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BUSINESS INCUBATION IN CANADA

LITERATURE REVIEW & LIST OF BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN ALBERTA AND CANADA

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BUSINESS INCUBATION IN CANADA

1. Background

Business incubation has grown over the last thirty years and thousands of facilities are now located across the globe. The concept of business incubation is not new but the definition and terminology varies across countries, depending on the objectives and conditions.

Business incubators provide space, services, advice and support to assist new and growing businesses to become established and profitable. Business incubators nurture the development of entrepreneurial companies and help them survive and grow during the start-up period. They provide their client companies with business support services and resources. A business incubator's main goal is to produce successful firms that will leave the program financially viable and freestanding. The other goals of incubation programs are creating jobs, retaining businesses in a community, building or accelerating growth in a local industry and diversifying local economies. Business incubators have the ability to bring creativity, resources, entrepreneurship and workforce together, and thus cause the economy in the surrounding area to flourish.

It has been estimated that there were nearly 7,000 incubators of various types in the world in 2006. Out of these, approximately 1400 were in North America (1,115 in United States, 191 in Mexico and 120 in Canada), 1,000 in Europe (including 370 in Germany), 400 in China, 355 in Korea, 265 in Japan, and 220 in UK.

Business incubation is taking a growing role in Canada's economic development. During the year 2005, more than 83 operating business incubators were generating funds in excess of \$45 million. Within them, 900 client businesses raised revenues over \$93 million and created full and part-time employment for more than 13,000 people. There were over 150 business incubation programs operating throughout Canada in 2010.

It has been estimated that in 2011 alone, North American incubators assisted about 49,000 start-up companies. Those companies provided full-time employment for nearly 200,000 workers and generated annual revenue of almost \$15 billion. As of October 2012, there were over 1,250 incubators in the United States.

The earliest incubation programs focused on technology companies and service firms. However, in more recent years, they are targeting industries such as food processing, arts and crafts, micro-enterprise creation, telecommunications and software development.

The most common types of businesses using incubator services are light manufacturing, technology and service businesses and/or those developing new products or engaged in research and development of a product. Retail operations rarely find a fit within an incubator. Some incubators have been known to provide services to a mix of businesses, but others focus on serving businesses from just one particular segment of industry.

2. The services offered by business incubators

Incubators vary in the way they deliver their services, in their organizational structure and in the types of clients they serve. Incubators frequently help entrepreneurs prepare plans and proposals, assist them in making contacts to find financing, and assist participants to obtain cheaper insurance. However, most incubators themselves are not investors. The majority of services provided are in the form of services and indirect support. Highly adaptable incubators have specific goals, including diversifying rural economies, providing employment and transferring technology from universities and major corporations. Incubator clients are at the forefront of developing new and innovative technologies, creating products and services that improve the quality of lives in communities around the world. The more successful incubators usually provide the following services:

2.1. Affordable leases

Business incubators provide flexible and affordable leases, usually at or below market rates and options to grow into the rented space. It can reduce the operating costs for the new business during its critical early stages.

2.2. Access to physical resources

A key feature of most incubators is the provision of common logistical support items. Incubators offer office space, furniture, utilities, bookkeeping, desktop publishing, telephone system, mailbox, a computer network, 24-hour security and other amenities to do with physical infrastructure and real estate. Incubators also compete with technology and science parks and, sometimes, real estate companies.

2.3. Access to financial resources

Incubators may also offer access to venture capital (usually a combination of private funds and outside capital invested by business angels), venture capitalists or local institutions and companies. In general, incubators target early stage, sometimes pre-seed money, start-ups and try to bring them to the next financing round.

2.4. Entrepreneurial start-up support and management services

Entrepreneurs usually lack organizational, management and legal skills. Incubators guide entrepreneurs through the necessary steps that a newly founded company must take. They provide professional services such as accounting, legal advice for incorporation and taxation issues, and formulating ownership and employee option plan structures. In addition, incubators provide valuable management coaching support, helping entrepreneurs develop and apply leadership and management skills.

2.5. *Training and education*

Most incubators provide training and education for emerging managers. This training may be in conjunction with educational institutions, or may be provided independently.

2.6. *Access to networks*

Entrepreneurs usually do not have the networks that an incubator has taken years to create. Incubators can identify and leverage key individuals, potential customers and advisory boards for the success of their start-ups. Access to these networks is sometimes also provided by human resource firms, consulting companies, business angels or networking organisations.

2.7. *Technical assistance*

Business incubators usually do not provide direct technical consulting or assistance. However, incubators associated with universities and educational institutions provide and incorporate some form of technical research. The second form of incubator providing technical support is the “seed capital” type, which has a direct interest in seeing ideas come to market and earn a profit.

3. Classification and typology of business incubation

The literature citation has found various classifications of business incubation. The classification of business incubation may be based on several features, such as its objectives, location, formation, model, types, source of finance or combinations of all these. Some researchers have classified incubators into two main groups; for-profits and not-for-profits. For-profit incubators have profitability as their primary strategic objective while the non-profit incubators are operated by groups ranging from community development organizations to municipal governments seeking to create new jobs and increase local tax bases. They usually fulfil a public mission first, such as regional employment and growth.

Business incubators can further be divided into several classes including facility-based incubators, regional incubators, university or other knowledge incubators or commercial incubators. Other classifications can be virtual (new-economy incubators) or accelerators. Each of these can also be for-profit or not for-profit.

Facility-based incubators provide physical space, services and support to clients. They offer value-added benefits to clients including coaching, mentoring, networking, referral to professional services, access to capital and training.

Regional business incubators are established by local governments or organisations with similar regional and economic interests. Their main objective is to provide office space and start-up support for the local community. The other objectives are to generate employment, improve local industry or improve public image. Typically, a government agency is a principal investor in and sponsor of the incubator. With their geographical focus, regional incubators try to attract cluster of industries and, eventually, generate a regional centre of innovation.

University incubators are often designed to foster collaboration between scientists in academia and industry. University incubators focus on start-up coaching, facilitating learning of management processes and practices across different ventures. These activities are often carried out in close collaboration with the local technology-transfer office, since the intellectual property typically belongs to the university and has to be licensed by the entrepreneur before commercialisation.

Commercial incubators are generally profit oriented, and they often focus on a particular technology or industry to achieve that profit. They are characterised by a strong profit or commercial objective. They often have more freedom to develop an efficient incubation business model.

Virtual incubators may also be for-profit, and they focus on particular needs in the entrepreneurial community rather than a particular industry. They do not offer on-site space for clients, although they may have a central office to coordinate services, house the management staff, meet with clients, and perhaps even provide conference rooms for clients. Virtual incubation programs tend to be less expensive to operate than traditional business incubators that have additional expenses related to the operation and management of a physical plant. Virtual incubation may be a good alternative in rural areas, where the client base is often spread out over large areas and coming to central location cost both time and money.

Accelerators may be broadly defined either as: (1) a late-stage incubation program, assisting entrepreneurial firms that are more mature and ready for external financing; or (2) a facility that houses a modified business incubation program designed for incubator graduates as they ease into the market. A third definition which is both more expansive and less measurable is similar to the virtual incubator model. Finally, some industry professionals use the terms business incubator and business accelerator interchangeably.

Incubators may also be differentiated by the type industry sectors they focus on. They may focus on manufacturing, technology (software, space technology, medical sciences, biotechnology, and robotics) or services. Industry focused incubators can be facility-based, regional or virtual or a blend of all of these.

A manufacturing incubator is designed to assist new enterprises primarily engaged in the manufacturing sector. Because clients typically require manufacturing space in addition to office space, manufacturing incubators tend to occupy more square footage than do other types of incubators. Generally, to be considered a manufacturing incubator, at least 50% of the client firms should be manufacturing-oriented.

A technology incubator fosters the growth of companies involved in emerging technologies such as software, space technology, medical sciences, biotechnology, robotics, or instrumentation. At least 50% of the clients should be technology-oriented to be classified as a technology incubator.

Service-based incubators foster the development of entrepreneurial firms in the service sector. Firms may range from landscapers, graphic designers and accountants to Internet-based companies and Web development firms. Service-based incubators focus on delivering coaching, mentoring, networking and other services to client businesses at their existing place of operation.

A mixed-use incubator (also called general purpose incubator) fosters the growth of all kinds of companies. Companies in mixed-use incubators may include service, manufacturing, technology, and other types of firms.

4. The development cycle

The development cycle of business incubation consists of following stages:

4.1. The Start-Up Stage

This stage begins with the initiation of the concept, often supported by one or more community advocates or leaders. At this stage the incubator's activities are primarily focused on real estate activities rather than on business development assistance.

