

## Ontario Tech University Annual Commercialization Plan – Year 2 (2023 to 2024) IP Development and Commercialization Successes

Ontario Tech University has achieved several successes related to IP development and commercialization between the reporting period of April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024. Although there are many examples, the following two initiatives demonstrate Ontario Tech University's commitment to mobilizing IP in Ontario for the benefit of Canada.

1. **Brilliant Catalyst:** One achievement has been a significant increase in IP capacity at our start-up incubator Brilliant Catalyst, which now supports 26+ companies with IP that are developing and commercializing their innovations through Brilliant Catalyst's Start-Up Visa Program.

Brilliant Catalyst's approach has been multifaceted, involving a series of workshops and seminars that educate and empower clients, faculty, and the student body about entrepreneurship with specialized focus on the nuances of IP rights and management. These sessions are led by experts in IP law, ensuring that the attendees receive relevant information towards the development of their innovative solutions and business ventures. Additionally, Brilliant Catalyst provided complementary programming and guidance with topics such as market analysis and go-to-market strategy, which were shown to have a significant impact on educating participants on effective paths to commercialization.

2. **Hydrogen Commercialization and Demonstration Centre (HCDC):** Another achievement has been the launch of the HCDC at Ontario Tech. HCDC serves industry partners in the development and commercialization of hydrogen-based technology, supporting them as they develop their IP, build and demonstrate working prototypes with the goal to take them successfully to the market. This is accomplished in three ways:

- Through the Clean Energy Research Lab and the ACE Core Research Facility, Ontario Tech collaborated with many industry partners for early-stage prototype construction, development and testing. The creation of the HCDC at Ontario Tech has created a talent pipeline for industry partners providing access to research, technical expertise, build and test facilities that enable prototype construction.
- Ontario Tech has developed the experience and relationships that enable the ability to work within Ontario's strict hydrogen regulatory environment, including a strong ongoing relationship with TSSA – critical to development of hydrogen-based products. This provides a strong competitive advantage for industry partners.

- Ontario Tech participated in several hydrogen conferences and exhibitions in North America which have provided the opportunity to feature industry partners and tell the hydrogen commercialization story at Ontario Tech and the province of Ontario.

In the 2023/24 fiscal year, HCDC worked with two Ontario-based manufacturers, collaborating on the construction of working prototypes of products using hydrogen intended to replace diesel. There have been multiple demonstrations to potential customers and investors at Ontario Tech.