



Ontario Centres of Excellence

oce-ontario.org

About Us

For over three decades, Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) has worked alongside the Government of Ontario to drive economic development and job growth.

In partnership with government, industry and academia, we bring together Ontario's world-class colleges, universities and research hospitals, its dynamic companies and new generations of entrepreneurs to develop made-in-Ontario products and services that can be marketed around the world.

Our top three measures of success



- Number of jobs created or retained
- Industry co-investment
- Follow-on investment by the private sector



Province-wide footprint

OCE deploys an experienced team of Business Development Managers across the province to help build industry-academic collaborations and support the launch and growth of businesses.



Efficiency

We administer programs on behalf of the Province through a highly efficient and accountable model that drives job creation and economic development and ensures a strong return on investment throughout the province.



Governance

A not-for-profit organization governed by an independent Board of Directors that includes observers from the provincial government, OCE is funded by the Government of Ontario and is a member of the Ontario Network of Entrepreneurs (ONE). OCE also receives funding from the Government of Canada.

Our Mandate – On behalf of the Province, OCE supports projects that create jobs, attract local and international investment and make Ontario more globally competitive.

Collaborative R&D

- Bringing colleges and universities together with industry to solve industry challenges that result in job creation
- Providing Ontario's next generation of graduates and entrepreneurs with industry experience that results in the creation of new jobs

Commercialization

- Moving ideas from the lab to the marketplace
- Supporting the demonstration of new technologies and products
- Helping Ontario start-ups scale and succeed
- Connecting Ontario companies to early adopters across government and industry

Entrepreneurship

- Supporting entrepreneurship activities by students and youth through:
 - Seed financing of high-potential, youth-led start-ups
 - Campus accelerators and incubators

History – In 1987, seven not-for-profit centres were formed focused on fostering industry-academic collaborations in various industry sectors. In 2002, the Honourable Jim Wilson, the former Ontario Minister of Energy, Science and Technology and current Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, initiated the merger of the centres to form Ontario Centres of Excellence Inc., with a goal of achieving greater efficiency and economic outcomes.

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