4.2. The Business Development Stage

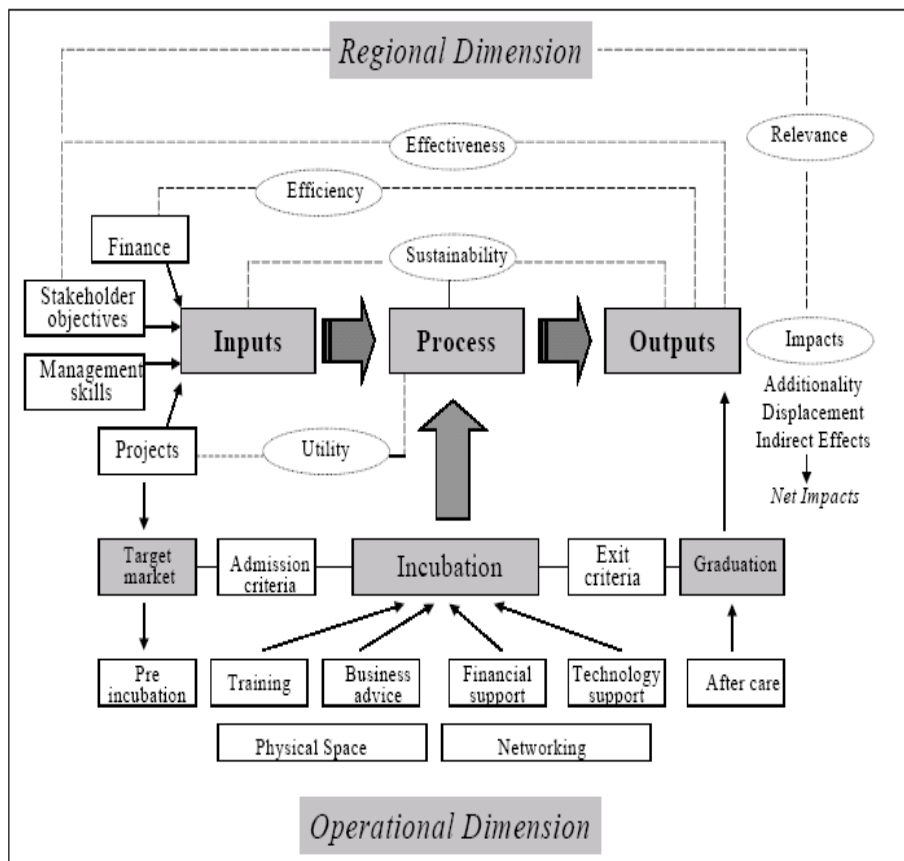
The second stage includes heavy interaction between the incubator manager or consultant and the client companies. During this time, increased support is shown by the local community and incubator demand is stable. At this stage the manager can use much of the time previously consumed by finding and renovating the space, attracting tenants, and dealing with leasing arrangements to begin to develop the incubator's business services. Managers begin to develop the services and their roster of outside firms and networks to call on for assistance. The incubatees also become more familiar with one another, trust develops, and business exchanges at this stage.

4.3. The Maturity Stage

At this stage the incubator offers a comprehensive suite of services to tenants and serves as a focus of entrepreneurial activity in the community. There is greater demand than supply of space and the incubator can become a stable and core part of the community. The rate of change in this life-cycle may be affected by five independent factors; the local entrepreneurial market; the physical characteristics of the facility; access to funding; the degree of local cooperation; and, the skill of the facility manager.

5. Business Incubator Model

The way in which business incubators operate can also be depicted in terms of a simple input-output model. Where *Inputs* mainly consist of the inputs made by stakeholders (e.g. providing finance), management resources, and projects put forward by entrepreneurs; *Processes* are various inputs brought together in the business incubation process through the provision of incubator space and other services to companies; and *Outputs* are the successful companies that graduate with positive job and wealth creation impacts on the local economy.



Source: 'Benchmarking of Business Incubators – Final Report'. European Commission Enterprise Directorate General. Centre for Strategy & Evaluation Services. February 2002

A business incubator's success is strongly tied to the outcomes of its clients and graduates. The investment of funds, time, and expertise by incubator management and the technical assistance provided by professional service providers are expected to yield a return and that return on investment is an important measure of incubator success. Some of the factors which can contribute to the success of incubators are described below.

6. The key to success:

Successful business incubation needs clear and specific goals, mandate and a realistic business plan. Goals should be realistic and consistent with the market environment and with the available resources. The incubator should be able to offer valuable resources at affordable cost to its clients on the long term and on a self-sustained basis. Management support services are important to the success of the tenant firms. These services include assistance in fundamental skills and services, such as bookkeeping and legal assistance, as well as training in business planning and organization. Successful incubators require effective management and administration which helps in achieving the mission of the incubator and having the ability to help companies grow.

Networking is also a key to success of an incubator. It requires a group of people with relevant expertise who are enthusiastic and available to offer regular advice, guidance and create further access to outside resources for the start-ups. Having ties to an educational institution is very beneficial as it allows the business incubator to have access to potential new tenant companies. It can be a network of entrepreneurs, investors, professionals, consultants, service providers, vendors, interns, and others. Networking, in the form of seminars and workshops is another important activity that should be done by business incubators.

Location of an incubator can also be a factor that affects both an incubator's ability to get the right kind of incubation deal flow and its ability to easily and adequately support the incubated companies. Other factors for success may be capital availability, manufacturing competence, marketing and distribution skills, technical support, component and materials availability.

7. Business incubation in rural communities

Business incubators can be an effective tool for promoting economic development in rural communities. Business incubators can allow rural communities to tap the resources of professionals and organizations in a broad geographic area to assist local business start-ups. The benefits of such projects include a raised profile for the community, a positive image as a place to locate a business, decreased vacancy rates, increased employment, strengthened performance for existing businesses, and the development of new businesses that will grow over time.

Incubators should not be perceived as quick fixes for a community's economy as they are designed more for the long-term economic growth of a region than for a short run increase in employment or income.

Establishing incubators in rural locations involve some special challenges. These include finding adequate funding for the incubators, achieving self-sufficiency and financing for businesses wishing to enter an incubator. Hence, an important precondition for developing incubators is revolving sources of capital. Management assistance can be difficult to provide when a rural area has few business consultants. The relatively small pool of entrepreneurial clientele in rural areas and the limited ability to attract entrepreneurs from other regions, including other rural areas, impedes incubator development.

Rural business incubators work best as part of larger economic development strategy. They need to be tied into comprehensive support networks for start-up companies including business consultation and financial help for all stages of business growth. This requires a community-wide effort involving businesses, support organizations, educational and financial institutions in building infrastructure, culture, education, policies and access to capital to increase small business growth and success.

Successful rural business incubators build upon a community' strengths, not its weaknesses. The strengths may include the skill levels of potential employees, a specialty niche created by existing businesses, or the location of the community. Rural communities can help to make their incubators more successful by ensuring that market analysis is properly done for potential entry firms. This analysis could identify businesses most likely to succeed.

Rural communities in Alberta aspiring to develop incubation and business retention programs can use this document as a source of information on business incubators located in Alberta and other provinces of Canada.

8. LIST OF BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN CANADA

In Canada, two-in three new businesses do not survive to their fifth year. It has been confirmed that there is a need for business advice, formal organization, formal business planning and access to business funding to establish and grow a business. The Canadian Association of Business Incubator¹ is a national body of member organizations which has been in existence for more than 20 years and is supporting the growth of new and early-stage businesses.

The following section provides brief profiles of business incubators operating in Alberta and other provinces of Canada.

¹ www.cabi.ca (CABI was founded as Canada's 'Voice of Business Incubation' in 1992.)

8.1. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN ALBERTA (AB)

Name: Ag Food Processing Development Centre

Industry Sector: Food processing

Location: Leduc

Website: [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/fpdc10937](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/fpdc10937)

Description: The Agri-value Processing Business Incubator is a multi-tenant facility. It provides the infrastructure and services to support and enhance the growth of new food businesses in Alberta. It provides facilities and programs to help manage the transition from new product development, through commercialization, market launch and growth in sales, resulting in graduation and the establishment of their own facilities.

Name: Advanced Technology Centre

Industry Sector: ICT

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://www.edmonton.com/edmonton-research-park/client-services.aspx>

Description: Advanced Technology Centre helps young companies bring technologies from conception to design to the marketplace. It provides flexible office space, access to common meeting rooms, office equipment and administrative support to start-up technology companies.

Name: APEX Southeast Alberta's Regional Innovation Network

Industry Sector: ICT

Location: Medicine Hat

Website: <http://www.apexalberta.ca/about.php>

Description: APEX is a Regional Innovation Network that supports the growth of innovative and technology-oriented businesses in Southeast Alberta. It promotes a culture of innovation through various initiatives, including: business and technical advice to entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized businesses, and networking opportunities to encourage collaboration among innovative business people.

