



## Driving Autonomy: Canadian Automated Vehicles Institute Launched

Ottawa, ON  
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With automated vehicles appearing on test tracks, farmers fields and city streets from coast to coast, the stakeholders need a platform to be seen and heard. The Canadian Automated Vehicles Institute (CAVI) - Institut canadien du VA (ICVA), will be just that. CAVI will be a new Canadian national institute to help develop and implement national strategies in the automated vehicles (AV) and connected vehicles (CV) ecosystem.

CAVI will be an industry-led not-for-profit association open to all public and private sector organizations involved in any way with the AV/CV ecosystem. The formal launch is planned for early 2019.

In Canada and around the world, AVs and CVs will change individual lives, our cities, infrastructure, businesses, government and society. There are existing, successful AV institutes that provide a national strategy and focus in various countries including Australia, France, Holland and the UK. However, Canada does not have a similar institute and thus is falling behind. CAVI will meet this need and will learn from and incorporate the best practices from each of these other countries.

To date, many Canadian companies are already successful in addressing global business opportunities, and some sectors of the Canadian economy are actively planning for the AV era. Canada can and should be doing so much more in the AV/CV space.

In 2015, the Conference Board of Canada, CAVCOE and the Van Horne Institute published a paper *Automated Vehicles – The Coming of the Next Disruptive Technology*. The paper estimated that AVs, when fully deployed, could save up to 1,600 lives a year by reducing car crashes and save Canada up to \$65 billion/year.

CAVI is pleased to announce six Founding Partners: Alberta Council of Technologies (ABCtech), CAVCOE (formerly the Canadian Automated Vehicles Centre of Excellence), DOT Technology, Kanata North Business Association, Invest Ottawa, and movmi.

To help Canada do more and do better in the AV/CV space, CAVI has five key objectives:

- To accelerate the safe and successful introduction of AVs in Canada;
- To help move Canada from #7 in the KPMG ranking that measures the AV preparedness of 20 countries to the top 3;
- To become the trusted source for educating the public, businesses and all levels of government about the opportunities and challenges associated with fleets of automated, connected, electric and shared (FACES) vehicles;
- To help Canadian governments and industry prepare for the socio-economic impacts of widespread AV/CV deployment; and
- To develop a Canadian AV/CV brand and promote our AV/CV capability at a national and international level.

To achieve the above objectives, CAVI will:

- Provide a national focus on Canadian AV/CV activities tying together the many excellent activities already being worked on;
- Develop a brand for Canadian AV/CV capability and promote it nationally and internationally;
- Identify gaps in the work that is being conducted by corporations, industry associations and all levels of government. CAVI will focus on activities and projects that complement the work of existing stakeholders and associations. However, CAVI will not conduct technology-related research and development.
- Educate companies, government departments and the general public to raise awareness, encourage community acceptance, and promote understanding of the socio-economic benefits of FACES vehicles;
- Provide inputs to the policy frameworks at all levels of government;
- Conduct independent research into business models and related topics to assist CAVI's partners better understand the opportunities and challenges;
- Develop and share expert thought leadership papers;
- Provide opportunity for companies and researchers to collaborate in national and international projects;
- Develop and maintain a strategic vision and brand for AV/CV Testbed Canada;
- Provide networking opportunities with research, academic, industry and government experts who share a passion and commitment to lead the safe and successful introduction of driverless vehicles onto our roads, farms and industrial sites;
- Develop relationships with the worldwide AV/CV community;
- Organize annual conferences (one in 2019 and probably more in 2020 and beyond); and

- Prepare Canada for the socio-economic impacts of widespread AV deployment.

CAVI will be perfectly placed to provide networking and be a focal point of contact for community, industry, government and media to access expert opinion across the extensive partnership, knowledge and research base.

For information about CAVI or becoming a CAVI partner, please contact Barrie Kirk.

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