



THE RIGHT PLACE FOR AEROSPACE, DEFENCE AND SECURITY

Ottawa. Your Next Move!

In the heart of Canada lies a powerhouse of innovation — Ottawa.

We have North America's highest tech talent concentration. Our innovation playground is vast and diverse. Our strengths span software, AI, smart mobility, cybersecurity, digital health and more. Global giants like Nokia and Ericsson share our streets with homegrown heroes Kinaxis, Shopify, Ross Video, Fullscript and Mitel, and startups and scaleups like Assent, Solink and Mindbridge.

As the most educated Canadian city, with the nation's largest tech park, 65 research labs, 130 embassies, and our unrivalled quality of life, we aren't simply Canada's Capital, we are a global tech capital. And our true magic lies in our diverse, collaborative community.

Join us in Ottawa. We're not just imagining our future — we're building it.

Our aerospace, defence and security sector includes both Fortune 500 companies and globally competitive small- and medium-sized enterprises that offer large reservoirs of talent and capabilities. With 2,000+ companies in this sector, and as a G7 capital city and headquarters for many federal government departments, Ottawa is Canada's national hub for this highly important sector.

This diverse sector offers expertise in C4ISR, robotics, unmanned aerial vehicles, high performance cybersecurity solutions, personal protection, interoperable technologies for first responders and military end-users, CBRNE protection, maintenance and monitoring, sub systems and support.

As the home to the Department of National Defence, Canadian Security and Intelligence Service, Public Safety Canada, Canadian Air Transport Security Authority, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Communications Security Establishment Canada and Canada Border Services Agency, Ottawa is a natural hub for Canada's defence and security sector.

With proximity to government procurement opportunities, ADS companies also have privileged access to some of Canada's best research and development (R&D) capabilities.





12.3%

the highest concentration of tech talent in North America, tied with SF Bay Area (CBRE, 2024)

1,800+

Knowledge-based businesses in the National Capital Region

94,000+

highly skilled tech professionals in Ottawa's public and private sectors

65%

of Ottawa's population is enrolled in, or has completed post-secondary education, making it one of the most educated cities in Canada (Statistics Canada, 2021)

1st

in Canada and 7th in the world for best work-life balance. (KISI, 2022)

2nd

most affordable among major North American cities (Mercer, 2024)

20M

consumers within 400 km radius

Amongst the more than 65 research labs located in Ottawa are the following facilities that support the communications technology sector: NRC's Aerospace Division; Canadian Space Agency's David Florida Laboratory; Defence Research and Development Canada; and Communications Research Centre Canada

World-class educational programs and research centres include: Carleton Aerospace, one of the largest and the most comprehensive academic aerospace research programs in Canada, with a wide range of unique, state-of-the-art research facilities. The university is recognized internationally as a leader in aerospace education and research.

Sector ecosystem is supported by: CADSI (Canadian Association of Defence and Security Industries)

Fortune 500 companies such as General Dynamics, Thales, Leonardo DRS and Lockheed Martin, A cluster globally competitive small- and medium-sized enterprises that offer large reservoirs of talent.

It's never been a more exciting time to be in the defence, space, telecom sector, and here in Ottawa, it really is the epicentre of it. What we're seeing is this mass emergence towards leveraging the commercial space sector to really hit the needs of Canadians and people around the world and hit their basic needs.

- STEPHEN HAMPTON

Senior Director, Global Public Policy, Strategic Accounts and Business Development – Telesat

SECTOR ECOSYSTEM

POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS



BUSINESS SUPPORT



INDUSTRY LEADERS



NATIONAL NETWORKS



RESEARCH INSTITUTES



INTERESTED IN EXPANDING?
WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

CONTACT US

