

Joint Statement from Mayor Mark Sutcliffe, City of Ottawa, and Mayor Maude Marquis-Bissonnette, City of Gatineau

December 9, 2025

As the Mayors of Ottawa and Gatineau, we would be truly honoured for Canada's National Capital Region to serve as the headquarters of the global Defence, Security and Resilience Bank (DSRB). The establishment of this historic and innovative institution aligns directly with the unique capabilities, diplomatic stature, and leadership in defence innovation found in the Ottawa-Gatineau Region.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Mark Carney highlighted his government's goal of making the National Capital Region a global defence innovation hub. We welcome the opportunity to host the DSRB and formally invite anchor nations to convene the bank's charter negotiations in Ottawa-Gatineau when they commence in 2026.

We would be honoured to host these historic negotiations and would be fully dedicated to ensuring they are productive, globally impactful, and supported with the gravitas this milestone deserves.

The National Capital Region is home to the full suite of federal financial, regulatory, defence, and diplomatic architecture required to anchor a multilateral defence-finance institution. Canada's financial governance ecosystem, including the Bank of Canada, Finance Canada, the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, FINTRAC, Export Development Canada, the Canadian Commercial Corporation, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Corporations Canada, the Canada Revenue Agency, and the Canada Deposit Insurance Corporation are all headquartered in Ottawa-Gatineau.

Canada's national security and intelligence agencies, along with more than 65 federal labs and research centres, are all based in the National Capital Region. These institutions, together with National Defence Headquarters, the Canadian Armed Forces senior command, and Canada's entire defence enterprise, form the sovereign backbone required for an institution of this scale, sovereign integrity, and strategic importance to be successful.

As highlighted by Prime Minister Carney yesterday, our region is also Canada's National Defence Innovation Hub, serving our country, Canadian Forces personnel and allies. We are home to the only cluster of four NATO DIANA test centres in Canada, over 330 defence and aerospace companies, 1,800 technology firms, 96,000 tech workers, the highest concentration of tech talent in North America, Canada's largest technology park, and ONE9, the country's only defence-focused venture capital firm.

No other region in Canada combines these unique strengths and density of innovation talent alongside the presence of 130 embassies and 25 NATO defence attachés. This combination ensures immediate, secure, in-person access to allied partners, sovereign decision-makers, and the entire diplomatic corps. In defence, finance, and security, proximity equals credibility, and only the National Capital Region can provide the secure, time-critical collaboration environment required for a global institution of this kind.

We stand ready to mobilize the full strength and impact of our federal institutions, diplomatic community, private sector, national laboratories, innovators, and defence ecosystem to curate a world-class, purpose-built experience for NATO and partner nations.

The global security order is shifting at an incredible pace. The DSRB will need to operate at full capacity as soon as it is established. Hosting these negotiations in Ottawa–Gatineau ensures immediate access to the expertise, authorities, regulatory bodies, defence innovators, and sovereign decision-making infrastructure that the DSRB will depend on from its very first day of operation.

We would be honoured to host this once-in-a-generation gathering and the headquarters of the DSRB. Canada's National Capital Region is fully committed to supporting the DSRB's global success.



Mayor Mark Sutcliffe
City of Ottawa, Canada



Mayor Maude Bissonnette
City of Gatineau, Canada