Name: Alberta Centre for Advanced MNT Products (ACAMP)

Industry Sector: Technology

Location: Calgary and Edmonton

Website: http://acamp.ca/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=60&Itemid=72

Description: ACAMP provides specialized services to micro-nano technology clients. Its clients can have access to equipment, facilities, expertise and a network of organizations that support and develop micro and nano technology devices, advanced materials and manufacturing worldwide. ACAMP's services include marketing and business development, product development, packaging and assembly, test and characterization.

Name: Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions

Industry sector: Biotechnology

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://bio.albertainnovates.ca/>

Description: Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions supports new technologies and the creation of new ideas in the field of bio-economy ranging from discovery of new knowledge to the application of

that knowledge in commercialization within the bio-industries sector. It also provides funding to research projects that support the growth and diversification of Alberta's agriculture, forest and life sciences sectors. Its BioLINK research project database provides free information on more than 3000 of research projects dating back to 1978 related to agriculture, food and forestry.

Name: Alberta Innovates - Technology Futures

Industry sector: Technology and innovation

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://www.albertatechfutures.ca/Home.aspx>

Description: Alberta Innovates - Technology Futures supports research and innovation activities and initiatives that encourage a strong science, technology and entrepreneurial culture in Alberta. It provides a variety of programs and services to entrepreneurs, companies, researchers and investors. It also provides funding and networking to Alberta-based SMEs in a variety of ways to help accelerate their growth and success.

Name: AcceleratorYYC

Industry Sector: Digital media, creativity

Location: Calgary

Website: <http://www.acceleratoryyc.com/>

Description: AcceleratorYYC is a Calgary's startup community hub and co-work space. It supports startup growth by enabling entrepreneurs to connect, learn and grow within a collaborative co-working space.

Name: Clinexus Centres

Industry Sector: Healthcare

Location: Calgary

Website: <http://clinexus.impello.com/>

Description: Clinexus Centres help Alberta's health technology companies who are developing and selling a wide range of medical technologies. Clinexus Centres also provide support in the non-traditional forms of healthcare ranging from allied health to dental and from mental health to veterinarian care.

Name: Duncan McNeill Centre for Innovation

Industry Sector: Mixed-use

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://www.nait.ca/52517.htm>

Description: The Centre offers a supportive environment for inventors and entrepreneurs to develop their business ideas into profitable enterprises. It has 4,769 square feet of incubation space, with 11 office suites available for early stage companies and entrepreneurs.

Name: Deltatee Enterprises Ltd

Industry Sector: ICT

Location: Calgary

Website: <http://www.deltatee.com/>

Description: Deltatee Enterprises Ltd. offers services to electronic and electronic/software based products companies. It assists them by providing product design; research; product development and prototyping; and product development management.

Name: Drug Development and Innovation Centre (DDIC)

Industry Sector: Pharmaceuticals, drug development

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://www.ddic.ca>

Description: The Drug Development and Innovation Centre facilitate research and development in areas of bio-pharmaceuticals, drug delivery, quality control and regulatory sciences. It focuses on pharmaceutical product development, performance testing and regulatory affairs. The centre is proving to be an important ally for pharmaceutical companies in their bid to commercialize innovative products. It has expertise in therapeutic dosage form development, analytical testing and regulatory affairs that are suitable for small to medium sized enterprises and university researchers.

Name: Edmonton Research Park

Industry Sector: Biotechnology

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://www.edmonton.com/researchpark>

Description: Edmonton Research Park offers a variety of facilities, suitable to a company's stage of development. It provides flexible lab and production space for second-stage companies. Its Biotechnology Business Development Centre provides specialized lab and office space to second-stage biotechnology companies. Sites are also available for larger companies to build their own research and development facilities.

Name: Economic Development Alliance of Southeast Alberta (EDA)

Industry Sector: Technology

Location: Medicine Hat

Website: <http://www.edalliance.ca/Public/EDA-Services>

Description: Economic Development Alliance of Southeast Alberta provides economic development services to assist new companies to remain and grow in the region. It offers assistance to innovative companies in the area, like agriculture and greenhouses, advanced technology and manufacturing, energy including renewables and tourism.

Name: Flightpath Ventures

Industry Sector: Technology (software and Internet)

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://www.goflightpath.com/index.html>

Description: Flightpath is a full-time startup accelerator program and fund that assists early-stage software and Internet companies. It provides each company cash and workspace, mentoring, programs/classes and other infrastructure and resources.

Name: Foothills Business Incubator

Industry Sector: Mixed-use

Location: Okotoks

Website: <http://www.cfhighwood.net/foothills-business-incubator.php>

Description: Foothills Business Incubator provides short term office space for 3 to 6 months. It has 5 fully furnished private business offices available for lease. It has a training board room with free wireless internet access which can accommodate up to 20-30 people.

Name: German-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research

Industry Sector: Research

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://www.gccir.ca/about/services.html>

Description: It is a bilateral initiative for the development of German-Canadian research and business relations. It provides support for the exchange of information, development of networks, and the establishment of cultivation of collaborative partnerships, particularly in application-specific technological, natural, and life sciences. It promotes new ideas and concepts from Canadian companies and universities in Germany.

Name: Green Hectares Corp.

Industry Sector: Agriculture

Location: Sherwood Park

Website: <http://greenhectaresonline.com/community-connector/>

Description: The Green Hectares Community Connector develops a network of existing educational programs, training and business services and brings them to people living in rural communities. Delivered online and in-person, the Community Connector provides timely and easy access to programs and services for entrepreneurs, farmers and producers, families and community members.

Name: Innovate Calgary

Industry Sector: ICT

Location: Calgary

Website: <http://www.innovatecalgary.com/>

Description: Innovate Calgary is a full service organization which offers technology transfer and business incubator services to researchers, entrepreneurs and businesses within the advanced technology sector. It supports commercialization by providing a variety of services and programs including; business and technical advice, workshops, screening of technologies for commercial potential, access to sector resources and networking events, licensing and intellectual property protection strategy, company creation/incubation programs and office and lab space - tenancy and business resources and facilities for technology companies.

Name: Northern Alberta Business Incubator (NABI)

Industry Sector: Mixed-use

Location: St. Albert

Website: <http://www.nabi.ca/>

Description: NABI provides space and services to planning-stage, newly started, and home-based businesses. It provides business planning programs, one-on-one business coaching and

mentoring to meet specific goals. Business counselling is available to its clients at no charge and usually without an advance appointment. A wide range of services, office equipment, information resources, and facilities are made available to its clients at either no charge or on a per-usage basis. It assists entrepreneurs, new business start-ups and business service providers in growing their businesses under the Alberta Innovates voucher program.

Name: NRC National Institute for Nanotechnology (NINT)

Industry Sector: Nanotechnology

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://nint-innt.ca/>

Description: The NINT Business Development Office provides assistance to Edmonton-based nanotechnology firms. It aims to create a cluster of nanotechnology business which will foster collaboration between companies while assisting with research expertise. It involves researchers from fields such as physics, chemistry, engineering, biology, informatics, pharmacy, and medicine. The main focus of the research being done at NINT is the integration of nano-scale devices and materials into complex nano-systems that can be put to practical use.

Name: novaNAIT

Industry Sector: Innovation and technology

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://www.nait.ca/85868.htm>

Description: novaNAIT is the applied research, innovation and technology transfer department at NAIT. It provides opportunities to entrepreneurs, SMEs, and sector partners to access NAIT's internationally recognized technical, technological, and business development capacities.

Name: Petroleum Technology Alliance Canada (PTAC)

Industry sector: Hydrocarbon energy

Location: Calgary

Website: <http://www.ptac.org/>

Description: Petroleum Technology Alliance Canada facilitates innovation, collaborative research and technology development for a responsible Canadian hydrocarbon energy industry. Its main goal is to help Canada become a global hydrocarbon energy technology leader.

Name: Research Transition Facility Calgary (RTF)

Industry sector: ICT

Location: Calgary

Website: <http://www.processpathways.com/interface/rtf/>

Description: The RTF is the University of Calgary's incubator for high-tech companies. It is a multi-tenant, not-for-profit facility built for laboratory research. It is designed to help University entrepreneurs turn new ideas and discoveries into marketable products and services.

Name: Regional Business Accelerator

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Lloydminster

Website: <http://www.smallbusinessinformation.ca/>

Description: Regional Business Accelerator supports entrepreneurs by providing connections, coaching mentoring and resources. Its main goal is to improve overall economic growth of the region.

Name: Rocky Mountain Rural Alberta Business Centre (RABC)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Rocky Mountain House

Website: <http://www.rabc.ca/index.php/offices/rocky-mountain-house/news/61-incubator-brings-economic-development-to-rocky-mountain-house>

Description: The RABC, Rocky Mountain is one-stop access to information, advice, business training and research services to entrepreneurs and business owners. RABC is a Pilot Program of a partnership between the Government of Alberta and local organizations involved with the business community. As part of the three-year program, RABCs will provide advice and information services to entrepreneurs and small businesses to assist them in making informed business decisions. The pilot program will run from January 2012 to December 2014.

