

covid-19

The COVID19 hackathon has been an incredible example of how communities of technologists and civic-do-gooders can come together, innovate and address an unprecedented crisis. We've had participants submit great projects from every corner of the Earth and a quick glance of our data is a short world tour unto itself: Canada, the US, India, Peru, France, Japan, Romania, Germany, Venezuela, Belgium, Colombia, China, Spain, Cameroon, the UK and Russia!

The idea of building technology with random strangers for collective social, while commonplace for some, is unheard of for many others. We'd like to change that! We have prepared a list of other hackathons, matchathons (where they match hackathon winners with investors), other tech communities, newsletters and subscriptions and even a list of free resources at your disposal.

Hackathons and Challenges

[Hack the Crisis Global Matchathon](#)

Hope you are alive and kicking as well as hacking on what you started to fight this crisis! You may have heard of the word “matchathon” going around. If you can think of a matchmaking heaven between talented participants like yourselves, industry mentors, policymakers, investors, civil society representatives, etc then that’s what it’s meant to be. The Hack the Crisis global matchathon starts on the **14th May 13.00 UTC until the 15th May at 13.00 UTC (24 hrs)**. The event is supported by the European Commission and the goal is to keep going to continue hacking this crisis with the development of your solutions! Register [here & and now](#) with event code "globalmatchathon"

[CoronaWhy](#)

CoronaWhy’s mission is to mobilize volunteers and community partners to address the world’s biggest challenges through data science, artificial intelligence and knowledge sharing. Our focus is on the fight against the coronavirus pandemic. We’re a self-organizing group with room for any who are interested in putting their skills towards improving the COVID-19 response worldwide. Members can work on their own projects within CoronaWhy, or join one of our "Task Teams". As an example of what we have produced, here are our round 1 submissions to the Kaggle Covid-19 challenge: [Transmission, incubation and environmental stability](#), [Human risk factors](#), [Vaccines and therapeutics](#), [Geography and virality](#).

[Beyond Covid-19 Challenge](#)

This global open innovation challenge is a Call To Action for all communities to collaborate and take action in order to create innovative solutions for the Covid-19 Challenge. Pick one of six UN Sustainable Development Goals that you are passionate about, and use that as a starting point to solve a real-world problem related to Covid-19. **Deadline: June 10th.**

[Major League Hacking](#)

Major League Hacking (MLH) is the official student hackathon league. Each year, they power over 200 weekend-long invention competitions that inspire innovation, cultivate communities and more. They list all hackathons going on at their website.

Civic Tech and Tech Communities

[Civic Tech Field Guide \(International\)](#)

The Civic Tech Field Guide is a crowdsourced, global collection of civic tech tools and projects. It's an official project of Civic Hall, a one-of-a-kind non-profit collaboration center for the world's civic innovators.

[Meetup \(Tech\)](#)

Explore Tech - Find out what's happening in Tech Meetup groups around the world and start meeting up with the ones near you.

Free or discounted technology assets

- [1Password](#) (Free for 6 months)
- [Asana](#) (Free for 1 year)
- [Atlassian](#) (Jira, Confluence, Service Desk are free for teams of up to 10 people; not time-bound)
- [Box](#) (Free trial extended to 90 days)
- [Carta](#) (Free for companies with fewer than 25 stakeholders and less than \$500K raised - available through law firms)
- [Cisco](#) (Security products free for existing and new customers until July 1)
- [Cloudflare, Inc.](#) (Free through Sept 1)
- Pulled this from another location (more specific to startups, but some might be helpful!)
- [Dialpad](#) (Pro and Business licenses free for 2 months)
- [Freshworks](#) (Free for 6 months)
- [G Suite.Tools](#) (Hangouts Enterprise features available to all customers free until July 1)
- [HubSpot](#) (Discounted price for 12 months)
- [Intermedia](#) (through Dec. 31, 2020)
- [office365.mn](#) (E1 license including MS Teams free for 6 months)
- [Okta, Inc.](#) (SSO and MFA available to all new customers for free for up to 5 apps; not time-bound)
- [Ping Identity](#) (Free for 6 months)
- [Qualtrics](#) (Remote Work Pulse free and not time-bound)
- [Quip](#) (Free Starter license for new customers until Sept 30)
- [Trello](#) (Free one-year subscriptions to Trello Business Class)
- [Trello board](#) (full of many free things for families)
- [Zendesk](#) (Free 6 month remote support bundle)
- [Zoho Corporation](#) (Free for 3 months)

Other ways to stay connected

The list above is a non-comprehensive set of similar initiatives, resources, and communities you can continue to tap into. Whether it's to continue your projects, find funding, or meet other like-minded individuals, the list has a little bit of everything.

Another way to easily stay connected to similar initiatives or communities is to join newsletters or follow the social media accounts of institutions and groups that inspire, connect and innovate. For example, in Canada, the organizers subscribe to information from the institutions and communities below. We're not unique and we think it's important to find your own local equivalents in terms of educational institutions, social impact communities or civic tech communities. There's likely something in your area or something international you can access. If not, we encourage you to start your own!

Finally, a simple web search for '[covid hackathon](#)' shows dozens if not hundreds of initiatives similar to ours across the world. If anything, take all of this as inspiration that the dedication and willingness of people to help their communities are enough to transcend geographic boundaries and work together to innovate virtually.

Canadian list of institutions the organizers follow

- [Creative Destruction Lab](#) - Apply to be a part of their program and gain access to awesome mentors. They focus on solutions in artificial intelligence, blockchain, climate, energy, health, matter, oceans, quantum, space, supply chain and more. They are also running [CDL Recovery](#), an accelerated version of the program in response to covid-19. Founders/researchers that are interested can apply [here](#).
- [Tech Stars](#) - Apply to be part of their accelerator program before Jul 26th, 2020. They are a global organization that have helped launch many startups into our world that are flourishing.
- [Canadian Digital Media Network](#)- These are unprecedented times. To support Canada's technology ecosystem and the Hubs and companies on the CDMN network during the global COVID-19 pandemic, we have compiled this page of resources, informa
- [University of Toronto On-Ramp](#) - it's an innovation and entrepreneurship space with regular information on local startups, funding, workshops and other programming.
- [Centre for Social Innovation \(Global\)](#) - this is an excellent institution for social impact news. *"Social innovation is the creation, development, adoption, and integration of new concepts, systems, and practices that put people and the planet first. Members of the Centre for Social Innovation work across sectors to create a better world."*

- [CivicTech Toronto](#) - this is an open community of civic technologists working towards addressing civic challenges through tech, design and other means. It feels a lot like the CODEVID19 community, but more permanent.
- [Taproot \(Edmonton\)](#) - a tech newsletter with information about startups, events and news in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.