JABC TechWorks

PROGRAM REPORT

2024-25

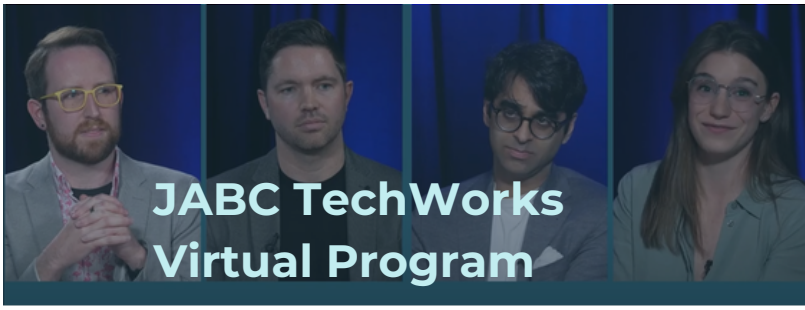
JABC TechWorks

JA British Columbia

Member of JA Canada

OVERVIEW

During the 2024–25 school year, JA British Columbia proudly offered JABC TechWorks in both virtual and in-person formats. This flexible delivery model ensured students across the province could access engaging, career-focused learning experiences, no matter where they lived.



This dynamic, tech-powered work-readiness program gave students a front-row seat to the future of work. Through live panels, interactive presentations, and direct access to industry experts, youth explored emerging tech careers and gained valuable insights and skills to support their own career journeys.

Check out this feature on JABC TechWorks [Business in Vancouver, March 2025].

> It was a great time learning about technology, and the opportunity opened my vision to more post-secondary options in the tech industry.
>
> – Student, Rockridge Secondary School

ABOUT JABC TECHWORKS

EXPLORING CAREERS IN A TECH-DRIVEN WORLD

JABC TechWorks is a free career exploration program for B.C. high school students, available both in-person and virtually. Designed to help students explore technology-driven and tech-enabled careers, the program offers valuable insights into the skills and education needed for the jobs of the future.

With B.C.'s tech sector rapidly growing and nearly one million job openings projected over the next decade, JABC TechWorks supports youth in developing essential skills and making informed career choices. Since its launch in 2017, the program has expanded province-wide through a hybrid model, empowering more students to navigate a technology-driven world.

Learn more at techworks.jabc.ca

JABC TECHWORKS
2024-25 AT A GLANCE

4,000+
Students
Grades 6-12

190
Classes

39
Schools

19
School Districts

SCHOOL DISTRICTS REACHED

#05 Southeast Kootenay
#23 Central Okanagan
#35 Langley
#36 Surrey
#37 Delta
#38 Richmond
#39 Vancouver
#41 Burnaby
#42 Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
#43 Coquitlam
#44 North Vancouver
#45 West Vancouver
#47 Powell River
#63 Saanich
#70 Pacific Rim
#73 Kamloops-Thompson
#82 Coast Mountains
#98 Mainland (Indigenous)
#99 Mainland/ Island/ Surrey & Fraser Valley (Independent)

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS REACHED

Bamfield Community School
Tsleil-Waututh Nation School

PROGRAMS FOR INDIGENOUS LEARNERS

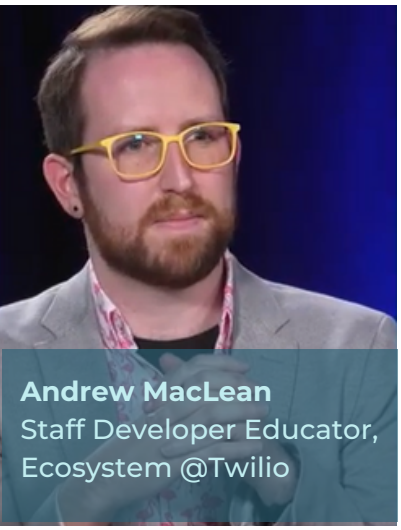
> My highlight was being able to collaborate with my peers to successfully explore each task and project. I enjoyed every session, as each one was a valuable learning opportunity and genuinely enjoyable. I also appreciated meeting all the mentors and instructors who guided us through each task—it was inspiring to learn more about their roles and their passion for technology.
>
> - Student, Grade 10

