

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Please make sure you are using the latest version of this form posted on **[www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/accelerate/apply-now](http://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/accelerate/apply-now)**
- Please do not modify or reformat this form in any way. A modified form will result in a delay in the internship evaluation process.
- Detailed information on how to write your proposal can be found [here](#).
- The start date of the internship has to be **after** scientific approval and the **receipt** of the partner funds at Mitacs.
- Partner funds can be sent directly to Mitacs prior to approval to expedite the process or upon approval.
- If you cannot see the items listed in the drop downs, please refer to the Appendix A: Options and type the corresponding answer on the space provided.

### **Please note:**

If required, your **Mitacs Business Development Representative** can assist you with:

- Identifying your Office of Research Services (ORS) representative.
- Facilitating non-disclosure agreements or intellectual property arrangements.
- Assessing the eligibility and completeness of the proposed research.

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

**A complete internship application package must include the following :**

- ☐ The proposal application **completed and signed** by all parties. The memorandum (see Section 7) with signatures must be submitted as a scanned PDF file.
- ☐ List of six external experts, arms-length reviewers and their contact information
- ☐ Intern(s) CV (a [CV template](#) is available on the Mitacs website)
- ☐ Excel budget if this is an Accelerate cluster proposal
- ☐ Any supplementary documents (as applicable)

**\* An incomplete application or a modified form will result in a delay in the internship evaluation process.**

For more information, contact a **Business Development representative** ([www.mitacs.ca/en/contact-us/business-development](http://www.mitacs.ca/en/contact-us/business-development)).

# Mitacs Accelerate Proposal Application

## 1. Research Proposal Summary

1.1. Title of project:	ABLE		
1.2. Type of project: Please indicate (x)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standard <input type="checkbox"/> Cluster (minimum of 6 internships and 3 interns)		
1.3. Number of Internship units:	1		
1.4. Keywords to identify reviewers: (3-10 specific keywords; 50% technically related, 50% discipline-related)	Autism, employment, spectrum, neurodiverse, software testing, savant, special needs, gifted, unemployment, skills		
1.5. Academic discipline:	Business		
1.6. Project priority sectors:	Information & Communications Technology	Technology	New & Digital Media
Please rank up to three top priority sector(s) of your project:	1	2	3
1.7. Project purpose: Please indicate (x) the advancement you want to achieve with this internship	<input type="checkbox"/> Creation of <b>new</b> materials, devices, or products <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Creation of <b>new</b> processes or services <input type="checkbox"/> Improvement of <b>existing</b> materials, devices, or products <input type="checkbox"/> Improvement of <b>existing</b> processes or services		

### 1.8. List of participants:

Supervisor(s)	Department	University	
Michael Carter	Digital Media	Ryerson University	
Partner organization(s)	Contact name at partner organization	Province of organization	Partner Legal Status
Canadian National Autism Foundation	Molly Philip	Ontario	Not for Profit Canadian Corporation

### 1.9. Proposed work plan for internship unit(s) (IU):

Please summarize the work plan by showing which intern will work on which objective and when. Do not provide any detail here; present them in Section 2 instead.

Intern Name	Degree	IU	Month															
			2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32

Maria Skłodowska	MDM	1	X	X															
Total Internship Units		1																	
Total Project Funding	\$ 15000																		

## 2. Description of Proposed Research

### 2.1. Project title: ABLE

### 2.2. Research Abstract (Approx. 150 words):

The abstract must clearly summarize the research proposed. Please include: Background and problem, objectives, expected results and relevance for the intern(s) and partner organization(s). This section will be used to recruit reviewers; it differs from section 7.2.Public Project Overview, which must be written using simplified language understandable to a layperson.

Neurodiverse People are talented, passionate and hardworking with an explicit eye for detail but are often unemployed and misinterpreted as handicapped. This leads to their major depression and alienation from society along with lifelong financial constraints according to Maria, who has experience of working as a camp counsellor for children with Autism. She recognizes the falling off the cliff phenomenon where most of these individuals have no help or care once they turn twenty-one. Tech companies have started actively hiring and appreciating the technical neurodiverse skills. On the other hand, Canadian National Autism Foundation is working on managing and celebrating neurodiversity all over Canada and realizes the unemployment problem. The research explores a channel of communication between the Neurodiverse community and their potential employers via ABLE. A professional talent platform which ensures a fair display of their gifted abilities and professional narrative to employers and the rest of the world bringing them opportunities. ABLE also offers a fair chance to cross-rate and review experiences of employers and employees both.

