



Youth · STEM · Innovation
Jeunesse · STIM · Innovation

MEDIA RELEASE

Actua and TD to collaborate on expansion of national STEM programming

December 4, 2017, Ottawa/ Actua, Canada's largest science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) outreach organization announced a new national sponsorship with TD Bank Group (TD) today. A significant priority for the sponsorship will be to further engage underrepresented youth audiences including girls, Indigenous youth and those with socioeconomic challenges in transformational STEM experiences across Canada.

"We see a natural alignment to TD's core values in Actua's STEM programming and philosophy of inclusion and diversity, and support its aim to create more opportunities for future technology leaders from coast to coast to help them explore their potential," said Tim Hogarth, VP, Innovation Framework and Strategies at TD. "STEM skills are playing a critical role in the development of Canada's innovation economy, and that includes our financial industry."

The sponsorship content, supported by TD and delivered by Actua's network of 35 university and college-based members, will focus on numeracy and financial literacy through coding and computational thinking programming. Thousands of youth will have the opportunity to engage in exciting, hands-on design challenges, as well as activities around parity and data collection, which help apply numeracy skills to computer science and topics like cybersecurity.

"It's incredibly important for youth, starting at a young age, to have opportunities both in and outside of the classroom to engage in activities that build their financial and digital literacy. We are very pleased to be working with TD at a national level to help ensure youth are getting the exposure they need to build knowledge and skills in these critical fields," said Jennifer Flanagan, President and CEO of Actua."

About Actua: Actua is Canada's leading science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) youth outreach network representing 35 university and college based members. Each year 250,000 young Canadians in over 500 communities nationwide are inspired through hands-on educational workshops, camps and community outreach initiatives. Actua focuses on the engagement of underrepresented youth through specialized programs for Indigenous youth, girls and young women, at-risk youth and youth living in Northern and remote communities. Actua's major funders include: Government of Canada, Google Canada, Suncor Energy Foundation, GE Canada, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, Ontario Trillium Foundation, Finning, Toyota Canada Foundation and Lockheed Martin. For more information about Actua, visit actua.ca.

- 30 -

Contact Information:

Kristina Martin, Director of Communications, Actua | Kaitlynn Carroll, Communications & Projects Manager, Actua
111 Murray Street, Ottawa ON K1N 5M5

Tel: (613) 234 4137 Fax: 613 234 4779

E-mail: kristina.martin@actua.ca E-mail: kaitlynn.carroll@actua.ca | Web: www.actua.ca