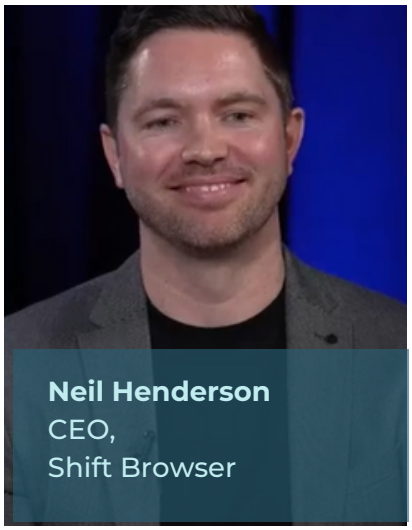
JABC TECHWORKS VIRTUAL

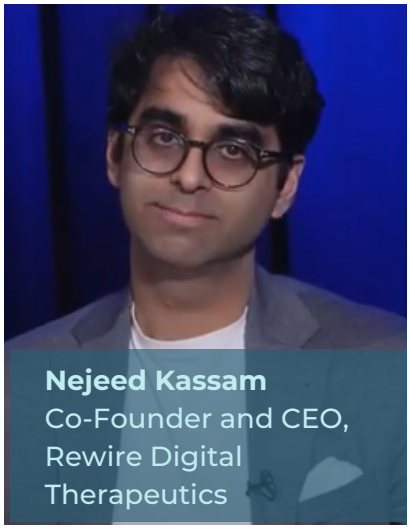
In 2024–25, the virtual version of JABC TechWorks engaged 3,815 students from across British Columbia. Educators enroled their classrooms to participate in this flexible work-readiness learning experience, which included a mix of live and on-demand content.

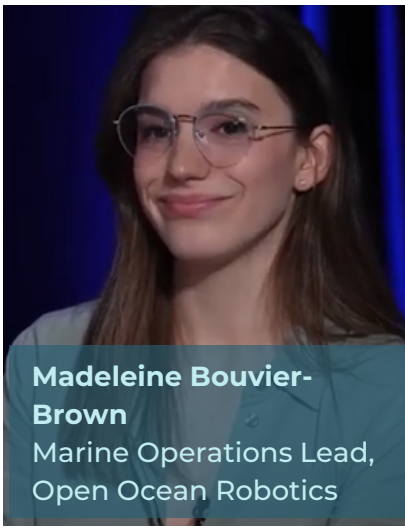
LIVE PANEL

On March 6, 2025, students tuned in for a dynamic panel discussion featuring four professionals from leading tech organizations. Panelists shared their career journeys, offered advice, and explored the latest trends shaping the tech industry. Watch the highlight reel here.









EXCLUSIVE VIDEO SERIES

Classrooms also received on-demand access to three engaging 20-minute videos highlighting world-changing technologies, behind-the-scenes demos, and inspiring career stories. Each video was accompanied by educator guides and interactive activities to support classroom learning. Watch the highlight reel here.

Video topics included:

Power of Technology

This video explores how technology is transforming daily life and highlights emerging fields driven by innovation. Participating companies: Acuitas Therapeutics, SAP Canada, Oxygen8.

AI is Everywhere

This video explores how AI is being integrated into different industries and revolutionizing how the world operates. Participating companies: Accenture, Vancouver Community College

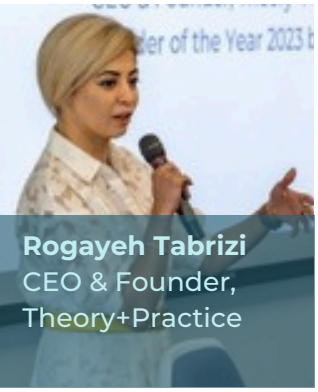
Creativity Meets Technology

This video focuses on the art, design, and innovation aspects of technology. Filmed at the TELUS office. Participating companies: TELUS, 34F Design.

JABC TECHWORKS IN-PERSON

The in-person experience was held at Vancouver Community College in downtown Vancouver on April 24, 2025. Over 200 high school students took part in eight breakout sessions, connecting with over 40 volunteer speakers who shared insights into B.C.'s fast-growing tech sector and related career paths. View photos here.

