

## Position Title: Project Lead, Future Materials Alliance

### Location

Hybrid-based work, with regular in-person requirements in Calgary, Edmonton, and occasionally other locations in Alberta. Travel requirements are expected to evolve over time and may extend across Canada as the initiative scales.

### Purpose

The Project Lead of the Future Materials Alliance (FMA) is a senior leadership position accountable for shaping, managing, and advancing the FMA's vision, strategy, partnerships, and outcomes.

The Lab has been actively advancing the nascent critical materials sector since 2017, bringing together stakeholders and rights holders to coordinate and accelerate the build-out of sustainable and vertically integrated critical material supply chains spanning Western and Northern Canada. The Future Materials Alliance is the culmination of this system engagement, aligning governments, industry, Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, academia, and the innovation ecosystem behind a coordination platform, unified purpose, and joint activities. The ultimate purpose is to more quickly, comprehensively, and sustainably integrate Western and Northern Canada into national and allied critical material supply chains.

### About the Energy Futures Lab

**The Energy Futures Lab** (EFL, the Lab) is an Alberta-based coalition of innovators and leading organizations working together to advance solutions aligned with our **vision and mission** for Canada's energy future. The Lab was created in 2015 as a response to polarization on energy issues, which landed Alberta's energy system at the centre of a complex, fragmented and divisive debate. As a social innovation lab, we address these issues by collaborating across traditional, organizational and sectoral boundaries.

### About the Position

This role will drive the Future Materials Alliance managing coordinated action across multiple workstreams and sectors, ensuring alignment with broader economic, environmental, and reconciliation priorities working toward the establishment of a coalition of representatives from across western and northern Canada. Reporting to senior leadership at the Energy Futures Lab, this role requires a systems thinker and collaborative

leader who can operate at the nexus of policy, industry, Indigenous engagement, and economic development.

The scope and responsibilities of this role may evolve over time in response to the needs of the Energy Futures Lab and to accommodate growing support for the initiative, and may be adjusted to reflect the experience and strengths of the successful candidate.

## Key Responsibilities

### Strategic Leadership

- Lead the refinement of the Future Materials Alliance’s strategic direction, objectives, milestones, and integrated workstreams (e.g., thought leadership and strategy, ecosystem development, joint commercialization, Indigenous leadership), as guided by current commitments and future ambitions for the initiative
- Ensure the initiative’s goals align with global market trends, national and sub-national critical minerals strategies, regional economic priorities, and sustainability principles.
- Cultivate and steward relationships across governments (federal, provincial/territorial), Indigenous partners and Rightsholders, industry leaders, investors, communities, academic institutions, and civil society groups.
- Act as the primary host for coalition members, advisors, working groups, and stakeholder forums.
- Manage the governance of the initiative, including clearly outlined structure, processes and agreements for EFL and its partners.

### External Representation & Partnerships

- Serve as the primary spokesperson and ambassador of the initiative, articulating its vision, progress, challenges, and opportunities to diverse audiences including investors, policy makers, industry groups, and international partners.
- Collaborate with EFL fund development lead and GR Advisor to secure multi-year funding from public, private, and philanthropic sources.
- Work collaboratively with Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities to uphold rights, advance reconciliation, and share benefits equitably.
- Lead the initiative’s contributions to policy dialogues, regulatory discussions, and strategic frameworks that support a resilient, competitive and sustainable critical materials sector in Canada.

- Represent the initiative in public forums, industry events, government engagements, and media opportunities.
- Proactive management of funder and partner relationships, including timely reporting, as necessary.

## Implementation Excellence

- Lead a high-performing team, fostering a culture of collaboration, equity, and innovation.
- Together with the initiative's operations manager:
  - oversee the planning, implementation, and monitoring of activities within the initiative,
  - ensure workstreams use resources efficiently to deliver outcomes that strengthen the critical materials ecosystem, while delivering on funder commitments,
  - ensure coordination across the delivery team, strategic partners and participants to avoid duplication and maximize impact.
- Contribute to a healthy team culture, including the well-being and engagement of staff and consultants.
- Ensure Indigenous perspectives, leadership, cultural knowledge, and economic benefits are embedded throughout the initiative's design and execution.
- Effectively utilize operational systems and performance indicators for transparency and continuous improvement.
- Actively contribute to EFL-wide engagements to ensure cross-learning, integrated execution and knowledge sharing.

### The Ideal Candidate

This role requires the ability to operate with technical fluency across energy, materials, and industrial systems, while translating complex industry realities into language and frameworks that resonate with governments, Indigenous rights holders, communities, researchers, and investors, and vice versa. The successful candidate enables productive dialogue across sectors that do not naturally speak the same language, helping diverse actors align around shared problems, constraints, and pathways to action.

While the ideal candidate will have, or be able to learn, enough technical literacy to earn trust and credibility, they will not need to be technical specialists. Greater emphasis will be placed on the ability to translate industry constraints, commercial realities, and technical trade-offs into policy-relevant, community-relevant, and rights holder-relevant terms.

Agility will be necessary to adjust language, framing, and level of detail depending on the audience, while preserving technical and factual integrity.

The ideal candidate will thrive in complexity and uncertainty, helping others understand how policy, infrastructure, markets, workforce, financing, and social license interact to enable or block progress. The initiative lead will be comfortable working on problems where no single actor has authority to solve them alone.

Extra consideration will be given to candidates who have Indigenous relations experience and a familiarity with or understanding of Indigenous realities in Western and Northern Canada.

### Qualifications

- Proven track record in working across sectors, institutions, and organizations to align stakeholders and rights holders around shared challenges and pathways to execution.
- Senior leadership experience advancing complex, multi-stakeholder initiatives across policy, industry, Indigenous engagement, and economic development contexts.
- Skilled in systems-thinking, with experience navigating ambiguity, aligning multiple workstreams, and advancing progress where no single actor has decision-making authority.
- Strong network in Alberta's and Canada's business, government, and/or industrial ecosystem would be considered an asset.
- Experience leading programs or coalitions, including governance, team leadership, delivery oversight, and accountability to funders and partners.
- Exceptional communication, relationship management, and strategic thinking skills.

### Compensation

The position may be filled on a part-time or full-time basis. Scope and compensation will be calibrated to match the strengths of the successful candidate and available project resources. The Energy Futures Lab offers competitive compensation amongst similar organizations, as well as a comprehensive benefits package and paid time off for employees.

### Process to Apply

We encourage interested applicants to familiarize themselves with the Energy Futures Lab [Vision and Mission](#), [Fellows & Ambassadors](#) and [initiatives](#).

**To apply for this position, please submit your resume and cover letter to [info@energyfutureslab.com](mailto:info@energyfutureslab.com).**

**Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.**