



Ottawa: Canada's smart city hub

BlackBerry | **QNX**

ERICSSON

NOKIA

Ottawa is driving the future

SEVERAL SITES TO SERVE YOU

Smart cities use technology to address the challenges of urbanization and globalization and to harness any opportunities all three may offer. The smart-city sector in Ottawa brings together a number of strengths from the capital's larger tech ecosystem as well as leveraging its location at the seat of the federal government, which puts it closer to regulatory authorities and policy officials. Its academic institutions also feed into the mix; three offer specialized programs in the field. The Area X.O futureplex serves as a sturdy backbone for third parties to test multiple smart cities technological and innovative applications — everything from autonomous vehicles to drones. The City of Ottawa has been a close collaborator on some of its projects and Area X.O brings in other regional players. For example, an industry leader just tested how its technology performed when it was confronted by railways crossings, so Canada's passenger rail line, VIA Rail, got involved. Finally, the Ottawa Smart Farm is one of the world's most advanced, integrated communications test infrastructures.

THE REGION AT A GLANCE

1,440,000
National Capital
region

1,750
Knowledge-based
companies

76,200
Total tech
workforce



- Home to Area X.O, the first integrated V2X test facility of its kind in North America
- Site of first on-road Low-Speed Automated Shuttle (LSAS) trial in Ontario
- City in which 90% of Canada's industrial telecom R&D occurs
- G7 capital, home to 65 government research labs and 136 embassies
- #1 for highest tech-talent intensity in North America

Our immigration advantage



Get work permits in just two weeks



Two dedicated programs



No quotas or caps



Pathway to permanent residency

INDUSTRY

Sector stars and startups

- Anchored by BlackBerry QNX, Ottawa's CAV cluster includes more than 100 companies as well as post-secondary institutions and organizations that make Ottawa a world-class hub for CAVs.
- Multinationals such as Ford, Ericsson, Nokia and Juniper, invest in AV verticals and help attract top talent to the city.
- Ottawa's expertise is helping develop innovative products that are helping cities use the Internet of Things to integrate municipal infrastructure.
- Headquartered in Ottawa, SMEs such as SmartCone Technologies Inc., Bluewave AI and SMATS, are developing cutting-edge applications for smart city solutions.

ACADEMIA

Tech talent feeders

- Ottawa's post-secondary institutions all provide academic programs, training and research related to Smart Cities. 120,000 students can study such as computer science, data science, machine learning and the Internet of Things.
- Carleton University, Canada's second largest engineering school, has a new research chair in machine learning.
- Carleton University and the University of Ottawa, Algonquin and La Cité are all partners at Area X.O.
- Algonquin College recently received funding for a Big Data Analytics Centre, the first of its kind at the college level in Canada.

GOVERNMENT

Support systems

- In November 2020, Area X.O operated by Invest Ottawa, together with Transport Canada, the City of Ottawa, EasyMile and fellow partners completed the first on-road Low-Speed Automated Shuttle (LSAS) trial of its kind in Ontario.
- The Ottawa Smart Farm is the first of its kind in Canada and connects firms to 100 acres of secure, gated farmland on which to test and demonstrate.
- The National Research Council's (NRC) Digital Technologies Research Centre offers quantum sensor research, vision and robotics research and machine learning to provide support for industrial innovation and the advancement of technology.
- The Centre of Excellence in Next Generation Networks (CENGNET) provides SMEs, startups and researchers with access to industry guidance and a multi-vendor open-platform for validation of technologies and services.

Ottawa's Smart City Ecosystem

Industry Leaders

BlackBerry | **QNX**



Academia



Government



CONTACT US:

David Rodas-Wright
Senior Strategist
Invest Ottawa
Tel: +1 613-695-2376
drodaswright@investottawa.ca

AREA X.O

Area X.O, a 1,866-acre state-of-the-art futureplex, offers:

- One of the world's most advanced communications test infrastructures;
- V2X (vehicle-to-everything) testing, validation and demonstration in a four-season climate;
- Cybersecurity solutions and industry-leading data gathering, analysis and cloud capabilities;
- Unrivalled proximity to policymakers, regulators and private-sector investors.