



The Ontario Tech University
Annual Commercialization Plan

March 2023

Institutional Approaches to Research and Innovation and Public Statement on the Annual Commercialization Plan

Ontario Tech University is a research-intensive institution that strives to solve real-world problems through the creation, transfer, and commercialization of intellectual property to benefit the Durham Region, Ontario, and Canada. Over the past year, the university has focused resources on tactical research areas, as identified in the strategic research plan, to strengthen and expand research collaborations with external partners to drive knowledge mobilization and commercialization. As outlined in the Ontario Tech Intellectual Property Policy, the university has a creator-owned model and can offer a flexible approach to intellectual property ownership. The Office of the Vice-President, Research, and Innovation has invested in hiring research legal, partnership, grants, and intellectual property subject matter experts to support the research community and external partners and negotiate customized intellectual property and commercialization rights in research agreements that facilitate commercialization endeavors.

To drive engagement and innovation opportunities, in the last year the university has invested in the following areas to enhance engagement with the industry:

- **Brilliant Energy Institute** - builds upon the energy research and expertise at Ontario Tech University and connection to the energy industry sector to meaningfully contribute to Canada's leadership in the global transition to net zero by 2050, and to strengthen outcomes regionally, provincially, and nationally, here at home.
- **Investment in Research and Development Core Facilities** – targeted investment in facilities, such as ACE, and Centre for Small Modular Reactors, amongst others, to support industry-driven and relevant research for the benefit of Ontario and Canada.
- **Embedded Mitacs** – a pilot project to embed Mitacs into strong industry-focused graduate programs to drive industry engagement and collaboratively develop the talent pipeline.
- **Development Ontario Tech Hydrogen Commercialization and Demonstration Centre (OTHCDC)** to be launched in 2023. To assist companies with prototyping, validation, testing, and demonstration of hydrogen technologies to de-risk and commercialize.

Ontario Tech University has developed a one-stop [accessible webpage for all faculty and staff members](#). Ontario Tech University has also placed emphasis on developing and delivering educational material to faculty members and staff to increase IP awareness and understanding. In the past twelve months, the following education and awareness opportunities were held:

- Webinar - IP basics
- Webinar - Research agreements
- Webinar - IP policy basics
- Webinar - Invention disclosures and other related IP commercialization
- Virtual event - Ontario Tech IPON Information Session with IPON Staff

Ontario Tech University has taken a prominent role in building and fostering a regional innovation ecosystem. To support and build the innovation ecosystem, Ontario Tech University engages with the local and regional innovation ecosystem in a variety of ways. Some examples are as follows:

- Chair of the Durham Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Forum (DEEF)
- Investing in Brilliant Catalyst to support entrepreneurship.
- Partnering with organizations within the local innovation ecosystem

The university through strategic research and innovation investments will continue to strive to accelerate innovation in Durham Region, Northumberland County for the benefit of Ontario and Canada.