

Memorandum of Understanding

Co-operation in Science, Technology and Innovation

Between:

Her Majesty the Queen in right of Alberta

as represented by the Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism

The Government of Alberta

(**“ADEDTT”**)

and

British Consulate General Calgary (**“BCG”**)

(ADEDTT and BCG, collectively, referred to as the **“Participants”**)

The ADEDTT represents the Government of Alberta’s interests as they relate to the promotion of science, technology and innovation.

The BCG represents the United Kingdom’s interests in Alberta as they relate to the promotion of science, technology and innovation.

The Participants understand the importance of science and innovation in driving economic growth, and recognise the work of their respective centres of excellence, academic institutions, government departments, research institutes, commercialisation hubs, industry and other organisations (**“Interested Stakeholders”**) in advancing technologies.

Stimulating innovation, demonstration and commercialisation in new and emerging technologies are of mutual interest to the Participants.

Recognising their mutual wish to enhance and strengthen their efforts to promote prosperity through cooperation in advanced technologies, the Participants have arrived at the following understanding:

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (**“MoU”**) is for the Participants to stimulate cooperation among the Interested Stakeholders in Alberta and the United Kingdom.

2. Objective

The objectives of this MoU are to:

- a. facilitate cooperation among the Participants’ Interested Stakeholders in areas of mutual interest;
- b. foster collaboration among the Participants’ Interested Stakeholders with a view to converting advanced research into commercial applications leading to economic growth and job creation; and
- c. encourage the sharing of best practices among the Participants’ Interested Stakeholders.

3. Forms of Cooperation

The Participants understand that cooperation may include:

- a. The exchange of information, best practices, policies, laws and regulations related to research, technology, entrepreneurship and innovation;
- b. Joint seminars, symposia, conferences and workshops;
- c. Technology partnering missions, matchmaking initiatives and the sharing of opportunities;
- d. Collaborative research and development initiatives, including through existing provincial and national mechanisms;

- e. Facilitation of exchanges of researchers, academics, business professionals, students, technical experts and others as seen fit;
- f. Any other form of cooperation that the Participants may mutually agree.

4. Topics of Mutual Interest

- a. The Participants will focus on cooperation related to science, technology and innovation in the following priority sectors:
 - i. Artificial Intelligence;
 - ii. Health and Life Sciences
 - iii. Agri-tech and Agri-food technologies; and
 - iv. Clean Growth and Smart Cities.
- b. The Participants may further pursue collaboration in any other sectors of cooperation that they may mutually agree.

5. Coordination and Facilitation of Cooperative Activities

- a. The activities under this MoU will be effected by the ADEDTT for Alberta and the BCG for the United Kingdom.
- b. The Participants understand that cooperation under this MoU may be developed and carried out by Interested Stakeholders
- c. The Participants will encourage and facilitate direct contact among Interested Stakeholders.

6. Joint Innovation Forum

- a. A Joint Innovation Forum (“JIF”) will jointly determine the priorities and details of cooperative activities under this MoU.
- b. Each Participant will notify the other of the individuals who will represent their interest at the JIF. Membership in the JIF will be limited to internal Government of Alberta and BCG representatives.
- c. With prior notice and approval from the other Participant, each Participant may invite Interested Stakeholders to participate the JIF.
- d. The purpose of the JIF will be to:
 - i. Propose and review the cooperative activities under the MoU;
 - ii. Identify and review the priority areas of cooperative activities at the JIF meetings;
 - iii. Advise Interested Stakeholders on ways to enhance and improve cooperation consistent with the objectives of this MoU;
 - iv. Promote and share updates related to cooperative activities with Participants’ respective governments and Interested Stakeholders; and
 - v. Designate and/or carry out any other activities identified as the JIF meetings.
- e. The JIF will meet every six months in Alberta. The JIF will decide the location, form and content of the meetings.
- f. Each Participant will bear the cost of its participation in the JIF.

7. Funding

Each Participant will bear its own costs resulting from its participation in activities undertaken in the furtherance of the objectives of this MoU. Nothing in this MoU will be construed as

establishing a binding legal obligation to provide funds, goods or services for a particular project or activity within the areas of cooperation described in this MoU.

8. Exchange of Information

- a. Nothing in this MoU will be construed as requiring the Participants to disclose to one another any confidential or classified information generated or obtained.
- b. The BCG acknowledges that this MoU, including the names of the Participants and all content, may be subject to disclosure pursuant to *the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (Alberta) or by ADEDTT if requested to table the MoU before the Alberta Legislature.

9. Nature of the Memorandum of Understanding

- a. This MoU serves only as a statement of intention of the Participants and is not intended to create any legally binding obligations nor be construed as agreement on any matters mentioned. This MoU does not create any relationship of employment, agency, partnership or joint venture between the Participants.
- b. The Participants understand that cooperation under this MoU is subject to the interest of the respective Interested Stakeholders and the availability of their respective resources.

10. Designated Representatives

The Participants designate the following representatives to administer this MoU:

For ADEDTT: Martin Truksa
Senior Director, Emerging Technology Industries
Economic Development, Trade and Tourism
600 Phipps-McKinnon Building
10020 – 101A Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T5J 3G2

780-427-2192
Martin.Truksa@gov.ab.ca

For BCG: Brandon Rasula
Head of Economics, Science and Innovation
British Consulate General Calgary
5100, 150-6th Ave SW, Calgary AB, T2P 3Y7
403-538-2122
Brandon.Rasula@fco.gov.uk

11. Final Dispositions

- a. This MoU is effective on the date of signature by the Participants and will be in effect for 3 years from the date of signing.
- b. The Participants may extend the term or amend this MoU upon mutual written consent.
- c. A Participant may terminate this MoU by giving written notice of at least thirty (30) days to the other Participant.

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed by the Participants on this 7th day of September, 2019 in the City of Calgary, in the Province of Alberta.

The British Consulate General Calgary	Her Majesty the Queen in right of Alberta as represented by the Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism
<i>Originals Signed by</i>	<i>Originals Signed by</i>
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Susan le Jeune d’Allegeerschecque British High Commissioner to Canada	Honourable Tanya Fir Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism
	Approved pursuant to the Government Organization Act (Alberta)
	<i>Originals Signed by</i>
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	Intergovernmental Relations, Executive Council
	Date: 12 September 2019