



The Community for Inclusive and Ethical Artificial Intelligence in Northern Ontario Healthcare.

AI-NORTH IN ACTION

WHAT'S NEW IN THE NETWORK?



»»» A LOOK AHEAD: AI-NORTH STREAMS ROYAL COLLEGE LECTURE

Lively discussions filled the room at AI-NORTH's live-stream event featuring Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada Professor-in-Residence **Dr. Bertalan Meskó**. His presentation, "Your AI Prescription," offered an engaging introduction to the field of medical futurism, drawing on his expertise as both a physician and technology innovator to explore how AI may shape the future of healthcare.

Scan the **QR code** to learn more about Dr. Meskó's organization:
The Medical Futurist



**Do you have experience with futurist research methods?
AI-NORTH is seeking your expertise on a future project!
See the Boreal Bulletin (Page 4) for more details.**

THE NEURAL NOOK

AI tools for school, work, and life.

Speechify

Free text-to-speech AI translator

Generates auditory recordings from text documents



Perplexity

AI-powered research engine

Scientific search engine for efficient literature reviews and research

Forest

Focus & productivity mobile app

Helpful distraction-reducing app for guarding work & study time



Scribbr

Scholarly AI Assistant

Citation generator, plagiarism & grammar checker, & AI proofreading

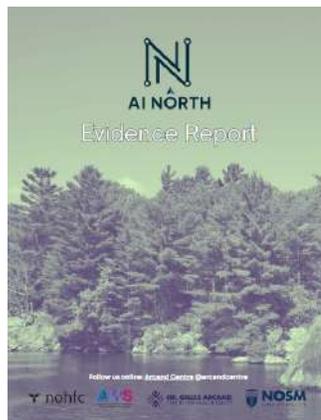


➤➤➤ A NORTHERN COMMUNITY FOR AI IN HEALTHCARE

AI-NORTH is a network that aims to promote the ethical and effective use of AI in Northern Ontario healthcare. Our diverse membership bridges expertise in AI, healthcare and education to guide responsible implementation, address community concerns, and equip leaders to harness AI's potential.

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AI-NORTH RELEASES <<< 2025 EVIDENCE REPORT

How is AI-NORTH advancing socially accountable AI? In December, AI-NORTH published their **2025 Evidence Report**, synthesizing knowledge from numerous projects that advance digital equity in Northern Ontario.

The report highlights key strengths, gaps, and opportunities in Northern Ontario's AI landscape and outlines clear recommendations to guide future action. The report positions Northern Ontario as a hub of resilience and innovation, with strong potential to lead Canada in responsible and inclusive AI implementation.

[Click here!](#)

OR

Scan the **QR code** to access the report!



➤➤➤ ADVANCING AI IN MEDICAL CURRICULA

In November, AI-NORTH Coordinator, **Dr. Dominique Cava**, delivered two AI primer sessions on the fundamentals and clinical applications of AI in healthcare—one for internal medicine residents at NOSM University's Sudbury campus and another for second-year undergraduate medical students, alongside AI-NORTH Lead **Dr. Erin Cameron** and **Dr. Alex Anawati**. These sessions mark early steps toward expanding AI education within medical curricula and creating more opportunities to build foundational AI literacy among future physicians.



FROM CORPUS TO CLASSROOM

BUILDING TRUST IN HEALTHCARE AI <<<

AI-NORTH members Megan Mertz, Kelvi Toskovich, Gavin Shields, Ghislaine Attema, Jennifer Dumond, & Dr. Erin Cameron successfully published their article "[Exploring Trust Factors in AI-Healthcare Integration: A Rapid Review](#)" in *Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence* in December 2025.

Three key points of research:

- AI literacy is foundational to building trust through understanding of AI inputs, processes, and outputs
- Psychological and demographic factors shape how patients and clinicians perceive and trust AI systems
- Perceived utility, workflow integration, and system reliability strongly influence trust and adoption

>>> NOSMU TO JOIN AMII WORKFORCE READINESS CONSORTIUM



NOSMU has announced plans to join the **Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (AMII) Workforce Readiness Consortium**, expanding access to foundational AI education for learners, educators, and staff. Through this partnership, NOSMU stakeholders will have access to AMII's Module 0 which features introductory AI learning resources designed to build baseline literacy and confidence implementing AI. This collaboration aligns with NOSMU's commitment to strengthening digital capacity and ensuring that AI adoption is equitable and responsive to the local needs in Northern Ontario.

CATALYZING NORTHERN RESEARCH: <<< AI-NORTH LANDS PARTNERSHIP GRANT

AI-NORTH, in partnership with Unity Health Toronto, has been awarded a **\$100,000 Catalyst Grant** from Data Sciences Institute (DSI) to support socially accountable artificial intelligence (AI) innovation across Northern Ontario health systems over the next two years.

Three key priorities of the project:

- Identifying priorities for AI solutions through a multi-stakeholder needs and assets assessment
- Building capacity for sustainable AI implementation in diverse hospital settings across rural Ontario
- Piloting and validating AI tools that support ongoing co-development, implementation, and evaluation



➤➤➤ AI-NORTH SEEKING FUTURIST CO-APPLICANT FOR AMS GRANT

Do you have experience in **futurist research** and want to help shape socially accountable and compassionate AI in Northern Ontario? AI-NORTH is seeking your expertise for a project where clinicians, AI/technology specialists, and community members will employ participatory futurist methods such as vision writing, futures wheel, & backcasting exercises to explore the future of AI & human compassion in Northern Ontario. As a co-applicant, the futurist expert will play a key role in designing and facilitating the futurist exercises and translating the outcomes into a scientific manuscript.

If you are interested, we would love to speak with you as soon as possible before **February 10th, 2026**.

Please send an email with [Futures Expertise] in the subject line to:  ai.north@nosm.ca



AI-NORTH MICRO-CREDENTIAL: AI FOR HEALTH SYSTEMS TRANSFORMATION

We're excited to announce that our micro-credential, **Artificial Intelligence for Health Systems Transformation**, is officially launching a pilot cohort on February 13th, 2026. Designed specifically for Northern Ontario, this hands-on course builds the practical skills needed to confidently and responsibly bring AI innovation into real-world practice. Stay tuned for the full micro-credential release announcement following the pilot!

**GOT
NEWS?**

If you have news you'd like to share with the network, please get in touch!
Reach out to: ai.north@nosm.ca

Want to learn more?
Get in touch with us at:

 ai.north@nosm.ca

Join the AI-NORTH Network!

Get involved with the AI network for inclusive and ethical AI innovation in Northern Ontario Healthcare through:



Connect with us on LinkedIn [here](#).



For general inquiries, email us at ai.north@nosm.ca



Sign up for our mailing list [here](#).