### 2.3. Background and review of relevant prior work (minimum 500 words):

There are various vocational and job training programs for neurodiverse individuals. Nobis-Works is an organization that provides occupational training to neurodiverse people in Marietta, Georgia for more than a hundred years. Specialisterne in Denmark is training people on Autism spectrum for professional careers and partnering with employers to create and sustain jobs for them. Thorkil Sonne, the founder of Specialisterne who is also a father to an Autistic child believes that software testing abilities come innate to neurodiverse individuals. According to Specialisterne "The skills needed to be successful at STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) jobs include visual learning skills and the ability to recognize patterns, concentration and perseverance over long periods of time, high diligence etc. are most often found in people on Autism spectrum." Leaving them with an immense advantage in the digital industry. A job website called The Spectrum Careers caters to people on the Autism Spectrum. However, they seem to have some design glitches and do not have much outreach. Their communication approach creates a panic about neurodiverse unemployment instead of praising their abilities.

As we reflected upon new hiring trends in the tech Industry regarding neurodiverse individuals we came across the following: A tech company called Ultra-testing based in New York, actively hires people on high functioning Autism spectrum. Ultra employees can pick the slightest change in patterns or visual language; their savant cognitive abilities play an important role in testing new soft wares for the company. Last year, they started an initiative aiming to create employment awareness of the neurodiverse through their campaign Different/Better. Due to the stigma of handicap attached, the campaign's statement turned out to be sympathetic instead. Another one hiring Neurodiverse people is NonPareil Institute. Their workforce has been doing wonders working on projects for game design and software development. However, they do not have a communication strategy in place. There must be a reason why there is a growing list of digital companies such as Microsoft, SAP, HP Australia, that have

taken active initiatives to employ neurodiverse individuals. Beginning a new hiring trend which is based on a strong business rationale, not out of compassion.

Neurodiverse individuals also do great as mathematicians and coders for tech industry. Their software testing abilities are phenomenal and almost always better than the average person. "They're loyal and diligent and are a lower turnover risk," says Tim Weiler, Director effectiveness and rewards, at Towers Watson, a human-resources consulting firm that has started a hiring program of Autistic individuals. It is not difficult to figure out the exact skillsets of the neurodiverse population. A renowned Wisconsin psychiatrist specialist on gifted neurodiversity for last fifty years, Darold Treffort indicates that their special skills fall in a narrow range of special abilities, he says, "it is interesting that savant skills generally narrow to five categories: *music*, usually performance, most often piano, with perfect pitch, although composing in the absence of performing has been reported as has been playing multiple instruments (as many as 22); *art*, usually drawing, painting or sculpting; *calendar calculating* (curiously an obscure skill in most persons); *mathematics*, including lightning calculating or the ability to compute prime numbers and *mechanical* or *spatial skills*, including the capacity to measure distances precisely without benefit of instruments, the ability to construct complex models or structures with painstaking accuracy or the mastery of map making and direction finding." Usually they enjoy more than one savant skill. They also have often been reported with photographic memory and immense accuracy at user testing.

#### **2.4. General objective** of the research project broken down into sub-objectives, activities, themes, or sub-projects, as applicable:

The two primary objectives are:

- to start a conversation amongst public acknowledging special talents and skills of neurodiverse individuals;
- to communicate the competitive advantage of these individuals to potential employers. Opening direct, clear Communication between neurodiverse people and their potential employers.

This is to be achieved via the following sub objectives:

- o Acquiring server space
- o Contacting corporations to participate
- o Interviewing neurodiverse individuals
- o Starting a social media Ad campaign
- o Designing user interface of the platform
- o Developing the platform

#### **2.5. Details of internships or subprojects:**

For each intern or subproject, provide the following mandatory information:

- a. **Name of intern.** Maria Salomea Skłodowska
- b. **Specific objectives of the internship or subproject.** Clearly state your [sub-] objectives so reviewers can assess if they are achievable. **Answer)**
  - o Acquiring server space
  - o Contacting corporations to participate