Name: Springboard Calgary

Industry sector: Art and creativity

Location: Calgary

Website: <http://springboardperformance.com/>

Description: Springboard Calgary is a non-profit organization devoted to connecting artists, mediums, audiences, the body and the mind through physical contemporary creation and public space manipulation. Springboard bridges disciplines with clustered festival programming, creative residencies, workshops, lectures, performances and round table discussions.

Name: The Banff Centre

Industry sector: Art and creativity

Location: Banff

Website: <http://www.banffcentre.ca/>

Description: The Banff Centre is an arts and creativity incubator which supports new creative and performance works in partnerships with individual artists and national and international arts organizations. It provides them with the support they need to create, develop solutions, and to make the impossible possible. Its leadership programs equip people who want to change the world with the skills to do so. Moving forward, the Centre will disseminate the art and ideas developed in Banff using new initiatives in digital, web, radio, and broadcast media.

Name: TEC Edmonton

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Edmonton

Website: <http://www.tecedmonton.com>

Description: TEC Edmonton is a business accelerator that helps to transform technologies into business opportunities. The goal is to capture the value of the innovation in the region. TEC

Edmonton is joint venture between the University of Alberta and the Edmonton Economic Development Corporation.

Name: Tecterra

Industry sector: Geomatics technology

Location: Calgary

Website: <http://www.tecterra.com/>

Description: Tecterra enables Canadian companies to bring innovative geomatics solutions to market through a range of support programs. It supports technologies developed for integrated resource management and other geospatial applications. It also provides meaningful networking opportunities and targeted professional development services to maximize business potential and commercial success.

Name: TRTech/Labs

Industry sector: ICT

Location: Edmonton, Calgary, Manitoba and Saskatchewan

Website: <http://www.trtech.ca/trlabs/>

Description: TRTech/Labs is a commercialization company that works with industry, government, and academic partners and clients to discover, develop and commercialize technology. It enables program participants to gain insight and solve common problems in cost effective ways. It also provides clients access to development space (test benches, electromagnetic signal generators, oscilloscopes, etc.) and/or business facilities (desks, offices, meeting rooms) in order to develop, test, and showcase new technologies and/or incubate their business in a supported, tech-savvy environment.

Name: 881 Business Incubation Centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Fort McMurray and Lac La Biche

Website: <http://www.canadabusiness.ab.ca/index.php/start-up/586-business-incubators-in-alberta>

Description: The centre provides services to small- and medium-sized companies along the Highway 881 Corridor between Fort McMurray and Lac La Biche in need of business expertise, knowledge and advice. Entrepreneurs have access to timely and economical business support services such as business consulting and advisory services, training, high-speed Internet access, referrals to service professionals and meeting rooms for in-person or virtual meetings.

8.2. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (BC)

Name: Accelerate Okanagan

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Kelowna

Website: <https://www.accelerateokanagan.com/>

Description: Accelerate Okanagan supports entrepreneurs and technology companies to start and grow in the Okanagan. It offers a range of programs to help high potential technology companies accelerate their growth and maximize their opportunity. It also provides mentorship programs and hosts numerous events, workshops, and seminars throughout the year to introduce entrepreneurs to resources available to them.

Name: BCIC (BC Innovation Council)

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://www.bcic.ca/>

Description: BCIC encourages the development and application of advanced or innovative technologies to meet the needs of industry in BC. It accelerates technology commercialization by supporting start-ups and developing entrepreneurs. It also delivers programs and initiatives that promote company growth, resulting in jobs, increased revenue and economic development in BC.

Name: British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Burnaby

Website: <http://www.bcit.ca/>

Description: BCIT is a polytechnic institution. Its Commercialization Assistance Program supports small and medium sized enterprises by providing assistance during the proof of concept, product development, and pre commercial trial stages of commercializing a product.

Name: Centre 4 Growth

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://www.bctia.org/centre4growth.aspx>

Description: The Centre 4 Growth provides entrepreneurs access to expertise, information, services and programs that can help grow companies. It provides online resources for BC businesses through web-based library of templates, documents, reports and contacts. It also provides information on upcoming trade missions, tradeshows, business forums and conferences. Visiting the Business Opportunities webpage provides opportunities for new international connections, explore new deals, and find more money.

Name: Discovery Foundation

Industry sector: Technology and Innovation

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://www.discoveryfoundation.ca/>

Description: Discovery Foundation promotes and facilitates innovation and the development of the technology sector in British Columbia. Its principal role is the delivery of the Technology Education Program (TEP) through selected Agents who educate technology entrepreneurs in British Columbia.

Name: Discovery Parks

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://www.discoveryparks.com/>

Description: Discovery Parks has almost two million square feet of technology space. Its Commercialization Centre provides a co-location facility for companies in software, new media design, clean tech and life sciences. It develops office buildings and lab space on university campuses that are designed for start-up and spin-out companies commercializing new products.

Name: GrowLab

Industry sector: ICT

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://growlab.ca/>

Description: GrowLab is a four month program that provides a limited number of Internet entrepreneurs an intense mentorship and incubator program in both Vancouver and Silicon Valley. GrowLab helps startups with accessing resources and pitching for external funding. GrowLab accelerates startup growth and success. Internet entrepreneurs selected to participate in the GrowLab program can receive up to \$25,000 in seed funding, office space, and mentorship.

Name: Institute B

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://www.instituteb.com/>

Description: Institute B is an accelerator that develops entrepreneurs through education, consulting and funding. It accelerates its results through personal development and strategic business planning.

Name: Kamloops Innovation Center

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Kamloops

Website: <http://www.kicstart.ca/>

Description: The Kamloops Innovation Center is a business accelerator and entrepreneurship outreach program with a focus on technology. It creates a focal point for the new ventures providing services, infrastructure and education to their companies and surrounding communities. It offers an intensive and hands-on workshop that compels the entrepreneur to think critically about the true value, commercialization potential and positioning of their business

idea. It covers critical elements of business planning and product management such as sustainable differentiation, pricing, sources of capital, market and expansion strategy.

Name: SFU Venture Connections

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://www.sfu.ca/io/venture/venture-connection.html>

Description: SFU Venture Connections provides training to skilled young people in becoming next generation of entrepreneurs. It motivates students to consider entrepreneurship as a career option and provides tools and training to build their entrepreneurial skills.

Name: TIME Ventures Innovation Incubator

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://www.sfu.ca/time/entrepreneurship.html>

Description: The SFU TIME Centre helps entrepreneurs who are developing solutions to improve productivity in the Digital Economy or to enhance sustainability in the Green Economy. It offers office space and resources for technology ventures, networking events, educational seminars, mentoring opportunities, investment opportunities, training resources, a boardroom and a drop-in work space. These services are available to TIME participants, off-site business professionals, lawyers, investors and others.

Name: The Network Hub

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://www.thenetworkhub.ca/>

Description: The Network Hub helps to grow a successful business. It allows people to rent a private mail box. It also offers meeting rooms, faxing services, and telephone answering services. It also provides virtual office space which can be more productive.

Name: Wavefront

Industry sector: ICT

Location: Vancouver

Website: <http://www.wavefrontac.com/>

Description: Wavefront is a commercialization centre which accelerates the growth of wireless and new media companies. It improves speed-to-market and delivery of mobile applications and devices by providing emerging companies with a suite of WaveGuide™ training, mobile industry advisory services, incubation office space and testing resources. It also facilitates commercial engagement between the mobile ecosystem (mobile operators, platform providers, device manufacturers), enterprise companies and the innovative developers in Canada and Pacific Northwest.

8.3. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN MANITOBA (MB)

Name: Buller Centre for Business

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Otterburne

Website: <http://www.bullercentre.com/>

Description: The Buller Centre for Business supports businesses and industry through workshops and connects businesses with potential employees and policy advocacy. It supports Providence's Business Administration program, which equips students with the knowledge, skills, and character they need to succeed in a career in management and leadership.

Name: Composites Innovation Centre Manitoba Inc. (CIC)

Industry sector: Manufacturing

Location: Winnipeg

Website: <http://www.compositesinnovation.ca/>

Description: The CIC supports economic growth through innovative research, development and application of composite materials and technologies for manufacturing industries. This is achieved by working directly with industry, on industry sponsored projects that result in a measurable economic benefit to the project participants and the community. Projects are performed in a collaborative partnership with industry, government agencies, and educational establishments.

Name: CDEM

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Winnipeg

Website: <http://www.cdem.com/en>

Description: CDEM supports and coordinates economic development in close cooperation with the bilingual municipalities and their community development corporations. It offers many services to new businesses, businesses that are established, expanding or who are thinking about exporting. It also offers French business development programs, some of which are custom made, to entrepreneurs.

