



Internship Description

Internship Opportunity: Emergent Provenance Prize Design

Overview: The XPRIZE Canada Hub, in partnership with the XPRIZE Foundation, is seeking a highly motivated intern to work alongside the Prize Design team from October 1 to mid-December. The successful candidate will be expected to have a solid understanding of the subject matter, as detailed in the position description. This unique opportunity will allow the intern to contribute to the development of a prize focused on incentivizing emergent attribution—the development of AI architectures and training approaches that enable provenance to be captured as an inherent property of the model from the point of training. The prize will explore whether models can be designed to identify the human contributions underlying their outputs and ultimately support mechanisms for attribution and compensation based on the novelty and value of those contributions.

Skills and Experience:

- Academic or professional experience in artificial intelligence, machine learning, computer science, data science, technology policy, economics, intellectual property, or a related field.
- Strong interest in AI interpretability, provenance, attribution, responsible AI, or the societal implications of emerging AI technologies.
- Experience conducting technical or interdisciplinary research and synthesizing complex information.
- Strong analytical, written, and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to engage effectively with highly technical experts and translate complex concepts for non-technical audiences.
- Strong organizational and project management skills.
- Ability to work independently while collaborating within a multidisciplinary team.
- Intellectual curiosity and comfort working in an emerging field where technical approaches and standards are still evolving.

Project Overview: The Intern will assist with technical and market research, engage with leading experts and stakeholders, and assess emerging technologies and barriers to progress to help identify where an incentive prize could have the greatest impact. Working closely with the Prize Design team, the Intern will translate these insights into a compelling prize concept, including competition goals, technical milestones, performance metrics, and prize structure.

Internship Activities/Tasks:

- Conduct research on the emerging AI provenance and attribution landscape, including relevant technologies, research approaches, companies, academic institutions, and leading experts.
- Analyze existing approaches to AI attribution, provenance, interpretability, and data contribution tracking, and identify opportunities where an incentive prize could meaningfully accelerate breakthroughs in emergent attribution.
- Research the technical, economic, legal, and practical barriers to reliably attributing AI outputs to the humans whose work contributed to them, including challenges related to fidelity, coverage, robustness, recoverability, and novelty.
- Review existing research, benchmarks, standards, funding mechanisms, competitions, and industry initiatives related to AI provenance, interpretability, attribution, and creator compensation to identify gaps and opportunities for the prize.
- Synthesize research into concise analyses, presentations, briefing materials, and recommendations for the Prize Design team.

Learning Outcomes:

- Develop a strong understanding of the emerging AI provenance, attribution, and interpretability landscape, including key technologies, research approaches, stakeholders, and barriers to implementation.
- Gain hands-on experience in designing an innovation prize, including developing competition goals, technical milestones, performance metrics, judging criteria, and incentive structures.
- Build skills in conducting technical research and translating complex scientific and market insights into actionable recommendations.
- Gain experience engaging with leading researchers, industry experts, entrepreneurs, investors, and other stakeholders to inform a major innovation initiative.
- Develop practical project management skills through managing research workstreams, coordinating stakeholder engagement, tracking deliverables, and supporting a multidisciplinary prize design team.
- Learn how XPRIZE uses incentive prizes to catalyze innovation and address complex global challenges.
- Build experience communicating complex technical concepts and strategic recommendations through presentations, reports, and other materials for diverse audiences.

This internship is designed for individuals who are passionate about shaping a sustainable future and eager to make a tangible difference in the world.

If you are ready to take on this challenge, we look forward to receiving your application at xprizehub@ucalgary.ca.

Application Deadline: September 15, 11:59AM, 2026.