- o Interviewing neurodiverse individuals
  - o Starting a social media Ad campaign
  - o Designing user interface of the platform
  - o Developing the platform
- c. **Methodologies.** Provide enough detail so reviewers can determine if the proposed methodology is appropriate and sufficient to achieve the [sub-] objectives.
- Focus groups with neurodiverse individuals on UX design, usability issues, and features - Qualitative approach
  - Analyzing HR trends, workplace compatibility/adjustments through a literature review - Quantitative approach
- d. **Timeline.**
- We suggest using a Gantt chart to provide a timeline showing which task will be done when to achieve each objective.
- Please see attached Gantt chart for detailed project timeline.**
- e. **Expected deliverables.**
- ~Please describe the expected deliverables of the project (including the submission of a completed Mitacs Final Report and Mitacs survey at the end of the project).
- Working platform connected with local (Ontario) employment and organizations and test case study.
- f. **Benefit to the intern.**
- Maria is deeply passionate about providing assistance to neurodiverse individuals. With her history working as a camp counsellor for children with Autism, she is fully motivated to help bridge the gap that Autistic adults face when it comes to unemployment. Her education background and experience as a clinical research assistant has also given her the in-depth background knowledge required regarding the topic.
- g. **Interaction.** Indicate the percentage (%) of time during the project that the intern will spend on-site at the partner's location. The expected minimum interaction is 50%, if different, please include a **justification**.
- % of partner interaction: **70 %** + % of academic interaction: **30 %** = 100%
- h. **Justification** of interaction (if applicable).
- Not necessary since onsite interaction will be 70% in order to accommodate the work intensive nature of the platform development.
- i. **Partner Interaction.** Indicate what activities will be performed on-site at the partner organization. Platform development, research consultation, and focus group meetings.

## 2.6. **Relevance** to the partner organization and to Canada:

Describe the partner's proposed role in the project and how the partner will benefit from participating.

CNAF has a functional research wing, working with various universities on projects regarding psychological hardships faced by those with neurodiversity. ABLE is clearly a part of a solution for their psychological issues due to alienation and unemployment.

## 2.7. Project economic orientation (if applicable):

Describe the economic or productivity orientation of the project, including the information submitted through the pre-assessment form. NOTE: if any partner listed in this proposal is an eligible not-for profit (NFP) organization, you must submit a pre-assessment form before proceeding with your proposal submission.

This project will provide economic potential and productivity to utilizing CNAF's contacts and its role as a leader in providing education and support for Autistic individuals.

## 2.8. Relationship (if any) to past/other Mitacs Accelerate internships, Mitacs Elevate fellowships, or current applications in submission to any Mitacs program: None

## 2.9. References:

Chu, J. (2015). Why SAP Wants to Train and Hire Nearly 700 Adults with Autism. Retrieved December 09, 2016, from <http://www.inc.com/jeff-chu/sap-autism-india.html>

DifferentBetter. (n.d.). Retrieved December 09, 2016, from <http://differentbetter.us/>

Falling Off the Services Cliff - Autism Outcomes. (n.d.). Retrieved December 09, 2016, from <http://drexel.edu/autismoutcomes/blog/overview/2015/August/falling-off-the-services-cliff/>

Huber, D. H. (2007). Clinical presentation of autism spectrum disorders in intellectually gifted students.

Ronald Alsop. (7 January 2016). Are autistic individuals the best workers around? Retrieved December 09, 2016, from <http://www.bbc.com/capital/story/20160106-model-employee-are-autistic-individuals-the-best-workers-around>

Roux, Anne M., Shattuck, Paul T., Rast, Jessica E., Rava, Julianna A., and Anderson, Kristy, A. *National Autism Indicators Report: Transition into Young Adulthood*. Philadelphia, PA: Life Course Outcomes Research Program, A.J. Drexel Autism Institute, Drexel University, 2015.

Santoso, A., Wannabe, S., 10, K., Harmon, J., & D. (n.d.). 10 Most Fascinating Savants in the World. Retrieved December 09, 2016, from <http://www.neatorama.com/2008/09/05/10-most-fascinating-savants-in-the-world/>

Savant Syndrome 2013- Myths and Realities. (n.d.). Retrieved December 09, 2016, from <https://www.wisconsinmedicalsociety.org/professional/savant-syndrome/resources/articles/savant-syndrome-2013-myths-and-realities/>

The Autistic Savant. (n.d.). Retrieved December 09, 2016, from <https://www.wisconsinmedicalsociety.org/professional/savant-syndrome/resources/articles/the-autistic-savant/>

The Dandelion Principle: Redesigning Work for the Innovation Economy. (n.d.). Retrieved December 10, 2016, from <http://sloanreview.mit.edu/article/the-dandelion-principle-redesigning-work-for-the-innovation-economy>

Treffert, D. A. (2010). Islands of genius: The bountiful mind of the autistic, acquired, and sudden savant. London: Jessica Kingsley.