Name: Eureka Project

Industry sector: Technology and Innovation

Location: Winnipeg

Website: <http://eurekaproject.ca/>

Description: The Project helps technology companies accelerate their growth by increasing their sales. It provides management expertise to innovators and small and medium sized companies with a desire to succeed on international scale.

Name: Genesys Venture Inc

Industry sector: Biotech

Location: Winnipeg

Website: <http://www.genesysventure.com/>

Description: The Company provides services to client companies through an enhanced accelerator model and active participation. It offers a tailored mix of services vital to

successfully develop a technology that address market opportunities. The custom designed building provides access to business structure and state of the art equipment.

Name: Manitoba Technology Accelerator

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Winnipeg

Website: <http://www.mbtechaccelerator.com/>

Description: Manitoba Technology Accelerator is a business incubation program which provides business mentoring, coaching, active participation, networking, infrastructure, financing and investment services to entrepreneurs. It helps its member companies enter the market, secure investment, or get acquired and strengthening local, regional, and even national economies.

Name: Manitoba Business Gateways

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Multiple locations

Website: http://www.gov.mb.ca/jec/emb/ci/mbb_gateway.html

Description: The Manitoba Business Gateways are resource centres which provide information and referrals for a wide range of business and employment information and services. The goal is to make the province's business and employment information and services easier to find, easier to understand, and easier to use, whether accessed online, by phone or in person.

Name: Smart Park Manitoba

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Winnipeg

Website: http://umanitoba.ca/admin/vp_admin/smartpark/index.html

Description: Smartpark is a 100 acre technology park which was designed to foster the growth of research and development through successful University-Industry interaction. Its vision is to build a community of innovators in the University of Manitoba by developing land and space for lease to research and technology companies and organizations.

Name: Smart Virtual Incubation Winnipeg

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Winnipeg

Website: <http://smartwinnipeg.mb.ca/default.htm>

Description: It assists and advises citizens, organizations and governments to create technically enabled communities (Smart Communities). It has initiated Virtual Incubation Manitoba program which provides value-added services to entrepreneurs such as business planning, strategic guidance on markets, analyzing proof of concept opportunities, support in reaching global markets, access to business mentors and management consulting. VIM enables entrepreneurs to access management and business skills training while continuing to develop and refine their business concept. The online component of VIM enables e-Commerce business development using eLearning and e-Consulting services.

8.4. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN NEW BRUNSWICK (NB)

Name: Aerospace & Defence Park

Industry sector: Aerospace technology

Location: Fredericton

Website: <http://www.frederictonairport.ca/en/aerospace-and-defence-park/>

Description: The Aerospace & Defence Park is located at the capital city's airport. It supports aerospace and defence contractors from universities and the National Research Centre.

Name: Enterprise Fredericton

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Fredericton

Website: <http://www.enterprisefredericton.ca/about-us/>

Description: Enterprise Fredericton is an economic development organization focused on entrepreneurial business development in the greater Fredericton Region.

Name: Knowledge Park

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Fredericton

Website: <http://www.knowledgepark.ca/>

Description: The Knowledge Park is designed to grow the knowledge industry in the Greater Fredericton Region. Its main objective is to provide clustering opportunities for companies that are engaged in research, development and application of technologies related to such fields as information technology (IT), biotechnology, education, engineering, health care, forestry and agriculture.

Name: RUNWAY Business Park Network

Industry sector: Aerospace technology

Location: Fredericton

Website: <http://www.teamfredericton.com/en/runway/Runway.asp>

Description: The network offers a business environment. It employs thousands of people in industries as diverse as knowledge and technology, education, aerospace & defence, manufacturing, retail and service.

Name: Startup Fredericton

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Multiple

Website: <http://www.startupfredericton.ca/>

Description: Startup Fredericton is a grassroots startup movement which connects people and encourages their ideas turning into a business, part-time or full-time. It is one of the 15 pilot communities which is part of a Startup Canada Nation-Wide 2013 Startup Communities initiative.

8.5. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN NEWFOUNDLAND (NF)

Name: Genesis Centre

Industry sector: Technology (software)

Location: St. Johns

Website: <http://www.genesis.mun.ca/GenesisCentre/>

Description: It is a technology integration software company that focuses on environmental data collection, analysis and display. It offers custom software and global environmental surveillance services to resource-based industries by combining environmental sensor technology, remote satellite communication, and advanced environmental management software.

Name: The Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Technology Industries (NATI)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: St. Johns

Website: <http://www.nati.net/>

Description: NATI provides leadership to the technology sector through policy development and advocacy activities. It works to connect key players in the industry through networking events and regular industry communications. It provides support for the development and growth of local technology companies in identification, engagement, and development of export opportunities.

Name: The Department of Innovation, Business and Rural Development

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Multiple

Website: <http://www.ibrd.gov.nl.ca/>

Description: The Department of Innovation, Business and Rural Development supports regional development and economic diversification. The lines of business are small and medium-sized enterprise development, industrial diversification, innovation, investment and economic intelligence. It has 23 offices throughout Newfoundland and Labrador.

8.6. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN NOVA SCOTIA (NS)

Name: Innovacorp

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Halifax

Website: <https://innovacorp.ca/>

Description: Innovacorp is Nova Scotia's early stage venture capital organization. Its target industries include information technology, clean technology and life sciences. It provides hands-on business advisory services, tailored to meet the needs of technology companies. It also gives entrepreneurs access to incubation facilities and an international network of expert advisors.

Name: Perennia

Industry sector: Agri-food processing

Location: Bible Hill

Website: <http://perennia.ca/>

Description: Perennia is an agri-food and bio-resource company. Its mission is to empower the industry by providing knowledge and advice to create value. It works with clients to address production issues on farm and help them create internationally recognized quality and food safety programs. Perennia's Innovation Centre supports the commercialization of primary agriculture and marine-based inputs into marketable, higher value products. The Centre offers services and space for both start-ups and established companies wanting to expand their current product line or needing specific process improvement consultation.

8.7. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN ONTARIO (ON)

Name: Accelerator Centre

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Waterloo

Website: <http://www.acceleratorcentre.com>

Description: The Accelerator Centre accelerates the creation and growth of sustainable new technology companies. It provides support services, including access to office facilities, coaching and mentoring, education, connections to capital, networking, talent recruitment, technology transfer assistance, and commercialization expertise to early-stage companies through its program.

Name: Bloom Centre for Sustainability

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Mississauga

Website: <http://bloomcentre.com/>

Description: The Centre designs and delivers programs for government agencies and associations. It provides support in the design, build and execution of projects, and assembles teams of in-house and external expertise. It has specialized technical expertise and analytical skills to provide 3rd party assessment, evaluation and performance validation of technologies, products and approaches.

Name: Brightspark Ventures

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://brightspark.com/>

Description: Brightspark works with entrepreneurs to build and grow successful companies. It works with entrepreneurs during the initial investment phase to complete all due diligence and investment analysis. It works closely with the angel community, venture capital firms and institutional investors to structure syndicated investments.

Name: Centre for Commercialization of Research (CCR)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://www.oce-ontario.org/>

Description: The Centre helps in building the Canada-wide commercialization network crucial to supporting the innovation necessary for economic growth. CCR worked with early-stage entrepreneurs and innovative enterprises to help these emerging businesses grow to the point where they could attract private investment, and ultimately become sustainable, global competitors. It offers assistance and advice on management, marketing, technology (intellectual property) strategy, product development and financing.

Name: Communitech

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Multiple (Waterloo, Kitchener)

Website: <http://www.communitech.ca/>

Description: Communitech is Waterloo Region's hub for the commercialization of innovative technologies. It supports tech companies at all stages of their growth and development from start-ups to growing mid-size companies. It provides access to coaching and mentoring, talent, capital, professional development opportunities, connections to create greater numbers of successful global businesses for Ontario and Canada.

Name: Communications Research Innovation Centre (CRC)

Industry sector: ICT

Location: Ottawa

Website: <http://www.crc.ca/en/html/crc/home/home>

Description: CRC helps small and medium-sized high-tech companies. CRC generates results for clients through its nine research teams specialized in wireless technologies, networks and systems, and applications and performance.

Name: Crupi Consulting

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Thunder Bay

Website: <http://www.crupi.biz/augesco>

Description: Crupi Consulting Group offers technical and professional expertise and resources to fulfill the requirements of every step of the project continuum to its clients. It is specialized in business development, management services, economic analysis and development, community planning and marketing services. It works with clients in the private, public and First Nation sectors on a wide variety of projects.

Name: Exploriem.org

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Ottawa

Website: <http://www.exploriem.org/>

Description: It is a not-for-profit organization for entrepreneurs by entrepreneurs. It has a seasoned team of entrepreneurs from various industries that provide mentorship and training to young and growing companies. It provides the support and guidance to help entrepreneurs achieve their highest potential.

