



Ontario Centres of
Excellence

Where Next Happens

MEDIA RELEASE

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International Alliance Created to Further Commercialization of Research

OTTAWA – Ontario Centres of Excellence’s (OCE’s) Centre for Commercialization of Research (CCR) recently hosted a gathering of some of the world’s brightest minds from academia, government and industry in a bid to better capitalize on the commercialization potential of publicly funded research and enhance the state of innovation in Canada and around the world.

The inaugural meeting of The International Commercialization Alliance was held March 30th and 31st in Ottawa, bringing together experts from 18 countries. The group examined exemplary practices in the commercialization of research outcomes internationally and focused on continuous global collaborations among its members by signing a formal declaration of intent.

Sean Conway, Chair, Ontario Centres of Excellence board of directors, said the session ended with the declaration to create a formal, structured alliance that will focus on exemplary practices and emerging models to build sustainable, innovative companies that are based on the results of publicly funded research. The alliance plans to develop common global projects and meet annually.

“There is some truly amazing research being conducted at publicly funded institutions in Canada and around the world,” Conway said. “What we are determined to do coming out of this forum, and for years to come, is to implement more effective practices and innovative models to take research results and transform them into globally competitive products and services.”

Conway noted that OCE’s Centre for Commercialization of Research is a tremendous example of what can happen when different levels of government work together and said he is confident that the spirit of collaboration will be extended to the alliance to create global working relationships. He added that over time the alliance will build up a wealth of information on what works best in the innovation sector and what doesn’t which will be a tremendous global resource of information.

The gathering and the declaration to ensure the work of the alliance continues also received positive encouragement from Glen Murray, Ontario’s Minister of Research and Innovation.

“We have an exceptional, internationally recognized research and commercialization community that is driving innovation in Ontario – by bringing the best and brightest here from around the world at this conference, we are helping to create the next generation of made-in-Ontario jobs, technologies and products for the global market,” Murray said.

The forum looked at effective evidence-based innovation models from around the world.

The alliance will initially be made up of 47 founding members from 18 countries who signed the formal declaration at the conclusion of the session. The alliance is expected to grow over time as more member organizations sign on. The founding members of the International Commercialization Alliance are drawn from prestigious organizations around the world and include:

International Commercialization Alliance Founding Members

- David Barbe, Professor, Director of MTECH, University of Maryland, USA
- Alan Barrell, Professor, Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning, University of Cambridge, UK
- Richard Bendis, President & CEO, Innovation America/Bendis Investment, USA
- Yvon Brousseau, Chief Executive Officer, C3E, Canada
- Thomas Brzustowski, RBC Professor, Telfer Business School-University of Ottawa, Canada
- Wellington Chadehumbe, CEO, Quintessential Africa Holdings (Pty) Ltd., South Africa
- Sorin Cohn, Executive in Residence, Canadian Advanced Technology Alliance, Canada
- Tom Corr, President & CEO, Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE), Canada
- Jeffrey Crelinsten, President, Impact Group, Canada
- Guillermo Fernandez, CEO, FUMEC, Mexico
- Rory Francis, Executive Director, Prince Edward Island BioAlliance, Canada
- Pamela Freeman, COO, TEC Edmonton, Canada
- Kamiel Gabriel, Professor, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Canada
- Fred Gault, Professorial Fellow, UNU-MERIT, Netherlands
- Rowan Gilmore, CEO, Australian Institute for Commercialization, Australia
- Susan Gorges, CEO, SpringBoard West Innovations, Canada
- Philippe Gorry, President, Réseau C.U.R.I.E., France
- Paul Guild, Professor, University of Waterloo, Canada
- Jose Aluizio Guimaraes, Communications and Content Consultant, CIETEC, Brazil
- Stephen Hartlen, Assistant Vice President, Dalhousie University, Canada
- Ivar Kristensen, Managing Director, Nordic Innovation Centre, Norway
- Melba Kurman, President, Triple Helix Innovation, USA
- Philip Lim, CEO, Exploit Technologies, PTE Ltd., Singapore
- Lynne McGregor, Commercialisation Services Senior Manager, Imperial Innovations, UK
- Thomas Meier, Managing Director, Creapole, Switzerland
- Andy Melnyk, Senior Strategist Innovation Saskatchewan, Canada
- John Molloy, President and CEO, PARTEQ, Canada
- Nicholas Parker, Co-Founder and Chairman, Cleantech Group LLP, Canada
- Antonio Paz, Managing Director, Kim Global, Spain
- Armin Pscherer, Head of Project and Science Management, BioRN Cluster Management GmbH, Germany
- Allyson Reed, Director of Strategy and Communications Technology Strategy Board, UK
- Doug Robertson, Member, Technopolicy Network Advisory Board, Netherlands

