

THE DATA EFFECT

MANITOBA'S NEXT DIGITAL LEAP: HOW GENERATIVE AI CAN DRIVE INNOVATION

SEPTEMBER 14, 2023 | WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

presented by

Google Cloud

with support from

EMILI



CITYAGE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report consolidates a discussion among 12 participants encompassing various fields, including government, IT, policy, and industry professionals, who came together in Winnipeg to discuss the impact and far-reaching opportunity of generative AI.

The roundtable, in collaboration with Google Cloud and EMILI, examined its implications, applications, and concerns, highlighting key themes such as data privacy, governance, responsible AI, and the extensive potential applications across diverse domains.

While challenges persist, there is a growing recognition of generative AI's transformative potential across industries and its capacity to elevate decision-making processes. Collaboration, responsible AI practices, and robust data governance was determined to be pivotal in navigating the evolving AI landscape.



PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED:



RENZO BORGESA

Vice President, Strategy, Innovation, and Transformation, Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba



RON DREPAUL

General Manager, Magellan, Aerospace Winnipeg



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Co-Founder, Xvids Inc.



LASHA GLENNIE

Manager of Capital Enablement, EMIL



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Manager of Innovation & Technology, City of Winnipeg



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Manager, Cybersecurity and IT Infrastructure, Winnipeg Airport Authority



SHEREESE PORTER

Senior Policy Advisor/Analyst, Business Council of Manitoba



GBOLABO TAIWO

Project Manager, Rehabilitation Centre for Children



WALLY SCHMEICHEL

Public Sector Lead, Manitoba, Google Cloud

“It’s not just being a hyperscaler; it’s all about determining what the gen AI use case is and how we can work together to solve some of these big problems that organizations around the world have been trying to wrap their hands around for a long time.”

KEY THEMES AND INSIGHTS

Applications and AI Benefits

Participants discussed practical AI applications across various fields, such as property assessment for taxation, language translation for drive-through orders, and medical imaging for healthcare. They recognized AI's potential to enhance business processes and decision-making.

Data Privacy and Governance

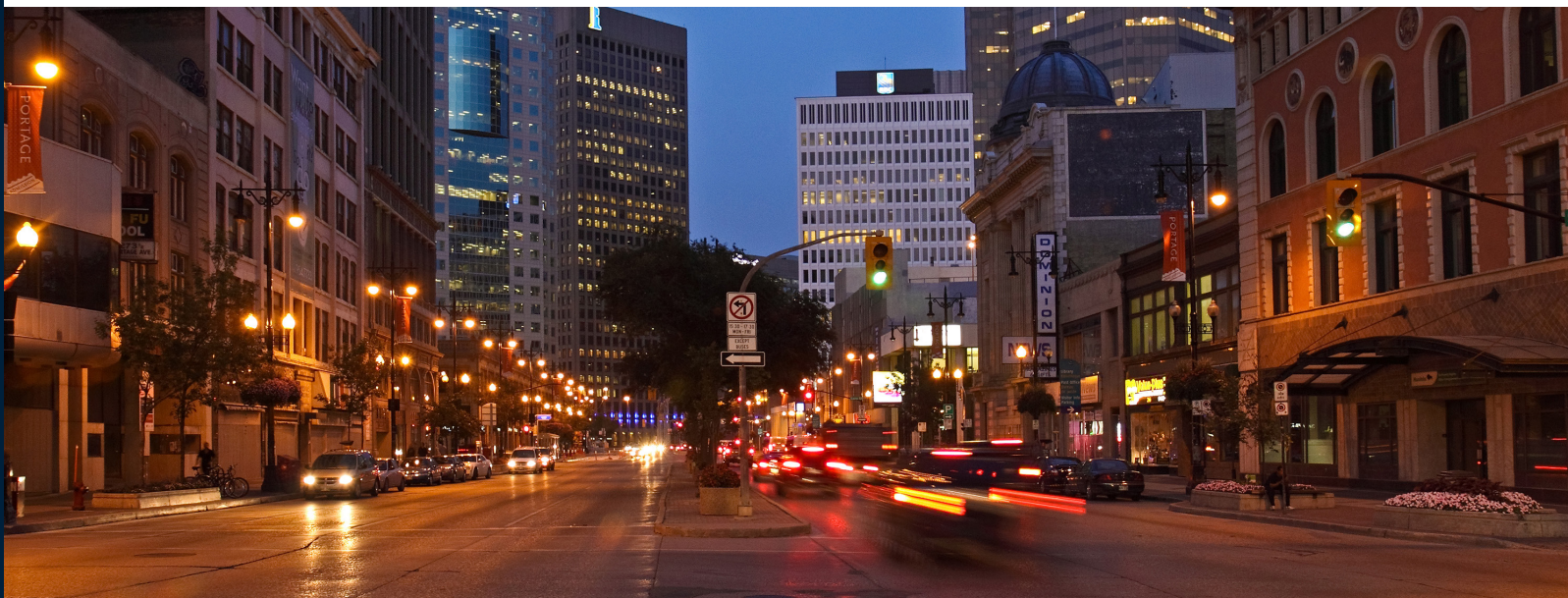
Concerns regarding data privacy and governance, particularly relevant for government and organizations in Canada, were emphasized. Key issues included safeguarding sensitive data, data residency, and sovereignty.