Name: Extreme Startups

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://www.extremestartups.com/>

Description: Extreme Startups is an accelerator that optimizes product-market fit and graduates fundable companies. Its programs provide a combination of seed capital (up to \$250K), digital product leadership education and access to a global pool of mentors.

Name: Extreme Venture Partners

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://extremevp.com/extreme-university-2011/>

Description: Extreme Venture Partners provides early stage venture capital to companies that can effect change, can impact a market or change the way people go about their lives.

Name: Flow Ventures

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://flowventures.com/>

Description: Flow Ventures works with high-growth tech ventures for start-up or growing and scaling operations. It works with people who have started, operated and invested in countless companies. The vast international network of people can help their business.

Name: GreenCentre Canada

Industry sector: Technology (Environmental)

Location: Kingston

Website: <http://www.greencentrecanada.com/>

Description: GreenCentre develops technologies to enhance quality of life through technical and commercialization activities. It is comprised of experienced chemists, commercial experts, and business professionals who work closely with network of entrepreneurs, industry leaders, investors, and researchers.

Name: Hamilton Technology Centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Hamilton

Website: <http://www.investinhamilton.ca/small-business/hamilton-technology-centre/>

Description: The Hamilton Technology Centre is a 40,000 square foot facility which facilitates economic diversification to Hamilton and the surrounding area.

Name: Haliburton Creative Business Incubator

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Haliburton

Website: <http://www.haliburtoncdc.ca/incubator/about-our-incubator.html>

Description:

The Creative Business Incubator program attracts new creative businesses to the community of Haliburton. It creates opportunities for the private, not-for profit and public sectors and encourages collaboration in building a diverse creative economy.

Name: IDEAHUB

Industry sector: Technology (cleantech)

Location: Port Hope

Website: <https://www.myideahub.ca/about-us>

Description: IDEAHUB is a full-service business incubator for new and emerging entrepreneurial companies. The incubator offers member companies flexible office space, lower

start-up costs, support tools, resources and guidance to strengthen their business success and graduation into the community. IDEAHUB is a collaboration of private and public partners led by the Municipality of Port Hope for the success and growth of new and emerging cleantech companies.

Name: INcubes partners

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://incubes.ca/>

Description: INcubes partners provides network, connections, funding and mentorship for active startups. INcubes holds a truly international network which has attracted mentors and investors across many countries including the US, Israel, UK, France, China, Latin America and more.

Name: Invest Ottawa

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Ottawa

Website: <http://investottawa.ca/>

Description:

Invest Ottawa delivers collaborative economic development programs and initiatives that increase entrepreneurial momentum, wealth and jobs in the City of Ottawa and its surrounding region. It carries out economic development programs and initiatives in the areas of entrepreneurial mentorship, startup development, business incubation services, commercialization, targeted sector development, investment attraction, business retention, expansion, and global trade development.

Name: Innovate Niagara

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: St Catharines

Website: <https://innovateniagara.com/>

Description: Innovate Niagara helps entrepreneurs in high-growth industries to start, grow and succeed. Innovate Niagara provides a single access point to match clients with services to suit their needs through a suite of in-house programs, resource partners and network of incubation facilities.

Name: JOLT

Industry sector: ICT

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://jolt.marsdd.com/>

Description: JOLT designs and delivers a platform of tools, resources and interactive experiences to help bring innovative products to life and build truly revolutionary companies.

Name: Lead To Win

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Ottawa

Website: <http://www.leadtowin.ca/>

Description: Lead To Win is a business development program with the objective to establish and grow businesses in Canada's National Capital Region. Initially, the program was designed to develop technology based business, but over time the program has grown to also encompass all growth-oriented businesses.

Name: Mantella Venture Partners

Industry sector: ICT

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://mantellavp.com/>

Description: Mantella Venture Partners is a venture capital partnership formed to invest in entrepreneurs, building market-altering mobile and Internet software businesses. It invests up to \$500,000 at inception, with the ability to support subsequent rounds as required. It invests alone, or alongside other value-added venture and angel investors to build successful companies. The companies benefit from active, hands-on involvement in all phases of growth, including business development, marketing, financing, and team development.

Name: MaRS Centre

Industry sector: Science and Technology

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://www.marsdd.com>

Description: MaRS helps science, technology and social entrepreneurs with its lab facilities and offices. It helps Investors, researchers and community developers.

Name: The McMaster Biosciences Incubation Centre (MBIC)

Industry sector: Technology (Bio- sciences)

Location: Hamilton

Website: <https://www.mcmaster.ca/research/mbic.htm>

Description: The MBIC offers entrepreneurial researchers and start-up companies in the life sciences sector with resources to develop commercially successful products and services. These resources include: laboratories, scientific equipment and research resources, as well as business mentoring and support services. MBIC offers shared administrative facilities and office equipment, executive meeting space, business advice and referral services, networking opportunities, programs for off-site clients and more.

Name: McMaster Innovation Park

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Hamilton

Website: <http://mcmasterinnovationpark.ca/>

Description: McMaster Innovation Park has 180,000 square-foot laboratory and conference facility. It offers collaborative space for researchers and entrepreneurs alike to co-locate, connect and commercialize; a place to transform ideas from vision to commercial opportunity.

Name: Northern Ontario Centre for Advanced Technology (NORCAT)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Sudbury

Website: <http://www.norcat.org>

Description: The NORCAT Centre provides incubator space to entrepreneurs to work alongside other like-minded entrepreneurs to share ideas, enhance networks, and discuss challenges and opportunities. It offers short-term or long-term tenancy with a co-location incubator offering desks, lab / shop facilities, phones, meeting rooms, and lounges. NORCAT has assembled a mix of brand-name tenants and organizations that are all thematically aligned to the innovation, commercialization, and entrepreneurship supply chain.

Name: Northwestern Ontario Innovation Centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location:

Website: <http://www.nwoinnovation.ca/>

Description: The Innovation Centre offers support to innovative entrepreneurs, businesses, and community projects in the region of Northwestern Ontario. The Centre seeks out new approaches to improve, enhance and invigorate a commercialization system in the region.

Name: McMaster Innovation Park

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Hamilton

Website: <http://mcmasterinnovationpark.ca/>

Description: McMaster Innovation Park has 180,000 square-foot laboratory and conference facility. It offers collaborative space for researchers and entrepreneurs alike to co-locate, connect and commercialize; a place to transform ideas from vision to commercial opportunity.

Name: Sarnia-Lambton Business Development Center

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Sarina

Website: <http://www.slbdc.com>

Description:

Sarnia-Lambton Business Development Corporation provides business counselling and financing to entrepreneurs and assists them with various community based economic development projects in Lambton County. It helps small businesses within the areas of development, finance opportunities, grants/loans, proposals, business plans, starting a business, consulting, etc.

Name: Sault Ste Marie Innovation Centre (SSMIC)

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Sault Ste Marie

Website: <http://www.ssmic.com/>

Description: The SSMIC works as a catalyst for economic development and diversification in the information technology and knowledge-based sectors. It facilitates research and commercializes innovation in globally significant areas of science and technology through partnerships, expert advice, community development, business incubation, youth outreach and sector development activities.

Name: Small Business Advisory Centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Smith's Falls/Lanark County

Website: <http://www.inlec.ca/>

Description: The Small Business Advisory Centre is an initiative of the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Employment, in partnership with the Town of Smiths Falls. It helps entrepreneurs around the area are to use the centre or as they are planning to open or have an existing business in Ontario.

Name: Springboard Innovation

Industry sector: Environmental

Location: Barrie

Website: <http://www.springboardinnovation.com/>

Description: Springboard Innovation focuses on innovative business ideas that can have an impact on environmental benefit. It also connects skilled professionals in academia and industry to create new collaborations.

Name: Springboard Enterprises (VC accelerator for women in business)

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Multiple

Website: <https://sb.co/>

Description: Springboard Enterprise is a network of innovators, investors and influencers who are dedicated to building high-growth technology-oriented companies led by women. It educates, sources, coaches, showcases and supports high growth companies seeking equity capital for expansion. Programs include forums and educational programs to help support women in networking and securing VC funding for their businesses.

Name: StartUp Garage

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Ottawa

Website: <http://www.startupgarage.ca/>

Description: The Startup Garage supports student entrepreneurship in the Ottawa area. The program offers student-lead ventures the opportunity to accelerate their business by working full time over the course of three months during the summer. It provides each participant company with three essential ingredients: cash, space, mentorship and support.

Name: The Canadian Innovation Centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location:

Website: <http://innovationcentre.ca/>

Description: The Canadian Innovation Centre (CIC) is a national, not-for-profit organization that helps innovators, inventors and entrepreneurs transform their ideas into market successes. The CIC designs programs to foster the development of innovative new businesses and increased innovation in existing businesses. It offers clients the opportunity to leverage an established network of associations and individuals to search for and connect with potential partners, vendors and customers.

