

Ottawa to Create the First Integrated AV Test Environment of Its Kind in North America

Contact: Sonya Shorey, Vice President, Marketing and Communications, Invest Ottawa
613.851.9416; sshorey@investottawa.ca



As announced by the Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) on May 2, 2018, the Ottawa Region will receive up to \$5 million through the provincial AV Innovation Network (AVIN) Program to create the first end-to-end integrated AV test environment of its kind in North America.

Led by [Invest Ottawa](#), this AVIN Regional Technology Development Site (RTDS) project leverages key capabilities, expertise, cash and in-kind contributions from world-leading companies, post-secondary institutions and our municipality, including: Blackberry QNX; Nokia; Juniper Networks; Ericsson; IBM Canada; the City of Ottawa; the National Capital Commission (NCC); Carleton University; the University of Ottawa; and Algonquin College.

Building directly on [Ottawa's AV cluster](#) and internationally recognized strengths in communications technologies and cybersecurity, this project will enable the:

- Evolution of Ottawa's Public AV Test Track with new wireless communication capabilities for approved AV technology demonstration and on-road testing in the Kanata North Tech Park, the largest of its kind in Canada;
- Creation of a private, multi-sector/multi-use test bed to develop, test, interoperate and evolve technologies, systems, networks and applications in a real-world environment; and
- Delivery of entrepreneurship programming that directly supports the development, commercialization and adoption of new Ottawa AV technologies and systems.

With a strong focus on technology validation and safety, this integrated AV test environment will enable researchers, entrepreneurs, SMEs and multinationals to develop, demonstrate, and commercialize new AV technologies. It will specifically help firms to address key AV opportunities and challenges including:

- **AV operations in inclement weather** such as snow, ice, fog, and high winds;
- **Development of systems that pinpoint the location of hidden objects**
- **Cybersecurity** – AVs, smart infrastructure, and Internet of Things (IoT);
- **Interoperability**, the ability of computer systems or software to exchange and make use of AV generated data; and
- **Communication**: Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V), Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I), Vehicle-to-Network (DSRC/GPS/ 4G/ 5G).

This project will catalyze Ottawa's contribution to the economy, and Ontario's global AV innovation leadership, by enabling the:

- Development, validation and commercialization of AV technologies;
- Growth and success of homegrown AV firms;
- Attraction of new companies, investment and talent; and
- Creation of new AV jobs.

For additional information, please contact: Sonya Shorey, Vice President, Marketing and Communications,
Invest Ottawa at: 613.851.9416 or sshorey@investottawa.ca