

May 12th, 2026 at 1pm EDT

Helping learners navigate Canada's technology-driven economy

Session overview

This moderated discussion focused on the challenges learners face in navigating Canada's technology-driven economy. Job searching, entry-level work, and navigating day-to-day life now require interacting with various forms of digital technology. The diverse group of panelists discussed how they continue to adapt their programming to help learners recognize and build on their digital and socio-emotional skills when it comes to shaping their careers.

Panelists

Stephen Bore

YEP Program Facilitator, Taber Adult Learning, Alberta

Aaron Devine

Operations Manager, Nova Scotia Works, Nova Scotia

Ryan Oliver

CEO, Ampere Association, Nunavut

Moderated discussion questions

1. How is technology changing job hunting and other aspects of the day-to-day lives of learners?
2. What gaps have you seen between the skills learners have and the ones employers want? What is your organization doing to help fill these gaps?
3. As technology continues to change, are there ways learning organizations need to change how they prepare learners for employment?

Key findings

Digital access is both an advantage and a barrier:

Technology and AI can make job searching more accessible, but they can also create more barriers. Learners are increasingly expected to fill out online applications and use digital tools. But having a device does not mean having meaningful digital access. Limited digital literacy, unreliable internet access and automated hiring systems can make it harder for learners who already face additional challenges to employment.

Traditional approaches still matter:

Technology is changing how people apply for jobs and how they get hired. But some traditional approaches are still important. The main goal is to connect employers to the right employees. Employers continue to value skills like communication, adaptability, and confidence, along with digital skills. Resumes and cover letters should also be tailored to highlight each learner's strengths and what makes them stand out.

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Key findings continued

Employability is about more than technical skills:

Job seekers can find it difficult to show their skills and knowledge to potential employers. Skills for Success like communication, problem-solving, and adaptability, continue to be important. Sometimes learners need support to recognize the skills they already have and understand how to demonstrate them to employers. Connecting with the community can also help learners build on their existing skills and prepare for work.

Additional comments/ Q&A

Tools/resources shared:

- [Tuttarvik](#): an app that helps to level the playing field for job seekers in Nunavut by offering a one-click resume builder and job application tool, particularly for people whose first language may differ from that of the hiring team.
- [Career Collective](#) - a career platform that connects people with the tech community and provides opportunities to build skills.

Innovation Learning Labs

We're hosting 4 Innovation Learning Labs in 2026, thanks to the support of Canada Life through the *Canada Life Literacy Innovation Award*. In each webinar we discuss one topic of importance and relevance to the literacy field in 2026. [Watch recorded Labs and read summaries.](#)



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