Name: The Centre for Imaging Technology Commercialization (CIMTEC)

Industry sector: Medical technologies

Location: Toronto and London

Website: <http://www.cimteccanada.ca/>

Description: The CIMTEC provides technology development and business development services with expertise focused in medical imaging to help researchers, start-ups and small and medium-sized companies bring their imaging innovations to the marketplace.

Name: The Centre for Social Innovation

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://socialinnovation.ca/>

Description: The Centre for Social Innovation is a social enterprise in Toronto and around the world. It provides co-working space, community, and Launchpad for people who are changing the world. It provides members with the tools they need to accelerate their success and amplify their impact.

Name: TheCodeFactory

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Ottawa

Website: <http://www.thecodefactory.ca/>

Description: TheCodeFactory offers a wide choice of accommodating workspace options from desks, to shared and private offices, meeting spaces and a virtual office alternative. It provides a supportive environment where like-minded individuals and businesses can focus on their work.

Name: The Digital Media Zone (DMZ)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://digitalmediazone.ryerson.ca/>

Description: DMZ at Ryerson University is a business incubator and multi-disciplinary co-working space for entrepreneurs. It provides support to both startups and industry solution-providers. It creates a unique ecosystem of education and entrepreneurship. Emerging leaders can fast-track their product launches and grow their companies in this supportive community by connecting with mentors, customers and each other. The Digital Media Zone has a collaborative culture strategically designed to propel learning and generate success.

Name: The Downtown Windsor Business Accelerator

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Windsor

Website: <http://downtownaccelerator.com/>

Description: The Downtown Windsor Business Accelerator is a not-for-profit business incubator provides space, tools and resources to small businesses.

Name: The Innovation Centre for Entrepreneurs (ICE)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: St. Thomas

Website: <http://www.iceinnovation.ca/>

Description: ICE is St. Thomas and Elgin County's mixed-use business incubator. It delivers essential services and opportunities to entrepreneurs in a variety of industries. Typical ICE clients include small business entrepreneurs in trades, bio-tech industries, agricultural businesses, culinary arts and electronics.

Name: The Mobile Experience Innovation Centre

Industry sector: Communications and wireless technology

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://research.ocadu.ca/meic/home>

Description: The Centre supports design leadership, experience innovation and applied research in Canada's mobile and wireless industries. MEIC offers a membership program to serve clients and partners alike. It focuses on supporting start-ups and early-stage entrepreneurs, research commercialization, and national and international advocacy on behalf of Canadian companies.

Name: The Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://www.oce-ontario.org/>

Description: It is a not-for-profit program which helps create new jobs, products, services, technologies and businesses. In partnership with industry, OCE co-invests to commercialize innovation originating in the province's publicly funded colleges, universities and research hospitals. OCE supports in energy and environment (including water); advanced manufacturing; advanced health technologies; and information, communications technologies and digital media for Ontario's future prosperity and global competitiveness.

Name: The Research, Innovation, Commercialization (RIC) Centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Mississauga

Website: <http://riccentre.ca/>

Description: RIC Centre provides commercialization support to help new entrepreneurs and seasoned business people take technical innovations to market. RIC Centre offers a comprehensive range of supporting activities for entrepreneurs including practical training and networking events.

Name: The Stiller Centre for Technology Commercialization

Industry sector: Science and technology

Location: London

Website: http://westernresearchparks.ca/facilities/stiller_centre/index.html

Description: The Centre is designed for start-up technology-based companies with a primary focus on commercializing 'wet-science' based ventures. Stiller offers specialized facilities, including wet and dry lab space, flexible leasing arrangements, and a wide variety of shared services that combine to lower the start-up hurdles for small technology-based ventures.

Name: The Venture Centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Timmins

Website: <http://www.venturecentre.on.ca/>

Description: The Venture Centre is a community economic development initiative designed to help find local solutions for local economies. It provides business counselling, services and resources to community projects and small businesses.

Name: Toronto Business Development Centre (TBDC)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://www.tbdc.com>

Description: TBDC provides help in all phases of business creation and growth through business incubation, business seminars and some programs including, Ontario Self-Employment Benefit , Ontario Works Self-Employment Development , BIZ Futures and Summer Company.

Name: Toronto Food Business Incubator

Industry sector: Food processing

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://www.tfbi.ca/>

Description: The Toronto Food Business Incubator assists entrepreneurs in establishing and growing food processing companies. It assists new and emerging food processing business with the goal of supporting entrepreneurship and job creation in the food manufacturing industry. The incubator encourages clients to select a variety of small business to be viable and meet the varied needs of the community, including technology, service, manufacturing, empowerment, specialized and mixed uses, etc.

Name: Toronto Fashion Incubator

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Toronto

Website: <http://www.fashionincubator.com/>

Description: The Toronto Fashion Incubator supports small business entrepreneurs. It helps creative entrepreneurs to develop the business and professional skills they need. Creative entrepreneurs can learn about marketing, sales, business planning, exporting and cash flow through strategic programs, private consultations with experienced mentors and educational seminars. It also offers shared work space, in-house design studios, exclusive promotional and sales opportunities, valuable sales and marketing resources and leads, and volunteer/ internship programs.

Name: Velocity Garage

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Kitchener

Website: <http://velocity.uwaterloo.ca/garage/>

Description: The Velocity Garage provides free space and mentoring to University of Waterloo students who are unable to afford space and want to start their own companies. It encourages a

grassroots community that helps each other. Startups meet regularly with the Velocity team to provide an update on the current state of their business.

Name: Wesley Clover

Industry sector: Technology (mobile applications)

Location: Ottawa

Website: <http://www.wesleyclover.com/>

Description: Wesley Clover focuses on Cloud and Mobile applications and services. Wesley Clover creates career and business opportunities for selected college and university graduates as well as experienced professionals.

Name: Western Research Parks

Industry sector: Science and Technology

Location: London

Website: http://westernresearchparks.ca/about_us/index.html

Description: Western Research Parks served as a link between academics and commerce, and is a contributor to the movement of an idea or a discovery from concept to the marketplace. The park has over 200,000 square feet of office space, lab space and industrial grade space.

8.8. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND (PEI)

Name: Atlantic Technology Centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use (Technology)

Location: Charlottetown

Website: <http://www.atlantictechologycentre.com/>

Description: The Centre provides educational and corporate training programs to applied research and development operations. It is equipped with the latest conveniences and technology necessary for full connectivity and prosperous businesses. The facility provides an ideal setting for growing IT and Media companies to expand their businesses, foster new partnerships, and exist in an atmosphere that promotes and sustains business achievement.

Name: BIOFOODTECH

Industry sector: Food processing

Location: Charlottetown

Website: <http://www.biofoodtech.ca/>

Description: It provides services to companies and entrepreneurs in both the food and bioprocessing sectors. The professional team is made up of food and bioprocessing scientists, microbiologists, technologists and support staff.

Name: Innovation PEI

Industry sector: Mixed-use (technology)

Location: Charlottetown

Website: <http://www.techpei.com/index.php3?number=76717>

Description: Innovation PEI is focused on accelerating economic development in Prince Edward Island by investing in people, innovation, and infrastructure. It targets key sectors including aerospace, bioscience (including agriculture and fisheries), information technology, financial services and renewable energy to drive economy of the province. It helps businesses create sustainable employment opportunities.

Name: PEI BioAlliance

Industry sector: Biosciences

Location: Charlottetown

Website: <http://www.peibioalliance.com/index.php>

Description: The PEI BioAlliance is a cluster of academic research institutes and government partners dedicated to building the bioscience industry with an emphasis on collaborative initiatives in research, business, education, and supporting infrastructure. It is a resource for start-up companies and local programs and services.

Name: The Holman Centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Summerside

Website: <http://holmancentre.com/#>

Description: The Holman Centre has 100,000 square feet of open space, ranging from 1,000 to 30,000 square feet, are configured for each business and aligned in clusters to foster collaborative and creative energy.

8.9. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN QUÉBEC (QC)

Name: Bolidea

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.bolidea.com/>

Description: Bolidea helps and mentors entrepreneurs that wished to create a startup.

Name: Centech

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.etsmtl.ca/services/Centech/accueil>

Description: Centech helps students and graduates to launch technology companies. More than 60 active companies from all over Québec have benefited from these services, including more than 30 start-up companies housed within Centech's premises.

Name: Centre de développement d'entreprises technologiques (CDET)

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Gatineau

Website: <http://www.cdet.ca/>

Description: It has a network of experts which provides expertise wherever required (Canada, USA, and Europe). In addition to experts, it uses the services of experienced professionals (lawyers, accountants, tax experts industrial) that shed light on additional dimensions to the business.

Name: Centre d'entreprises et d'innovation de Montréal

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.ceim.org/index.aspx?Lang=EN-CA>

Description: The centre offers customized management support and related services for the start-up of companies in information technology, new media and clean and industrial technologies and life sciences.