Young Adults With Autism More Likely To Be Unemployed, Isolated. (n.d.). Retrieved December 09, 2016, from <http://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2015/04/21/401243060/young-adults-with-autism-more-likely-to-be-unemployed-isolated>

### 3. Declarations

**3.1. Will the proposed research be taking place outside of the lab or normal business environment?**

**Yes**

**If yes**, please complete the following section to indicate what (if any) impact there may be on the environment.

- a) Main characteristics of the location (i.e. physical description & coordinates).
- b) Principal activity(ies): for each activity, list the environmental elements affected.
- c) Are authorizations, permits, or licenses required to undertake any activity during the internship?

**No**

**If yes**, please list and include copies with your application.

**3.2. Does the proposed research involve living human subjects (including conducting interviews) or human remains, cadavers, tissues, biological fluids, embryos, or fetuses?**

**Yes**

**If yes**, the proposal must be approved by the participating University Research Ethics Board, and a valid Ethics approval is required for the duration of the research project. Access to funding may be denied for projects that do not have ethical approval.

Please note: Mitacs may request a copy of the report to ensure compliance.

**3.3. Does the proposed research involve animal subjects?**

**No**

**If yes**, the proposal must be approved by the participating University Animal Care Committee, and a valid approval from the committee is required for the duration of the research project.

Please note: Mitacs may request a copy of the report to ensure compliance.

**3.4. Is a biohazards review required?**

**No**

**If yes**, the necessary review/report must be conducted in accordance with your university's policies, and a valid biohazards approval is required for the duration of the research project.

Please note: Mitacs may request a copy of the report to ensure compliance.

**3.5. Have any participants declared a Conflict of Interest (COI) as part of this application?**

**No**

**If yes**, please attach the signed conflict resolution letter.

**3.6. How did the participants first hear about Mitacs?**

Please mark with (x)

Notification from your university department or at the university (bulletin board posting, email communication, newsletter, university website)	(x)	From the university's graduate studies offices	( )
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From a representative at the sponsor company	<input type="checkbox"/>	From a professor at the university	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notification from Mitacs (e-mail newsletter, social media)	<input type="checkbox"/>	From a Mitacs representative	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please describe):			

## 4. Participants

Duplicate relevant section(s) as needed for multiple interns or supervisors.

### 4.1. Academic supervisor:

Name:	Michael Carter
University:	Ryerson University
Department:	Digital Media
Address (at university):	10 Dundas Street
City, Province:	Toronto, Ontario
Postal code:	M2K123
Phone:	+14165090860
Email:	mc@ryerson.ca

#### 4.1.1. Is the academic supervisor\*\*:

An owner or a co-owner of the partner organization:

Yes\_\_\_ No\_x\_\_

A relative of an owner or co-owner of the partner organization:

Yes\_\_\_ No\_x\_\_

An employee of and/or a participant in the day-to-day management of the partner organization:

Yes\_\_\_ No\_x\_\_

If **yes** to any of the above, please [click here](#) to complete the **Conflict of Interest Declaration** and send it to [accelerate@mitacs.ca](mailto:accelerate@mitacs.ca) **BEFORE** submitting your application.

**For any additional academic supervisors copy and paste Section 4.1. below:**

### 4.2. Partner organization:

Legal name:	Canadian National Autism Foundation	
Operating name (if different):	CNAF	
Contact name:	Molly Philip	
Position:	Director	
Department:	Development	
Address:	25 King St E	
City, Province:	Stoney Creek, ON	
Postal code:	L8G 1J7	
Phone:	+1905-930-8682	
Email:	Molly.philip@cnafe.net	
Website:	<a href="http://www.cnafe.net">http://www.cnafe.net</a>	
Partner size (number of employees):	100-499	
Legal status:	Not for Profit Canadian Corporation	

**4.2.1. NAICS Code (First three digits): 033**

[Click here for a list of North American Industry Classification System codes.](#)