WELCOME AND KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

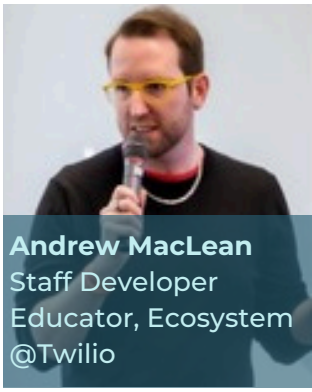


Rogayeh Tabrizi
CEO & Founder, Theory+Practice

Deborah Baker
General Councillor, Squamish Nation Chiefs and Council

David Wells
Vice President, Vancouver Community College

Andrew Marchant
Client Group Lead Resources Canada, Accenture



Andrew MacLean
Staff Developer Educator, Ecosystem @Twilio

BREAKOUT SESSIONS FACILITATORS

Shift
Led by Taylor Lin, Theo Paul, Audrey Rosyadi, Andrew Mao

Teck Resources Limited
Led by Masaki Miyoshi, Dave Donaldson, Tyler Wiggins, Ai Whelan

Belmar Consulting
Led by Matt Hui, Tom Kadota, Penny Sidhu, Laxinder Singh

Oxygen8
Led by Kieran McFadden, Tristan Yan-Klassen

Vancouver Community College
Led by Kevin Ly, Adamo Artuso, Brennan Wauters, Kelly Wightman, Sigrid Albert, Xing Liu, Jason LaChance

Best Buy Canada
Led by Alexander Huijsman, Nicole Braun, Kate Smith, Benjamin Boey, Kathy Ilic Agile, Fazil Rehman

Accenture
Led by Alan Hadle Hamilton, Clara Serra, Napassorn Limapichat, Charvie Yadav, Lipika Sahni

VRCA | Division 15 | Etro Construction
Led by Dara Wone, Karina Delcourt, Diana Kwak, Le Hien Huynh, Eva Ciesielska

> "Getting to hear Rogayeh Tabrizi talk about her experiences and being in the same room as someone who worked at CERN was incredibly inspiring."
>
> – Student, Grade 10

> "Amazing event, thank you for the invite! It's always a pleasure to support opportunities that inspire curiosity and innovation."
>
> – Theory+Practice

STUDENT OUTCOMES

To support ongoing improvements to our programs, we surveyed students after this year's sessions. Below are the results that reflect their learning experience.

87% of students reported an increased awareness of the role that technology plays in a variety of industries.

78% of students say they acquired a deeper awareness of the tech-related careers that are available to them after graduation.

89% of students reported an increased understanding of the positive impact tech has on society.

> "Thank you for organizing such an informative and inspiring program. It was well-structured and engaging. I really appreciated the interactive sessions and the opportunity to ask questions."
>
> - Student, Grade 8

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

For Sascha Surjik-Wright, the in-person TechWorks experience wasn't just informative — it was transformative.

"Honestly, what inspired me the most was probably hearing the stories from the people at the start of the whole event — those who are in the tech industry — talking about how they got there and the experiences they've had," he shared.

He described TechWorks as "an event where you just get to explore different variations of tech and all the different paths you can take without dedicating yourself to a few years in university."

His favourite part? Hearing directly from professionals who've built real careers in tech. Sascha's experience is just one example of how early exposure and real-world insights can spark new interests, build confidence, and open doors to unexpected possibilities.

PROGRAM SUPPORTERS

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024-25 PROGRAM SUPPORTERS!

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BRITISH COLUMBIA

Presenting Partner

ACUITAS THERAPEUTICS

Platinum Partners

Shift

*A Redbrick company

Teck

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SAP

Silver Partners

BEST BUY

FORTIS BC

Venue Partner

VCC

ABOUT JABC

JA British Columbia
Member of JA Canada

JA British Columbia (JABC) is a not-for-profit impact organization that delivers hands-on, immersive education in work readiness, financial health, and entrepreneurship. Through JA, young people are equipped with the skillset and mindset to build thriving communities.
Learn more at jabc.org

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