

**Vehicle Technology Centre Inc.  
Accepting Letters of Interest to its Clean Technology and Advanced Manufacturing Program**

*Winnipeg, June 29, 2022*

The Vehicle Technology Centre Inc. (VTC) is accepting letters of interest to its Clean Technology and Advanced Manufacturing Program (CTAM), designed to assist Manitoba manufacturers who are undertaking projects supporting heavy vehicle and equipment manufacturing in Manitoba.

The VTC is a non-profit organization that supports technological advancement within Manitoba's heavy vehicle manufacturing industry. The sector includes manufacturers of urban and intercity buses, fire trucks, motor homes, recreational vehicles, trailers, agricultural and mining equipment and related parts and components suppliers. Heavy vehicle manufacturing employs approximately 12% of Manitoba's manufacturing workforce and accounts for about \$1.5 billion in annual exports.

Through its CTAM Program, the VTC supports joint clean technology and advanced manufacturing projects by original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) or Tier 1 suppliers (lead firm) working with partner companies who co develop or co integrate clean technologies or undertake advanced manufacturing initiatives. The goal is that the partner company is a true partner in developing or integrating the technology and transferring knowledge to the lead firm, not merely a distributor or supplier of technology. More information on the program is available at the VTC website ([www.vtci.ca](http://www.vtci.ca)).

Application to the CTAM program is in two stages:

1. submission of a letter of interest
2. projects whose letters of interest are approved in principle will be invited to submit additional information to complete a full project proposal.

Currently, the VTC is accepting Letters of Interest from eligible companies. Letters of interest should be a maximum of 3 pages, and should include:

- a brief description of the project, the technological advancement being explored and the project's technological impact to the participating firms and how it advances clean technology and/or advanced manufacturing in heavy equipment and vehicles.
- the project team: lead firm and partner company(ies), brief company backgrounds, contact information
- An explanation of how the project will enable the lead firm to use the technology developed to further their path towards zero emission or advanced manufacturing technologies.
- a preliminary schedule and budget including all potential sources of funding to support the project.
- an estimate of the anticipated economic impact of the project.

Projects approved in principle will be invited to provide, within six weeks of approval, additional detail to complete a full project proposal leading to a contribution agreement. This will include a detailed budget, a comprehensive statement of work identifying tasks and timelines, and a list of project personnel.

### **1. Program criteria**

Eligible projects should explore technological solutions in the path to clean technology or advanced manufacturing for heavy vehicles and equipment in the following areas:

- new product designs - with emphasis on emissions reduction, clean technologies, vehicle light-weighting, or smart systems
- advanced manufacturing processes - with emphasis on design, modeling & simulation and interconnectivity of equipment or processes.

Projects must demonstrate a reasonable and manageable level of technical risk or uncertainty.

Eligible applicants will be Manitoba-based manufacturers within the heavy vehicle and equipment manufacturing industry with sufficient resources to undertake the proposed project and commercialize the result. Eligible projects will partner at least two companies, or a company and academic institution, where at least one of the partners is an OEM or a tier-one supplier to the sector. While non-Manitoba partner firms are welcomed, they are not eligible for direct program support from the VTC.

For approved projects, the CTAM program may contribute up to 25% of eligible and approved costs, up to a maximum limit, which will be determined based on available funds. Project costs eligible for support include:

- project direct labour and benefits
- project-specific materials
- project-specific overhead
- sub-contracts and consultant costs to non-team members
- specialized project equipment

Notes:

- costs arising from business loss projections are not eligible for support.
- projects in a range of sizes will be considered. The CTAM program will consider projects with budgets of a minimum of \$30,000. While there is no maximum project size, the maximum support from the CTAM program will be subject to availability of funds.
- Letters of interest should estimate the project's anticipated economic impact (e.g. increase in sales and/or exports, import replacement, job creation, new manufacturing investment, operational cost savings, etc.)
- Approved projects will be required to submit periodic progress reports during the project (when submitting claims for reimbursement) and a final report on completion, as well as follow-on reports with respect to economic impact. Approved projects must be completed, and expenses paid by February 28, 2024. Phased projects may be considered, however the phase undertaken must be complete by the above date.
- The lead firm must present their development to our industry cluster at the conclusion of the project to release the last 20% of the VTC support.

## 2. Submission deadline

**Deadline for submission of letters of interest is 4:30 pm, August 31, 2022.** Projects approved in principle will be notified in late September.

NOTE: Submission of a letter of interest does not guarantee nor imply approval or support of a project. Only projects approved in principle will be invited to submit full proposals. **Final project approval and support is subject to availability of CTAM funds.**

All letters of interest, project proposals and other information received from applicants will be kept confidential by VTC.

## 3. Transmittal instructions

Letters of interest may be sent to:

Vehicle Technology Centre Inc.

Attn: Ron Vanderwees

1050 – 259 Portage Avenue

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3B 3P4

or emailed to:

[info@vtci.ca](mailto:info@vtci.ca)

(Emailed submissions should have the words "CTAM Letter of Interest" in the subject line.)

For questions or additional information, please visit the VTC website [www.vtci.ca](http://www.vtci.ca) or call 204-362-1678.