



BACKGROUND

Connected / Autonomous Vehicle Border Infrastructure Integration (CAVBII) Windsor-Essex Region

On May 2, 2018, the Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) announced, on behalf of the Government of Ontario, the selection of six Regional Technology Development Sites (RTDS) across the Province of Ontario to harness talents and resources for connected and autonomous vehicle (C/AV) Technologies under the Autonomous Vehicle Innovation Network (AVIN). The Windsor-Essex RTDS is one of the selected sites.

Led by the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation and supported by multiple collaborators, such as: the University of Windsor, St. Clair College, WE-tech Alliance and the City of Windsor, and private industry partners and stakeholders within the Windsor-Essex Region, across Ontario and Michigan. The Windsor-Essex RTDS will provide access to specialized equipment, hardware and software to spur greater innovation and it will provide business advisory services to assist in the commercialization of technologies developed to move goods, people and services within Canada and abroad efficiently, effectively and safely.

The Windsor-Essex RTDS will focus on the deployment of Connected/Autonomous Vehicle Border Infrastructure Integration (CAVBII). The CAVBII project will provide a space (both virtual and physical) to enable entrepreneurs, technology start-up companies, Canadian corporations and educational / research organizations to develop, test, validate and showcase C/AV technologies for commercial border crossings under various scenarios.

CAVBII's two proposed activities are:

1. **Virtual Reality Lab:** Virtual environment testing is now a standard practice of large product development programs in the auto, consumer products to aerospace sectors. Facilities like Virtual Reality Labs are useful because they enable the evaluation of a multitude of design and procedural alternatives, safely and rapidly and at much lower cost than the construction of functional physical prototypes.
2. **Advanced Traffic Monitoring and Control Technologies:** Access to data and technologies that link connected and autonomous vehicles to physical and system infrastructure (across the Windsor-Essex and Detroit Regions) to help build the smart city, smart borders of tomorrow.

To learn more on how you can participate or become a partner, please contact: Susan Anzolin, Executive Director of the Institute for Border Logistics and Security (IBLS) – a department of the WindsorEssex Economic Development Corporation - at: sanzolin@iblsCanada.com; or Ed Dawson, Mobility Analyst at: edawson@choosewindsorEssex.com