# Lead Data Scientist

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| **Requisition** | R0000185630 |
| **Employer** | Royal Bank of Canada |
| **Canadian locations** | Toronto (Ontario, Canada) |
| **Primary address** | 600 QUEENS PLATE DR, TORONTO, ON M9W 0A4, Canada |
| **Posted** | October 27, 2026 |
| **Date in the description** | September 29, 2026 |
| **Posted deadline** | December 4, 2026 |
| **Last day to apply** | December 3, 2026 |
| **Business area** | TECHNOLOGY AND OPERATIONS |
| **Employment status** | Regular |
| **Work schedule** | Full time · 37.5 h per week |
| **Pay type** | Salaried |

**The position**

## What’s the opportunity?

AI Architecture Governance & Insights establishes enterprise-wide AI architecture standards, patterns, and governance frameworks for RBC. We create the standards and certification criteria that ensure AI solutions are built safely, securely, and in alignment with the enterprise strategy. We deliver insights into our AI capabilities and compliance, and we partner with security, enterprise architecture, and business teams to ensure AI is built responsibly and strategically

As a Lead Data Scientist in the Governance & Insights team, you will build the standards, patterns, and tools that enable RBC's AI transformation at scale. You'll be the architect behind our architecture practice, creating governance artifacts, maintaining CALM/Agent Card standards, supporting the AI Architecture Review Board, and building automation to surface insights across our AI estate.

You will work in a fast-paced environment where priorities change rapidly according to leadership needs, the evolution of the platform and new governance challenges. This role requires strategic thinking and practical execution. You can rotate from defining reference architectures to building an MCP server to developing compliance dashboards in the same week.

## Your responsibilities include

Governance and standards (Core Focus)

- Create and maintain AI governance artifacts: templates, standards, reference architectures and technical white papers
- Manage CALM's standard evolution and alignment with AI platforms (Athena, Nova, Atlas)
- Define and develop the AI technical reference model, the capacity catalogue and the licensing criteria to be built
- Play a key role in the AI Architecture Review Board, including preparing materials, reviewing submissions, and contributing architectural opinions
- Represent the perspectives of AI architecture in broader governance forums (technology infrastructure and security review boards)
- Track Agent adherence to standards/patterns and report on compliance/non-compliance
- Architecture Practice & Insights
- Partner with engineering teams to review solutions designs and provide architectural advice

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- Deliver AI asset insights: catalog state, capability coverage, compliance metrics, and adoption trends
- Modernising the SafeAI process and integrating with AI platform governance
- Publish decision-making files in architecture (ADR) for cross-cutting decisions
- Coordinate decisions on transpillar architecture and continuously improve certification processes
- Tools and Automation (Mindset "As Code")
- Build tools, agents and PKMs to automate architecture governance (e.g., CALM Visualizer, SafeAI tools)
- Surface governance data via AI architecture agents
- Translating commercial and technical problems into practical designs and then contributing to practical development
- Flexibility & Partnership
- Research for emerging AI technologies and evaluation of suppliers' solutions
- Partner with EA, LOB and GCS governance groups on the alignment of security architecture
- Drive POCs for new AI capabilities and governance approaches
- Work directly with business lines to understand needs and develop practical solutions

## You're our ideal candidate if you have

Technical Depth

- High level of control over AI technologies (LLM, agents, RAG, agent systems, AI infrastructure)
- Hands-on coding ability. You must be comfortable building tools, automations, and prototypes yourself
- Experience in code infrastructure, API design and modern development practices

Architecture Mindset

- Proven ability to design scalable, secure and sustainable systems
- Understanding platform models, reusability and governance at scale
- Can translate abstract requirements into concrete and achievable designs

Governance & Standards

- Experience in creating technical standards, models or reference architectures
- Understanding of compliance frameworks and governance implementation modalities
- Comfortable work with architecture review committees or similar governance bodies

Operating Model

- Adaptability: Thrive in fast environments where priorities change according to the platform's demand leadership and evolution
- Parallel execution: Changing the comfortable environment between strategic work (standard development) and tactical delivery (tool building, ARB support)
- Partnership: With strong collaborative skills, you will work at EA, Security, Engineering and Business team level
- Bizarre action: don't wait for perfect information; build, test, iterate

Passion for AI Governance

- Stay up to date with internal/external AI trends and innovation
- A real interest in making AI technology accessible, well managed and ready for production
- Want to build infrastructure that allows responsible adoption of AI at the company level

## Pay and benefits

- Be part of a dynamic and flexible working environment
- Become a member of a team that is gradually thinking and working together. We care to see that we reach the full potential
- A comprehensive total premium program including flexible premiums and benefits, competitive remuneration, commissions and stock options, where applicable
- Managers who coach employees and help them find opportunities to develop.

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- Ability to make a difference and have a lasting impact from one local scale to the next.

## About the AI Group

RBC's AI Group is the AI accelerator for RBC, with a focus on driving the shift from early-stage AI projects to scaled, client outcomes that amplify the impact of RBC's people. In addition to helping scale the biggest AI opportunities at RBC, the AI Group is responsible for advancing research into emerging use cases across generative and agentic AI, while maintaining expertise in security, responsible AI and regulatory expectations. The Business Enablement function within the AI Group partners with LOBs and Functions to set AI ambition, originate transformation opportunities, and frame programs for delivery — ensuring RBC remains at the frontier of AI-enabled value creation.

## Inclusion and Equal Opportunity Employment

RBC is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion. We are pleased to consider all qualified applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability, protected veterans status, Aboriginal/Native American status or any other legally-protected factors. Disability-related accommodations during the application process are available upon request.

## Job Skills

Active Learning, Application Integrations, Retail-Oriented, Group Problem Resolution, Programming Languages, Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC)

RBC accepts applications until 11:59 p.m. on the day before the posted deadline.

## Our Employment Opportunities

RBC works as One RBC and follows five shared values: putting clients first, integrity, collaboration, respect and excellence. As one of the world’s largest and most successful banks, it sees inclusion and different perspectives as important to continued growth. RBC supports staff in doing their best work, working together, innovating and developing professionally. Its policies and programs foster respect, belonging and opportunities for everyone to create value for clients and communities.

## Talent community

People who join RBC’s talent community can receive new postings, career advice and recruitment event updates tailored to their interests.

RBC’s careers portal shares information about career paths and how its teams contribute to client and community well-being.

RBC is accepting applications for an existing vacancy. Qualified applicants may hear from the recruitment team for a more detailed review of their résumé.

Search for requisition R0000185630 on the RBC careers portal.

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