

# Large TLEF Special Call: Generative AI Collaborative Cluster Grants




**Information Session – July 10, 2024**

**Simon Bates** – Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Teaching and Learning

**Jeff Miller** – Senior Associate Director, The Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology

**Rich Tape** – Programmer Analyst, The Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology

A photograph of the UBC Vancouver Campus. In the foreground on the right, a large wooden Totem Pole sculpture stands prominently. The sculpture depicts a figure with a tall, conical hat, holding a large, coiled snake. The background shows a paved walkway leading through a green campus area with trees and buildings under a clear sky. A semi-transparent text box is overlaid on the lower left portion of the image.

**We acknowledge that the UBC Vancouver Campus is situated within the traditional, Ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam.**

# Agenda

- **Overview of the Large TLEF Special Call**
- **Collaborative Clusters**
- **LLM Sandbox architecture and approach**
- **Centrally provisioned LT Incubator Support**
- **Q&A session**



# Overview of the Special Call

- Approximately \$1 million will be earmarked in this year's TLEF funding round to support projects focused on Generative AI
- Projects can receive up to a maximum of \$200,000 across up to 2 years of development (will be funded one year at a time).
- Exploring implications of GenAI on Teaching and Learning
  - Cognitive Impacts: including learning outcomes, skills acquisition
  - Affective Impacts: including well-being, belonging, and resilience
  - Strategic Pedagogical areas of focus: including Decolonization, Indigenization, accessibility and inclusion
  - Teaching Material Co-Creation



# Collaborative Clusters

- The special call will prioritize collaborative project clusters focused on specific areas of exploration.
  - Involve multiple departments, units and/or course contexts
  - Promote collaboration and shared learning to encourage experimentation, critical literacy, and capacity building that can be widely shared across UBC
  - Focus on next steps and proof-of-concept experiments and learning, rather than build long-lasting tools and platforms

Applicants can submit an LOI with a collaborative cluster already identified but this is not required.

The LOI stage will provide an opportunity for the TLEF Adjudication Committee to identify potential connections between projects exploring similar focus areas.

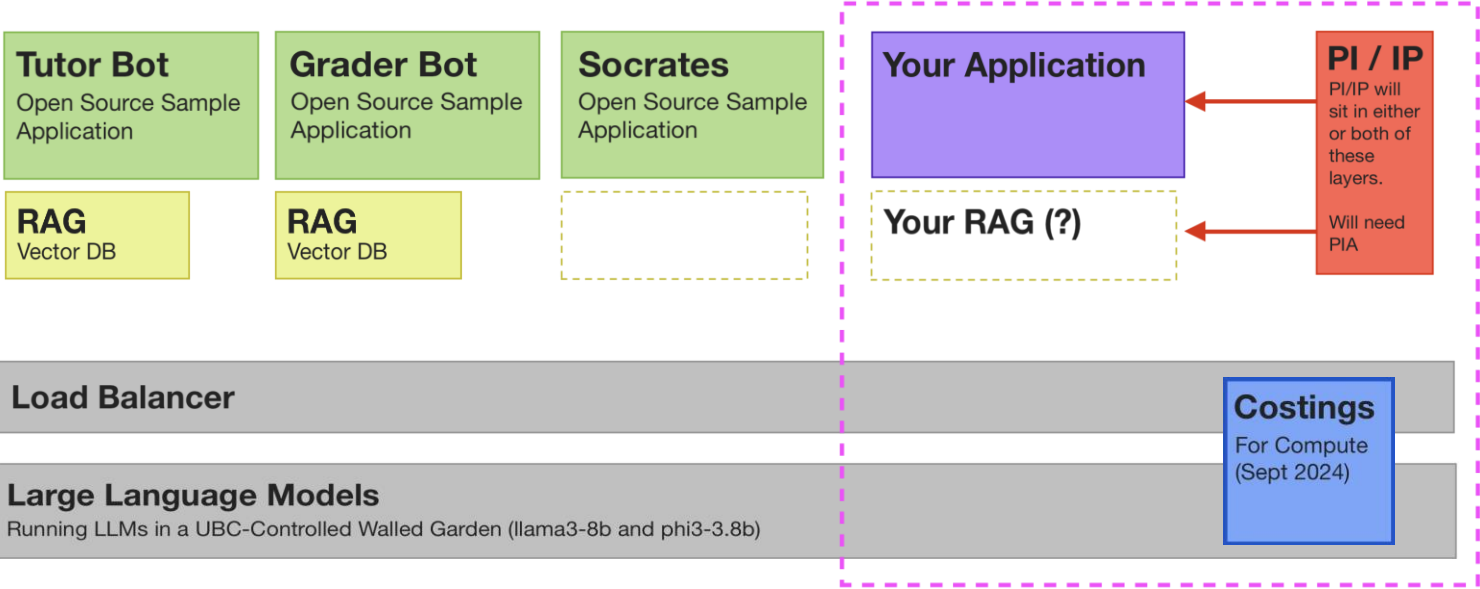


# LLM Sandbox Architecture and Approach

- **Problem Statement:** I wish to use a GenAI tool like ChatGPT as part of an application I want to build to enhance my teaching and learning, but I need to send personal information or intellectual property, and I know that is against UBC Policies. What can I do?
- **One Answer:** The *LLM Sandbox* provides grant holders access to a large language model that can be used with personal information or intellectual property
  - Hosted within a UBC-controlled walled garden
  - Leverages open-source large language models (LLMs)
  - Provides an OpenAI API-Compatible interface to the LLMs



# LLM Sandbox Architecture and Approach





# LLM Sandbox Architecture and Approach

- **Sample Applications** will be available to grant Holders to be used either as-is or as starting points to building your own application. Support is available on using these sample applications or creating your own.
- **PIA Approval** will likely be necessary for applications created by grant holders especially if that application wishes to store or use personal information or intellectual property. Support is available on applying for a PIA.
- **LLM Sandbox Costings** will need to be considered as part of the TLEF application. Costs are dependent on usage. Support is available to determine expected costs.





# GenAI Sandbox LT Incubator Support

## Available to TLEF grant holders who may require software development support:

- **System administration only:** No new software development but need system administration help, and potentially a privacy impact assessment if sensitive data were to be stored.
- **Development team support:** Software tool is being developed and grant holder wants to retain the Incubator as a developer team. They will be assigned a team lead, and that person will work with them on hiring, development/release pacing, and applying for any approvals needed.
- **Minimal support:** Some project holders will want to lead their own development team but may wish to request services such as PIA or data access request shepherding. They may also request system administration support for installation and setup, to get their team of developers started.
- **À la carte:** Any combination of the above – *as needed*



# Questions?



# Important Dates

- **LOI Submission Deadline – July 25, 2024**
  - **Applicants will receive feedback from TLEF Adjudication Committee in mid-August.**
  - **CTLT/LT Hub will provide consultation support between mid-August-October to applicants working on their TLEF proposals**
- **Proposal Deadline – October 17, 2024**



## For more information:

- **TLEF Website**
  - <https://tlef.ubc.ca>
- **GenAI Sandbox LT Incubator Support**
  - <https://tlef.ubc.ca/uncategorized/genai-sandbox-incubator-support/>
- **Principles for the Use of Generative AI Tools**
  - <https://genai.ubc.ca/guidance/>
- **AI in Teaching and Learning – CTLT**
  - <https://ai.ctlt.ubc.ca>



Please contact [tlef.info@ubc.ca](mailto:tlef.info@ubc.ca) if you have any questions relating to the Special Call or want to request a consultation meeting to discuss your TLEF project idea.



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA