Greetings!

I am pleased to announce and invite you to the sixth public service design innovation case competition called **Policy Hack: *Climate Adaptation Edition***. This Dragon’s Den style, sprint learning opportunity aims to support professional development, mentoring, networking and creative thinking among professionals across Prince Edward Island.

Policy Hack will bring Prince Edward Island’s provincial and federal public servants, post-secondary students and select private sector employees together in multidisciplinary teams to address cases relevant to provincial priorities. It will provide opportunities to sharpen problem-solving, team-building and creative thinking skills. The competition is a great opportunity to network with public servants from across government.

This year, cases will be based on policy or improvement challenges related to the **theme of climate adaptation.**

Climate change and extreme weather events are affecting lives all over the world including PEI. Post-tropical storms, extreme heat waves and floods are becoming more frequent. Rising sea-levels combined with storms and less sea ice are speeding up the erosion of our coasts. In short, climate-related challenges are impacting the very foundations of our communities.

Climate adaptation means creating safe and secure communities in this time of change. Building resilience cannot be accomplished without coordination between residents, communities and all levels of government. Building resilience requires that we better plan for disasters and response, build more resilient communities, shift our industries, support our health and mental well-being in this new climate reality, protect and enhance our natural systems, and expand our knowledge and capacity to tackle what lies ahead.

We are looking for participants from a variety of disciplines for this competition. If you are interested, I encourage you to submit an application, regardless of your background or role in your organization. **Important: You do not have to have any policy development experience, or any expertise in climate adaptation to participate!** Please note space is limited.

An official launch event for the case competition will take place on May 6, 2024 at the UPEI School of Climate Adaptation. To learn more about this exciting opportunity, including specific criteria, please refer to the program description attached. **The application deadline is March 18, 2024**. You can apply online at the following link: <https://gov.questionpro.ca/2024PolicyHackathonRegistration> (*works best in Chrome*). If you have any questions, please email the Policy Hack team @ [policyhack@gov.pe.ca](mailto:policyhack@gov.pe.ca).

Teams will have four weeks to develop a response to one of these cases and then pitch their ideas at a final event on May 29, 2024 in Charlottetown.

This is a unique opportunity for professional development, networking, and team building across government. I hope all of you will consider participating.

