

Global Business Innovation Programme Autonomous Vehicles, Canada

The Global Business Innovation Programme, organised by Innovate UK and delivered by Innovate UK EDGE, consists of a preparation phase, an 7-day innovation visit focused on Autonomous Vehicles, a post-visit exploitation workshop and follow-up support of approximately 12 months from an Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist, helping your business maximise the opportunities identified, including developing innovation projects with partners in the territory. This initiative will be delivered physically and could include virtual activities.

Innovate UK is committed to ensure that anyone, from any background, has an equal opportunity to be successful.

Focus Areas:

We're welcoming applications from innovative companies who are involved in connected and automated mobility (CAM) systems including, but not limited to the following areas: Perception & Localisation, Safety or Mission Critical Vehicle Systems including Cyber Security, Advanced Software Solutions,

Verification and Validation (V&V) of CAM, technologies for Human Machine Interface (HMI) systems either interior or exterior to the vehicle and Autonomous Vehicle Infrastructure. The applicant can be undertaking activities as a core technology provider and/or a solutions integrator of the product or service.

Why Canada?

Smart mobility innovations such as connected and autonomous vehicles and fleets, and low-speed automated shuttles are revolutionizing how we work and live. They are combining with next-gen networks, cybersecurity, 5G, AI and machine learning, IoT, big data, and AR/VR to unleash a world of new possibilities.

For more than 100 years, Ontario has been a leading automotive manufacturing and supply jurisdiction. In 2018, Ontario was the second-largest assembler in North America, building two million vehicles. Ontario is the only subnational jurisdiction globally with five key original equipment manufacturers, and over 700 suppliers making it one of the most comprehensive automotive clusters globally.

As the automotive and mobility landscape converges with the technology sector, Ontario is uniquely positioned to lead the transformation. Ontario has the second-largest information and communication technology (ICT) cluster in North America, with more than 20,000 ICT firms.

By harnessing Ontario's automotive, manufacturing, technology, and mining clusters — including a regional network of technology development sites, leading industry expertise, R&D centres, innovation hubs, and testing facilities, UK companies can tap into a wide range of resources, capabilities, and opportunities aimed at continuing autonomous vehicle technology development, infrastructure, and legislation.

Benefits:

- Explore Canadian Autonomous Vehicles opportunities.
- A better understanding of the challenges and opportunities of doing business in Canada.
- Find potential innovation collaborators and partners and develop your network in the UK and globally.
- Improve your company value proposition to international partners and investors.

KEY DATES:

Programme Briefing:
24 November
2022

Applications Close:
7 December
2022

Pre-Visit Workshop:
18 January
2023

Market Visit:
21-27 February
2023

Post Visit Workshop:
10 May
2023

WHAT TO EXPECT:

The Global Business Innovation Programme is structured around three main phases and each business will have a designated Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist to support them for the duration of the offering, including developing an action plan to capitalise on the opportunities identified. The three main phases of the Global Business Innovation Programme are:-

- **Getting ready for the market:** Pre-activity briefing workshop to build knowledge and understanding of the market and potential opportunities, including how to do business, cultural aspects, how to protect your IP and training on how to improve your pitch and articulate your value proposition. (1 day workshop)
- **Market activities:** Explore the innovation opportunities first-hand through meeting with key companies and research organisations and potential collaborators and partners through pre-arranged meetings and organised matchmaking. (7 days of market related activity)
- **Exploiting the opportunity:** An exploitation workshop and one-to-one support from a Innovate UK EDGE Innovation and Growth Specialist to follow up and take advantage of the opportunities identified. (1 day workshop and as a guide, around 5 days working with an Innovate UK EDGE Adviser over a 12-month period)

INNOVATION ACTIVITIES - EXAMPLE (subject to change):

Date	Activity	Date	Activity
18 January 2023	GBIP Workshop (physical)	10 May 2023	Post-visit Virtual GBIP Workshop
21 - 27 February 2023	Market visit to Canada		

TO APPLY FOR THIS PROGRAMME, YOU MUST:

Be a UK based innovation-led company with ambitions to grow and internationalise

Be a company with fewer than 500 employees

Be able to attend and complete all activities

WHAT IS THE COST?

Innovate UK and Innovate UK EDGE will fund and organise flights, accommodation, in-market travel, and conference fees for successful applicants. Innovate UK will also pay for any reasonable adjustments throughout the initiative. Only one representative from each company will be funded. On acceptance to the initiative a commitment fee of £500 will be obtained from each delegate, which will be refunded on completion of the full activities and agreed action plan. Non-completion after formal acceptance may result in forfeiting some or all the commitment fee.

HOW TO APPLY:

The Global Business Innovation Programme has a competitive application process where only the best applications will be successful following an evaluation process. All applications must be made online through the Innovate UK EDGE website and received no later than **12pm on 7 December 2022**. To support potential applicants, a briefing will take place between **15:00-16:00 on 24 November 2022**.

Please note: successful applicants will be expected to fully comply with any conditions of travel to Canada. The safety of our delegation is a priority.

Innovate UK recognises that the innovation sector is not as diverse as the UK demographic and is committed to improving the diversity of who we support. As such, we welcome applications from those under-represented across the sector.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

To fill in the online application form or to register for the briefing event, please visit the [Innovate UK EDGE website](#) For more information, assistance with your application or to discuss accessibility needs, please contact Christos Arapis at Christos.Arapis@innovateukedge.ukri.org or call +44 (0)7597 001805.