Name: Centre de productique intégrée du Québec

Industry sector: Manufacturing

Location: Sherbrooke

Website: <http://www.productique.qc.ca/en/>

Description: The Centre de productique intégrée du Québec (CPIQ) provides services to manufacturing companies. It offers technical support adapted to company needs and in implementing their manufacturing technologies.

Name: Centre de Recherche en Informatique de Montréal (CRIM)

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.crim.ca/en/>

Description: CRIM is an IT applied research centre that develops innovative technologies and know-how in collaboration with its clients and partners. CRIM transfers these technologies to

Québec's leading businesses and organizations, helping to increase their productivity and competitiveness, both locally and globally.

Name: Drummondville Economic Development Authority

Industry sector: Manufacturing

Location: Drummondville

Website: <http://www.sded-drummond.qc.ca/index2.asp?langue=2>

Description: The Drummondville Economic Development aims to promote economic development in Drummondville. It covers all aspects of economic development- industry, tourism, young business developers, social economic businesses, rural environment development, commercial development, etc. and has become a driving force of the economy. The Drummondville office serves three warehouses.

Name: Entrepreneuriat Laval Inc

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Laval

Website: <http://www.el.ulaval.ca>

Description: Entrepreneuriat Laval helps to start new companies and projects while providing support services to entrepreneurs.

Name: FounderFuel

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://founderfuel.com/en/>

Description: FounderFuel is an intensive 12-week mentor-driven startup accelerator that helps early stage web, mobile and SaaS startups raise seed capital. It provides seed funding and access to a network of investors (VCs and Angels), experienced entrepreneurs, and top executives to accelerate the success of businesses.

Name: Inno-centre

Industry sector: Mixed-use (technology)

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.inno-centre.com>

Description: Inno-centre supports advanced technology entrepreneurs. It supports a new company in making business plans, financing, business engineering, marketing studies and strategies.

Name: Innovation Maritime

Industry sector: Marine technology

Location: Rimouski

Website: <http://www.imar.ca/en/>

Description: Innovation Maritime is a technology transfer and an applied research center. It provides R&D services, technical support, SME development support, and technology watch services to companies and organizations involved in the marine industry. Innovation Maritime's projects are organized around five main research areas: marine safety and security, port management and marine transport, underwater and hyperbaric interventions, electronic navigation and, environmental technologies related to marine transport.

Name: J.-Armand-Bombardier Incubator

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.polymtl.ca/incubateur/en/>

Description: The J.-Armand-Bombardier Incubator supports the pre-start-up of technology-based businesses. It also contributes to the implementation of projects for high value-added businesses. The J.-Armand-Bombardier Incubator aims at positioning itself as a player in the development and enhancement of technologies produced by our institutions.

Name: MONETS

Industry sector: Technology and innovations

Location: Beaconsfield

Website: <http://www.monets.ca/>

Description: MONETS assists companies to access the appropriate growth partner at various stages of a company's life cycle. It focuses on clean tech, industrial innovations, cleanweb and financial software applications, as well as exploration and mining technology.

Name: NanoQuébec

Industry sector: Nanotechnology

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.nanoquebec.ca/en/>

Description: NanoQuébec strengthens nanotechnology innovation with the aim of maximizing economic impacts in Quebec. It supports and manages the Quebec Nanotechnology Infrastructure in the province. It also promotes Quebec's know-how and competencies to industry and the international community.

Name: Quebec Biotechnology Innovation Centre CQIB

Industry sector: Healthcare

Location: Laval

Website: <http://www.cqib.org/home.html>

Description: The Centre is a business incubator specializing in life sciences and health technology start-ups. It receives support from many public and private partners. Business incubation is an intensive mentoring process for entrepreneurs in the first few years of creating and starting a business.

Name: SOVAR

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Quebec City

Website: <http://www.sovar.com/en>

Description: SOVAR responds to the needs of businesses in search of innovation. Its team of seasoned experts works in close collaboration with researchers helping them through the complex process that transforms innovative concepts into concrete and marketable applications. At the same time, it develops partnerships with key players in the innovation system of both Quebec and Canada as well as with potential investors.

Name: Technoparc Bromont

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Bromont

Website: <http://www.technoparcbromont.com/en/>

Description: Technoparc focuses on microelectronic, nanotechnology, mems, renewable energies, and new materials.

Name: TransBIOtec

Industry sector: Biotechnology

Location: Lévis

Website: <http://www.tbt.qc.ca/en/>

Description: TransBIOTech is a center for research and transfer of biotechnology for companies working in life sciences and biotechnology. The center provides services primarily for research but also technical assistance services to small and medium-size enterprises. The activities of TransBIOTech primarily involve the development of proof of concept and innovation projects aimed at improving health in functional food, nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals (drugs), cosmetics and cosmeceuticals and natural health products.

Name: TechBA

Industry sector: Technology

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://techba.org/2014/en/>

Description: TechBA is a program with an objective to strengthen the entrepreneurial, technological, and innovative capacity of small and medium sized technology-based companies and to facilitate the process of internationalization through consulting services customized to companies' needs.

Name: Technoparc Montréal

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.technoparc.com/en/>

Description: Technoparc Montréal is a science park which was established in 1987. It offers research companies the latest and most innovative solutions and helps companies explore new business development opportunities.

Name: Technopole Maritime

Industry sector: Marine technology

Location: Rimouski

Website: <http://www.tmq.ca/index.php/en/>

Description: The Technopole Maritime network, commonly known as the “Marine Resource, Science and Technology Cluster”, is made up of stakeholders from the institutional, research, business and governmental sectors. The main objective is to accelerate the development of marine science, technology and biotechnology sectors in Quebec by ensuring its national and international exposure and to provide value-added services to its members and supporting for long-term priority projects.

Name: The Center of Excellence in Energy Efficiency (C3E)

Industry sector: Environmental

Location: Shawinigan

Website: <http://www.c3e.ca/en>

Description: The Center is a not-for-profit organization which was established to promote the commercialization and accessibility of technological innovations. Its main objective is to create economic growth in the energy-efficiency and renewable-energy sectors. C3E offers a unique funding tool suited to high-risk business ventures: an unsecured convertible debenture that can be paid back in various forms, including carbon-credit certificates. C3E's sources of funding and the various economic-development stakeholders provide a creative platform that leverages commercialization.

Name: Univalor

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.univalor.ca/en>

Description: Univalor is a university technology transfer organization which aims to optimize research outcomes by commercializing the technological innovations of researchers and professors from the Université de Montréal, Polytechnique Montréal and HEC Montréal, as well as affiliated health centres. These researchers work in the fields of pure and applied sciences, life sciences and human health, social sciences, animal health, engineering, information technology.

Name: Year One Labs

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Montreal

Website: <http://www.yearonelabs.com/>

Description: Year One Labs is a startup accelerator.

8.10. BUSINESS INCUBATORS IN SASKATCHEWAN (SK)

Name: Ideas Inc

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Saskatoon

Website: <http://www.saskatoonideas.com/>

Description: Ideas Inc. offers a variety of programs to meet the needs of entrepreneurs. Its one-on-one coaching approach gives entrepreneurs the targeted assistance they need. All of its programs incorporate incubation, networking, mentoring, coaching and direction on access to investment, as well as hands-on business guidance tailored to meet the unique and evolving needs of a company.

Name: Innovation Place

Industry sector: Science and technology

Location: Saskatoon

Website: <http://www.innovationplace.com/innovation-place.php>

Description: Innovation Place is a university-related science and technology park which is situated on 80 acres adjacent to the University of Saskatchewan, and builds on the institution's strengths in agriculture, information technology, and environmental and life sciences. Innovation Place is home to approximately 130 clients, employing over 3,300 people in 19 buildings across the park.

Name: SpringBoard West Innovations Inc.

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Saskatoon

Website: website is not functional (Location Address: 120-2 Research Dr. REGINA, Saskatchewan S4S 7H9, contact: (306) 789-0535)

Description: SpringBoard West Innovations Inc. helps companies accelerate the transformation of innovative ideas into commercial reality. It provides services for companies at every stage of their formation and development. Programs include Venture Runways, WheelsUP and other commercialization services including one-on-one counseling to assist entrepreneurs to build a business around a technology-based idea.

Name: Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan Inc.

Industry sector: Mixed-use

Location: Saskatoon

Website: <http://www.womenentrepreneurs.sk.ca/>

Description: Women Entrepreneurs of Saskatchewan Inc. is a non-profit membership organization which works with women who are considering starting a business, purchasing a business, or operating an existing business. The priority is to help women throughout Saskatchewan achieve their entrepreneurial goals. It offers programs and services including business advisory and support services, start-up and expansion lending, networking and mentoring opportunities, and business development seminars which focus on entrepreneurial skill development. The organization continues to help shape and create the economic climate and business community for women entrepreneurs in the province.

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