Canada Partners with the University of Calgary in Sharing AI Expertise-**

**CALGARY, AB** — C21 Canada and its CIO Alliance are thrilled to announce the official launch of their groundbreaking report, "Future of AI in K12 Education," set to take place during the C21 CEO Academy Summit at the University of Calgary on May 15-16, 2024. This comprehensive report marks a pivotal moment in Canadian K12 education, focusing on the integration and effective use of artificial intelligence (AI) across the nation's school systems.

The report is the result of an extensive collaboration involving the C21 Canada CIO Alliance, CEO Academy, and the Board of Advisors. It addresses both the current landscape and the expansive future potential of AI in enhancing educational practices and outcomes across Canada.

Peter Singh, Chair of the CIO Alliance, expressed his enthusiasm about the report's potential impact, stating, *"We are standing at the cusp of a technological revolution in education. This report not only highlights the transformative possibilities of AI but also sets forth a practical roadmap for ethically integrating these technologies into our classrooms. We aim to equip educators and policymakers with the insights needed to harness AI responsibly and innovatively."*

Robert Martellacci, Co-Founder & CEO of C21 Canada and the principal writer of the report, added, *"Our goal with this report was to ignite a national conversation on AI in education that leads to real, actionable change. AI offers unprecedented opportunities for personalization, accessibility, and engagement in learning. By setting a national standard, we ensure that AI tools are used to not only complement but enhance the educational experiences of all Canadian students."*

*"The integration of AI in K to 12 School Systems builds on a strong foundation of transformative system leadership and learning competencies (7Cs) that have supported the digital leverage of 21st Century Learning and Innovation since the inception of C21 Canada in 2011."* says Karen Yamada, Chief Learning Officer with the CEO Academy.

The report includes a thorough analysis of global and Canadian AI applications in K12 education, innovative district-level strategies, and a forward-looking "National Call to Action." This call advocates for the development of a task force to create a unified framework that addresses the ethical, equity, privacy, and educational challenges and opportunities presented by AI.

The launch event at the C21 CEO Academy Summit will feature discussions and workshops led by key stakeholders in education technology, offering attendees the opportunity to engage directly with the report's findings and recommendations.

C21 Canada is proud to partner with one of the most innovative universities in Canada in hosting the C21 Canada Summit and tapping into the University of Calgary's AI expertise.

*“As Canada’s entrepreneurial university, the University of Calgary is proud to partner with C21 Canada to share our researchers’ expertise in artificial intelligence as a way to ensure students are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.” – Amanda Affonso, AVP Alumni, Community & Partnerships.*

The C21 Canada team, along with educational leaders and policymakers, are eager to share this report, which promises to be an invaluable resource for navigating the complexities and capitalizing on the capabilities of AI in education.

### **About C21 Canada**

C21 Canada is a national, not-for-profit organization that advocates for the integration of 21st century skills and competencies into Canadian education systems. The CIO Alliance, part of C21 Canada, comprises progressive CIOs from public schools across Canada dedicated to optimizing learning and technology in education.

### **About CEO Academy**

The CEO Academy is a Pan-Canadian professional network of school system superintendents (chief executive officers of their district) committed to setting Canadian standards for 21st century learning, innovation and technology in the education system. Members share a focus on creating cultures of innovation and transformation, and a moral imperative to develop global competencies that students need for their future. This facilitated network is a model of collaborative inquiry on innovation and system scaling.

CEO Academy leaders are uniquely positioned to provide advice, perspective and guidance to help shape pan-Canadian policies that support learning for all students. Seek out a CEO Academy leader in your jurisdiction to connect and collaborate.

### **CIO Alliance**

The CIO Alliance aims to develop a national leadership alliance of progressive public-school CIO’s committed to setting Canadian standards to optimize 21st century learning, innovation and technology in schools and homes.

The CIO alliance has established a national leadership learning network to focus on sharing insight, researching innovations, and influencing the accelerated shift to 21st century learning environments.

### **About the University of Calgary**

UCalgary is Canada’s entrepreneurial university, located in Canada’s most enterprising city. It is a top research university and one of the highest-ranked universities of its age. Founded in 1966, its 35,000 students experience an innovative learning environment, made rich by research, hands-on experiences and entrepreneurial thinking. It is Canada’s leader in the creation of start-ups. Start something today at the University of Calgary.

### **For more information, please contact**

Robert Martellacci, Co-founder & CEO, C21 Canada

Mobile: 416-569-2106

robert.martellacci@c21canada.org

Website: [www.c21canada.org](http://www.c21canada.org)

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