**4.3. Intern(s) identified: Maria Salomea Skłodowska**

**4.3.1. Intern #1 information:**

Name:	<b>Maria Salomea Skłodowska</b>	
Degree program during internship (masters/PhD/PDF):	Master's degree	
Expected year of graduation:	2017	
If PDF, indicate mm/yy PhD received:		
University:	Ryerson University	
Department:	Digital Media	
Address at university:	350 Victoria St	
City, Province:	Toronto, ON	
Postal code:	M5B 2K3	
Phone:	905-245-6712	
University email:	msklodowska@ryerson.ca	
Alternate email:	maria.skłodowska@gmail.com	
Citizenship:	Canadian	
Gender:	Female	

**4.3.2. Conflict of interest. Is the intern:**

An owner or a co-owner of the partner organization:

Yes\_\_\_ No\_X\_

A relative of an owner or co-owner of the partner organization:

Yes\_\_\_ No\_X\_

An employee of and/or a participant in the day-to-day management of the partner organization:

Yes\_\_\_ No\_X\_

**If yes** to any of the above, please [click here](#) to complete the **Conflict of Interest Declaration** and send it to [accelerate@mitacs.ca](mailto:accelerate@mitacs.ca) **BEFORE** submitting your application.

**4.3.3. Demographic information. \*OPTIONAL\***

**Please indicate (x) if you are:**

Francophone:	<input type="checkbox"/>	A person with a disability:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aboriginal:	<input type="checkbox"/>	First in your family to attend university:	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Social Media: Please provide usernames if you wish to connect with Mitacs by social media:**

LinkedIn:	Maria S. Skłodowska
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Twitter:	
Facebook:	

**For any additional interns copy and paste Section 4.3. below:**

**4.4. Intern(s) to be determined (TBD):**

**TBD#1**

Degree program during internship (Master's, PhD, PDF):	
University:	
Department:	

**For any additional TBD interns, copy and paste Section 4.4. below:**

## 5. Funding, Budget and Invoicing

- For **Accelerate standard** projects, please complete sections 5.1 to 5.4.
- For **Accelerate cluster** projects involving a minimum of three (3) interns, at least six (6) four-month internship units, and a minimum of one (1) eligible partner, please complete section 5.3 and 5.4 only AND the Accelerate Cluster Budget Excel spreadsheet.

### 5.1. Funding summary

For each four-month internship unit, the partner must contribute \$7,500\* and Mitacs will match with \$7,500.

Source	Number of Internships	Amount (Number of internships* x \$7,500)
Total Mitacs contribution (\$7,500 per internship )	1	\$7,500
Total Partner contribution* (\$7,500 per internship)		\$7,500
<b>Total project award (\$15,000 per internship)</b>		<b>\$15,000</b>

\* The partner's contribution is subject to tax.

### 5.2. Budget

For each four-month internship unit, the intern stipend must be a minimum of \$10,000 and the research costs must be a maximum of \$5,000.

#### 5.2.1. Stipend expenses – details per internship unit (add extra table lines as needed)

Academic Supervisor Name	Intern Name	Estimated Start date (Month, Year)	Stipend Amount (min. \$10,000 per internship unit)
Michael Carter	Maria Salomea Skłodowska	May, 2017	\$ 13,510
<b>Total Stipend (A):</b>			<b>\$13,510</b>

#### 5.2.2. Research costs, e.g. equipment, travel, conference (add extra table lines as needed).

Research Costs	Value
1. Hosting Server Cost for Portal	\$ 400
2. Domain name acquisition	\$ 20
3. Travel-meetings with individuals and corporations	\$ 200
4. Design Software Subscription	\$ 120
5. Third Party Web Design Cost	\$ 500
6. Miscellaneous	\$ 250
<b>Total research costs (B) - which cannot exceed \$5,000 per internship unit:</b>	<b>\$ 1,490</b>

<b>Total expenses [(A + B) = total project award]</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>
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### 5.3. Additional resources

Please indicate if the partner will provide the intern with any of the following additional resources and indicate

their estimated value:

Additional resources	Amount
Office supplies / stationery	\$ 20
Use of equipment or specialized equipment	\$
Access to relevant company material, personnel	\$ 50
Industrial partner supervision	\$
Other, please specify:	\$

#### 5.4. Invoicing Partner funds

Please describe any applicable **invoicing requirements** (vendor setup, PO, etc.):

