



FUTURE OF WORK AND WORKERS

November 16 - 27, 2020

The unprecedented convergence of the forces of globalisation, urbanisation, changing demographics, climate change, and new and emerging technologies are already fundamentally changing the way we live and work. While the rapid developments in technologies have improved productivity and efficiency and increased convenience, there are very real concerns and anxiety among workers, organizations and governments about the future of work and the very nature of work itself. This requires a deeper understanding of the different changes underway, and which of these should be embraced, which should be resisted, and how best to prepare for the future that is unique for each individual, community and economy.

Starting with the history and evolution of the principle of 'work' and touching on topics such as the Industrial Revolution and the labour movement to provide some historical context and grounding, this ambitious two-week course will help participants better understand the magnitude and intensity of the current changes shaping the world of work and provide a peek into what is to come. While taking a global view on the issue, the course will also delve into specific examples and that are rooted in local contexts. Real-life case studies will be shared that draw on a wide range of contexts, from the informal sector in South Asia to the resource-based economy that has long been the backbone of Atlantic Canada, and the gig economy that is now so prevalent in the service sector, globally. The course will provide opportunities for meaningful interactions with a selection of dynamic leaders and thinkers, and include the perspectives of policy, industry, labour, community, academia, research and civil society. This will include exploring strategies such as the need for life-long learning, future-proof skills development, ideas around universal labour guarantee and social protection, as well as investments in green technologies.

TOWARDS A **FULL AND ABUNDANT** LIFE FOR ALL

Personal benefits

- Understand the historical context of work and how it has evolved with each industrial revolution, along with the challenges, opportunities and responses from various stakeholders.
- Build a clear synthesis of the impact of urbanisation, changing demographics, climate change and other factors on the landscape of work globally.
- Learn about the current trends and innovations in new and emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality, Advanced Robotics, 3D Printing, Block Chain and The Internet of Things.
- Develop a clearer conceptual framework of the implications of these technologies as well as other forces on the current and future jobs.
- Learn about strategies and examples such as investments in building human capital, including skills development and life-long learning, labour market regulation and social protection.
- Get connected to and network with like-minded individuals from various organizations around the world who are interested in the future of work and workers.
- Get advice and tips from leading experts in the field on how to develop the critical skills and pivoting capability to advance your own professional and personal development.

Organizational benefits

- Develop a sound understanding of the way the world of work is changing, both in terms of opportunities as well as emerging challenges from the rural and urban perspective.
- Learn about different perspectives of the government, private sector, academia and the community on future of work and the role each could play going forward.
- Develop strategies for a community centered response to the challenges including social inclusion of women, youth, indigenous people and other vulnerable workers through investments in skill building while enhancing social protection programs that are responsive and bring more security, stability and inclusion in the 21st century work environment.

Who should attend?

All those who are interested in work and workers, including government staff at the local, provincial and national levels responsible for labour, employment, skills, entrepreneurship, women and gender, employment services providers, labour unions and workers organizations, private sector, community-based organizations, NGOs and academic institutions and think tanks.

Fees

A mix of institutional and private donors who share Coady Institute's vision of community-based, citizen-lead change subsidize the institute's educational programs. As possible, Coady will provide qualifying candidates with a partial bursary to assist with course fees. However, all participants will be responsible for fees payable of at least \$2,250 CAD, as well as travel and other costs. **Fees are payable prior to the start of the selected course.** Details on fees are available at www.coady.stfx.ca

Established in 1959, Coady International Institute is committed to accompanying generations of global leaders skilled in the application of citizen-led, asset-based, and community-driven leadership for economic and social change. Located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People, on the campus of St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia. Coady International Institute includes a network of leaders in 130 countries globally. Learn more at coady.stfx.ca.