



ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROJECTS 2018



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[Explore](#)

Table of Contents

STEP 1: EXPLORE	3
1. Interests, skills and experience	3
1.1. So what should you do?	3
1.2. The RIASEC test.....	4
1.2.1. Once you're finished, it's time to interpret your results!	4
1.2.2. Job hunting or résumé writing	4
1.2.3. Developing your project's implementation plan	4
1.2.4. Creating job offers or looking for teammates	4
1.2.5. Finding complementary skills.....	4
2. Project leader bio or résumé.....	5
2.1. The profile—a brief overview that makes all the difference.....	5
2.2. Sources.....	6
2.2.1. Employment services.....	6
2.2.2. Online.....	6
3. Looking for teammates.....	6

Source: <https://pppdutgea.files.wordpress.com/2015/10/le-test-riasec.pdf>
(French only)

STEP 1: EXPLORE

When you start any kind of project, chances are that you're interested in it. Participants are often motivated to undertake projects that are in line with their deepest desires, values and experience, or that will fulfil lifelong dreams. Drawing on achievements and success, people are drawn to what they love, know and are interested in.

1. Interests, skills and experience

How do you apply your knowledge and skills? What do you do if you fall short of your goal? And what if you don't have the required experience?

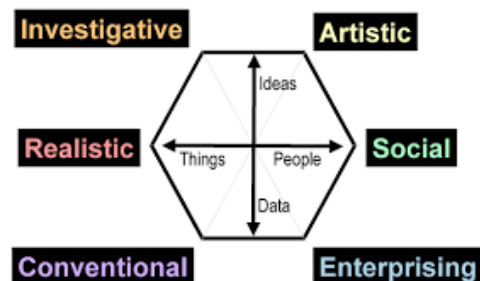
And while you might want to explore the following options, they come with their own set of obstacles:

- Stop everything.
 - You might not feel like quitting!
- Get more experience professionally or through an internship.
 - It's hard to find the time.
- Get training.
 - This might not be up your alley.

1.1. So what should you do?

If you're starting an entrepreneurship project or social development project, you can try surrounding yourself with experienced people (mentors, advisors, coaches, etc.) and partners with complementary skills (experts or professionals who help out with operations). By working with others, you can find people with the skills you need, and people who can make up for any shortcomings on your team—the whole is greater than the sum of its parts! This is also known as partnership and **networking**.

First off, how can you identify your own strengths and weaknesses? The RIASEC tool, developed by psychologist John Holland, is a personality test that looks at individual interests and skills.



1.2. The RIASEC test



See the PDF document [Outil_RIASEC_EN](#).

1.2.1. Once you're finished, it's time to interpret your results!

By analyzing your RIASEC results, you can get a better idea of some of your personality traits. While some descriptions and analyses can be broad, you'll be able to pinpoint some dominant traits.

How to use your RIASEC results

If the descriptions you read at the end of the RIASEC test match your situation and personality type, you can use these results in different ways. By analyzing your results, you'll also learn valuable information about other personality types' relationships, values and worldviews. If you're part of a team, this information will be useful.

1.2.2. Job hunting or résumé writing

This tool's original purpose was to help people choose a career. Can you use any of the specific terms or descriptions in your résumé? If yes, don't hesitate to use or improve them, e.g., by using a short description in a cover letter. (See section 2, *project leader bio or résumé*.)

1.2.3. Developing your project's implementation plan

Implementation plans often require project leader descriptions. You can submit your résumé or a short bio. Feel free to use your RIASEC results.

1.2.4. Creating job offers or looking for teammates

When you're looking to diversify your team, you might look for people like you. This is normal, but not always ideal. Diversity is better than conformity. Use the RIASEC test to single out criteria or personality traits that would complement your own. (See section 3, *looking for teammates*.)



You can even get your team or potential teammates to do the test – if they agree, of course!

1.2.5. Finding complementary skills

During your analysis, identify the skills you're lacking so you can get training to improve them.

2. Project leader bio or résumé

Whether you're looking for a job, creating your own or starting an entrepreneurship project, the first steps are always the same. We recommend highlighting your strengths in your résumé and tailoring it to your career goals.



Highlight the skills you need to implement your project! *For entrepreneurship projects, Chantiers jeunesse recommends being flexible and adapting to the type of project you're developing. If your project requires detailed knowledge and work in a specialized area, it would be better to provide your résumé or to modify it accordingly.*

You can organize the same information in many different ways

- Traditional, classic résumés are in chronological order. They're practical and easily understood by most employers.
- Functional résumés are skills-based. They're useful for people who have little experience, but also to those who have a lot!
- Hybrid résumés have a section for skills and another for employment history. This lets the employer decide which part to read first.



Put yourself in the shoes of the reader to figure out which format is best suited for the job.

2.1. The profile—a brief overview that makes all the difference

Whoever will be reading your résumé needs to know if you have the skills, experience and knowledge required for the job or project, so be concise.



Make a bullet-point profile with the most important information. Use numbers if you can (e.g., 5 years of experience as a cook, collected \$15,000 for a fundraiser, in charge of 35 volunteers for X festival).

2.2. Sources

2.2.1. Employment services

There are a lot of resources for people looking for work. They can also provide valuable help when writing a résumé. Here's a directory that can help you find the resource closest to you or the one that's best suited to your needs.



<http://www.emploiquebec.gouv.qc.ca/citoyens/trouver-un-emploi/repertoire-des-organismes-specialises-en-employabilite/> (French only)

2.2.2. Online

There are a lot to choose from, but this one is simple and well designed!



www.cv.ca/home.aspx?lang=en-CA

3. Looking for teammates

When you look at your strengths and weaknesses and your project's technical needs, you might realize that you'll need a team to achieve your goals.

If this is the case, networking is a good way to find potential teammates. The better you know your needs, the easier it will be to find the right people.

You can start by asking:

- Your friends and acquaintances (family, sports teams, former colleagues, etc.)
- Friends of friends (family friends, acquaintances, etc.)
- Existing networks (business networks, chambers of commerce, etc.)

How can I reach out to people?



Taking the first step isn't always easy, but remember that you're doing it to achieve **your** goals and **your** mission!



See *How_to_Make_a_Cold_Call*.