Invoicing contact name:	Louis Smith
Email:	lsmith@cnafe.net

	Address same as filled in Section 4.2.
	If invoicing address different than Section 4.2, please fill out the following:
Legal name:	
Address:	
City, Province:	
Postal code:	
Phone:	
Email:	

**Please note:** Partner contributions must be received by Mitacs BEFORE any funds are awarded to the university. **Costs can only be incurred after scientific approval of the proposal and the receipt of the partner funds at Mitacs.**

Have these funds been leveraged against other federal or provincial programs?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_X\_\_

If **yes**, please provide details:

**5.4.1.** Were partner funds sent, as an exception, to the university:

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_X\_ **If yes** please confirm that:

- a) Is there a research agreement in place with the university that governs the use of these partner funds?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

**If yes** please speak with your BD representative, fill out the *confirmation of transfer of partner funds document*, and submit that document with your completed application

- b) ORS/UILO agrees to send these funds to Mitacs

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

University account number:	
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- c) The partner agrees by signing this application that the funds can be forwarded

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Name of the consenting partner representative	
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- d) University contact to receive Mitacs invoice

Name:	
Department:	
Email:	

- e) Is the GST or HST, and QST (if applicable) to be included with invoice to university?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

**If no**, tax(es) will be invoiced directly to the industry partner.

#### 5.4.2. Payment options

Please select (x) the preferred payment option:

**Full project payment:** One invoice for full project contribution to be paid in full on receipt

(X\_)

**Installments:** If you choose to be invoiced in installments, please note that an installment schedule will be created by Mitacs staff and up to three invoices per year will be sent to your attention 60 days before the start date of the first internship of the installment

(\_)

- Invoices will be issued for a minimum of one internship unit (\$7,500 for an Accelerate Standard project OR \$6,000 for an Accelerate Cluster project) and must be paid in full, partial payments of invoices will not be accepted.
- The partner's contribution is subject to tax

## 6. Suggested Reviewers

Please provide the names and contact information of at least **SIX (6) arms-length** reviewers.

An arms-length reviewer must:

- Be a recognized expert in the research topics and technical aspects covered by the proposal;
- NOT be from the same university as the intern(s) or the academic supervisor(s); and
- NOT have had any collaboration with the intern(s) or the academic supervisor(s) or the partner(s) during the past five (5) years or planned for the near future.

Please note that neglecting to suggest reviewers who qualify as arms-length will delay the review of your application.

### Reviewer 1:

Name:	Joan Peskin
University:	University of Toronto
Department:	Human Development and Applied Psychology
Email:	j.peskin@utoronto.ca

### Reviewer 2:

Name:	Graeme Hirst
University:	University of Toronto
Department:	Computer Science
Email:	graeme.hirst@utoronto.ca

### Reviewer 3:

Name:	Rick D. Hackett
University:	McMaster University
Department:	Human Resources and Management
Email:	hackett@mcmaster.ca

### Reviewer 4:

Name:	Charles Clarke
University:	University of Waterloo
Department:	Computer Science
Email:	claclarke@uwaterloo.ca

### Reviewer 5:

Name:	Peter Carr
University:	University of Waterloo
Department:	Management Science
Email:	pd carr@uwaterloo.ca

### Reviewer 6:

Name:	Elizabeth Kelley
University:	Queen's University
Department:	Psychology
Email:	kelleyb@queensu.ca

### Potential competing interest. *\*OPTIONAL\**

Include potential reviewers whom Mitacs should **not** contact due to a potential competing interest in the proposed research.



Name:	
University / Research Group:	

  

Name:	
University / Research Group:	

## 7. Mitacs Accelerate Memorandum

The participants listed below confirm that the information presented accurately reflects their intention to apply to the Mitacs Accelerate program. The participants have also agreed to set in place an internship based upon the attached proposal. It is understood that the partner organization contribution shall be provided to Mitacs Inc. prior to commencement of the internship; in the event that the sponsor organization funds are at the university, the university shall forward these funds to Mitacs. Upon scientific approval, Mitacs shall forward the funds to the university as a research grant to the supervising professor, and the internship stipend will be paid to the student by the university from the grant. Costs associated with this proposal as outlined in the budget can only be incurred after scientific approval of the proposal.