Responsible AI Practices

The importance of responsible AI practices, including transparency, ethical development, and adherence to regulations, was highlighted. Ensuring AI systems can explain their decisions was a recurring theme.

Challenges in AI Adoption

Challenges like defining scope, addressing privacy concerns, and bridging AI-generated decisions with human decision-making, were explored. Attention to data privacy and security was stressed.



KEY THEMES AND INSIGHTS

Ethical Considerations

Participants stressed verifying generated content for accuracy, mitigating bias, and adhering to ethical standards in the development and deployment of generative AI models.

Collaboration and Open Source

The value of collaboration and open-source initiatives in AI was recognized. Participants highlighted knowledge-sharing and cross-sector cooperation for innovation.

“Gen AI is coming at the speed of light, and we need to embrace it, but there should be a balance at some point between privacy, confidentiality, patient outcomes and efficiency. The balance needs to be struck.”

Generative AI Models

A diverse range of generative AI models for various applications was acknowledged, with considerations for model size and computational requirements. Multi-cloud deployment and industry-specific models were discussed, offering versatile solutions. Simplifying Complex Language Generative AI’s ability to simplify complex terminology, especially in sectors requiring clear communication, was noted. Human review and refinement remained important.

Diverse Use Cases

Generative AI models were acknowledged for their wide-ranging use cases, including enhancing customer interactions, content generation, data analysis, and even code generation for software development, fostering innovation opportunities.

CONCLUSION

In summary, the Winnipeg event served as a dynamic gathering of professionals across diverse fields, converging to explore the profound impact and potential of generative AI. The key takeaways from this enriching discussion are as follows:

- **Real-World Applications:** Generative AI emerged as a transformative force, offering practical applications across various sectors. It was evident that these applications hold the potential to not only optimize business processes but also significantly enhance decision-making.
- **Data Privacy and Governance:** The event spotlighted critical concerns regarding data privacy and governance in the context of adopting generative AI. Safeguarding sensitive data and establishing robust governance frameworks, particularly within the Canadian landscape, were emphasized as pivotal challenges.
- **Responsible AI:** Throughout the discussions, a resounding emphasis on the adoption of responsible AI practices and ethical considerations echoed in the room. The significance of transparency, ethical development, and adherence to regulations in AI systems was emphasized, especially when high-stakes decisions are at play.

In conclusion, the wide variety of opportunities that generative AI promises are undeniably exciting. However, it is imperative to anchor its development and utilization in a bedrock of responsibility and ethics, as highlighted by the event’s deliberations.





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