- Camille Sobrian Saltman, President and COO, CONNECT, USA
- Janet Scholtz, President and CEO, Alliance for Commercialization of Canadian Technologies, Canada
- Sunil Selby, Managing Partner, Trellis Capital corporation, Canada
- John Sider, Managing Director of Statewide Initiatives, Ben Franklin Technology Partners, USA
- Kenneth Smith, Professor, University of Arizona, USA
- Nava Swersky Sofer, Co-Chair, Nanolsrael, Israel
- Michael Tadros, R&D Programme Coordinator, Botin Foundation, Spain
- Mario Thomas, Senior Vice President, Ontario Centres of Excellence, Managing Director, Centre for Commercialization of Research, Canada
- Peter Thomas, Director, Program Partnerships, UCSD Global CONNECT, USA
- Ilse Treurnicht, CEO, MaRS Discovery District, Canada
- Kevin Tuer, Managing Director, Canadian Digital Media Network, Canada
- Sean Wang, ITRI International, Taiwan
- Andrew Wilkes, Partner, Management Initiatives Inc., Canada
- Pedro Vilarinho, CEO/Manager ACT/COTEC, Portugal
- Zhengzhong Xu, Professor, Chinese Academy of Governance, China

Within the alliance, a Working Advisory Board was put in place and consists of the following Founding Members:

International Commercialization Alliance Working Advisory Board Members

- David Barbe, Professor, Director of MTECH, University of Maryland, USA
- Alan Barrell, Professor, Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning, University of Cambridge, UK
- Jeffrey Crelinsten, President, Impact Group, Canada
- Rowan Gilmore, CEO, Australian Institute for Commercialization, Australia
- Jose Aluizio Guimaraes, Communications and Content Consultant, CIETEC, Brazil
- Philip Lim, Chief Executive Officer, Exploit Technologies, Pte Ltd., Singapore
- Antonio Paz, Managing Director, Kim Global, Spain
- Doug Robertson, Member, Technopolicy Network Advisory Board, Netherlands
- Camille Sobrian Saltman, President and COO, CONNECT, USA
- Nava Swersky Sofer, Co-Chair, Nanolsrael, Israel
- Mario Thomas, Senior Vice President, Ontario Centres of Excellence, Managing Director, Centre for Commercialization of Research, Canada (*Acting Board Chair*)
- Pedro Vilarinho, CEO/Manager ACT/COTEC, Portugal

As the first global community project, the Alliance will focus on enhancing the Australian Institute for Commercialisation's (AIC) *Commercialisation Blueprint* which is a free, open source online tool that can be used as a guide through the commercialization process.

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About Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) Inc. (www.oce-ontario.org)

Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) Inc. drives the commercialization of cutting-edge research across key market sectors to build the economy of tomorrow and secure Ontario's global competitiveness. In doing this, OCE fosters the training and development of the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs and is a key partner with Ontario's industry, universities, colleges, research hospitals, investors and governments. A champion of leading-edge technologies, best practices and research, Ontario Centres of Excellence invests in sectors such as advanced health, digital media and information communications, advanced manufacturing and materials, and cleantech including energy, environment and water. Ontario Centres of Excellence is a key partner in delivering Ontario's Innovation Agenda as a member of the province's Ontario Network of Excellence (ONE). Funded by the Government of Ontario, the ONE is Ontario's innovation system. The ONE is made up of regional and sector focused organizations designed to help Ontario-based entrepreneurs rapidly grow their companies, and create jobs. For more information visit oneinnovation.ca. OCE, through its Centre for Commercialization of Research (CCR), an initiative supported by the federal government, also acts as a catalyst which allows innovative businesses to grow and achieve sustainable commercial success and global competitiveness. OCE's Centre for Commercialization of Research is supported by the federal government through a Networks of Centres of Excellence Program.