Mitacs is unable to assume liability for any losses including—but not limited to—accidents, illness, travel, or other losses that may occur during the internship period. All undersigned parties agree that they are responsible for ensuring that they have appropriate insurance and meet any university policies regarding health, safety, and travel preparation requirements. All parties also agree that the intern will provide Mitacs with a final report and that all participants will complete an exit survey within one month of project completion.

All parties involved with Mitacs Accelerate are bound by the standard intellectual property (IP) terms of the university where the intern is enrolled; except where intellectual property is covered by separate agreements to which the university and the sponsor organization are parties and that are active during the dates of the internship. By signing this memorandum, you are acknowledging that you agree to the terms of the university where the intern is enrolled. University-specific IP policies regarding Accelerate internships can be found at [Accelerate Policies and Procedures](#).

The participants listed below agree that Mitacs can disclose the provided personal information included in this proposal (e-mail, LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, etc.) to the program's funding partners and that Mitacs can use them for the purpose of communication and to evaluate the program and its outcomes during and after participants' program tenure. The participants also agree that Mitacs will post the title of the project, the public project overview, the name of the partner(s) organization(s), the name of the intern(s), the name of supervisor(s) and the involved university on [www.mitacs.ca/en/projects](http://www.mitacs.ca/en/projects) and may be used by Mitacs to publicize Mitacs Accelerate. Mitacs Privacy Policy can be found at [www.mitacs.ca/en/privacy-policy](http://www.mitacs.ca/en/privacy-policy).

Internship participants (intern, supervising professor, and partner) further agree to the following addendum(s):

Mitacs does not require, inspect, or enforce any additional terms as outlined by participants in the above addendum.

### 7.1. Title of the Project: ABLE

### 7.2. Public Project Overview:

Using simplified language understandable to a layperson; provide a general, one-paragraph description of the proposed research project to be undertaken by the intern(s) as well as the expected benefit to the partner organization. (100 - 150 words)

The intention of this research project is to connect autistic or neurodiverse people with opportunities of employment. It will ignite a discussion that these gifted individuals have a better competitive advantage at certain types of employment. ABLE's database may answer

the “where to find these people?” question for employers. It will also have UBER or AIRBnB like user ratings for users to rate employers and workplaces, while employers can also rate their experience with users. ABLE Interweaves the presence of the neurodiverse community within our personal digital lives. Therefore, opening a reciprocal channel of communication between public, employers and neurodiverse individuals. Eventually being a reliable tool to “enable” them to lead a better-quality life with self-confidence and dignity, which is also the prime mission of the potentially partnering organization Canadian National Autism Foundation.

### 7.3. Participant Signatures:

Please sign, scan and save in PDF format

#### Intern:

Name:	Maria Salomea Skłodowska		
Department:	Digital Media		
University:	Ryerson University		
Signature:		Date:	February 24 2017

#### Academic Supervisor:

Name:	Michael Carter		
Department:	Digital Media		
University:	Ryerson University		
Signature:		Date:	February 24 2017

#### Partner Organization:

Name:	Molly Philip		
Department:	Development		
Title/Position:	Director		
Organization:	Canadian National Autism Foundation		
Signature:		Date:	February 24 2017

#### University Office of Research Services Representative:

Name:	Jay Wolofsky		
Title/Position:	Ryerson Librarian		
University:	Ryerson University		
Signature:		Date:	February 24 2017

For any additional participants include corresponding details and signature line below:

[illegible]

## ABLE Budget Summary

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Total Budget	\$15,000
Research Cost	\$1,490
Stipened Expenses	\$13,510

Research Cost				
Description	Estimated Cost	Actual Cost	Difference	Notes
Hosting Server Cost	\$400.00		\$400.00	
Domain Name Acquistion	\$20.00		\$20.00	
Travel- Meetings	\$200.00		\$200.00	
Web Design Software Subscriptior	\$120.00		\$120.00	
Third Party Web design cost	\$500.00		\$500.00	
Miscellaneous	\$250.00		\$250.00	
			\$0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,490.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,490.00</b>	
Stipened Expences				
Description	Estimated Cost	Actual Cost	Difference	Notes
Month 1	\$3,377.50		\$3,377.50	
Month 2	\$3,377.50		\$3,377.50	
Month 3	\$3,377.50		\$3,377.50	
Month 4	\$3,377.50		\$3,377.50	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,510.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$13,510.00</b>	