Women Cybersecurity Society Announces Partnership with Google and Coursera to Offer Cybersecurity Scholarships for Women

Vancouver, BC – March 24, 2025 – The **Women Cybersecurity Society** (WCS2) is thrilled to announce a new partnership with **Google** and **Coursera** to provide fully funded scholarships for the **Google Career Certificate in Cybersecurity**. This initiative aligns with WCS2's mission to recruit, retrain, and retain women in the cybersecurity field, addressing the gender gap in tech and building a more diverse and highly skilled workforce.

Through the Grow with Google program, WCS2 will provide women with access to industry-recognized training that equips them with essential skills for entry-level roles in cybersecurity — **no prior experience or degree required**. The program is designed to be flexible and 100% online, allowing participants to complete the certificate in under six months at their own pace.

"This partnership with Google and Coursera is a game-changer for women looking to break into the cybersecurity field," said **Lisa Kearney**, Founder of WCS2. "We're excited to empower more women with the skills and credentials they need to thrive in a high-demand industry here in Canada. This is not just about closing the gender gap — it's about building a stronger, more secure digital world by bringing diverse minds to the table."

The **Google Career Certificate in Cybersecurity** provides hands-on training with tools like **Python, Linux, and SQL**, as well as Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) systems and intrusion detection systems. Graduates of the program will also be prepared to sit for the **CompTIA Security+ exam**, adding further value to their credentials.

Benefits of the Scholarship Program:

- **100% Fully Funded** – No cost to participants.
- **Industry-Recognized Credential** – Recognized by leading Canadian employers, including **KPMG**, **MVP**, and **Shopify**.
- **Flexible Learning** – Self-paced and entirely online through Coursera.
- **Career-Ready Skills** – Graduates will gain practical experience and technical knowledge needed for roles like:
    - Cybersecurity Analyst
    - Security Operations Center (SOC) Analyst
    - Information Security Analyst
    - Cyber Defense Analyst

Meeting Industry Demand for Skilled Cybersecurity Professionals

With an estimated **3.5 million unfilled cybersecurity positions globally**, the need for skilled professionals in Canada and worldwide is urgent. This partnership will help close the skills gap by providing women with the tools and knowledge to succeed in the cybersecurity industry.

"*Canadian companies like KPMG, MVP, and Shopify already recognize the value of the Google Cybersecurity Career Certificate, and we're excited to connect our graduates with these industry leaders,*" added Kearney. "*This is an incredible opportunity for women to step into high-paying, high-demand roles while making a real impact on the security of our digital infrastructure.*"

Application Process

Applications for the scholarship open today and close on **Monday, April 18, 2025**. Interested applicants can apply through the Women Cybersecurity Society website at **https://forms.gle/3WXaH5Dfkcgqgmgt8**.

About Women Cybersecurity Society

The **Women Cybersecurity Society** is proudly Canadian. WCS2 is Canada's first women in cybersecurity nonprofit and women-led nonprofit dedicated to increasing the participation and retention of women in the cybersecurity field. Our mission is to **recruit, retrain, and retain women in cybersecurity** by providing training, mentorship, and career support to help women thrive in tech.

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About Grow with Google

Grow with Google is Google's initiative to provide free digital skills training and resources to help individuals grow their careers and businesses. The Google Career Certificates, delivered through Coursera, prepare learners for high-growth roles in cybersecurity, IT, project management, data analytics, and UX design.

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