INTERACTIVE VISITS AND STRATEGIC INTERACTIONS WITH TACS

20hrs & 55hrs collaboration



Interactive Visits provide eligible companies with 20 hours of collaboration with a TAC to solve an innovation challenge. Strategic Interactions provide 55hr collaborations involving 2 TACs, or a TAC and a college research centre, to solve more complex problems.

Examples:

- Evaluating technical/economic feasibility of new products, processes, or services.
- Short-term R&D assistance & prototype development.
- Providing access to cutting edge technology a company doesn't have in-house.
- Providing objective scientific, technical and business advice.

WHAT IS A TAC?

A Technology Access Centre (TAC) is a nationally recognized innovation centre connected to a public college or cégep. There are 60 TACs across Canada supporting all sectors and regions.

- TACs provide you with access to their specialized facilities, equipment, and multi-disciplinary expertise to solve your business innovation challenges.
- TACs help you get your innovation to market or help you adopt new technologies to become more innovative and productive.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

The Interactive Visit and Strategic Interaction program is open only to incorporated Canadian for-profit firms with under 500 employees and the potential to grow through innovation, referred by the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP).

S HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Participating companies must pay an access fee:

- \$250 to "unlock" the 20 hours of the Interactive Visit directly to the TAC or Tech-Access Canada.
- \$500 to "unlock" the 55 hours of the Strategic Interaction directly to the lead TAC or Tech-Access Canada.

We strongly encourage and welcome the participation of companies owned by members of traditionally underrepresented groups (women, Indigenous persons, members of visible minorities, and persons with disabilities).

O HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

- Requests are assessed immediately and the TAC will develop a work plan within a week.
- Once authorized, most Interactive Visits and Strategic Interactions are completed within one month and last no more than three months.

WHERE DO THEY TAKE PLACE?

- Interactive Visits and Strategic Interactions can take place at your facilities, or at the TAC, or a combination of the two.
- We can connect you to the unique expertise of a TAC in any part of the country to solve your challenge.



WHICH TAC CAN HELP ME?

- Visit TACJumpBall.ca and explain the help you're looking for.
- We'll find and connect the TACs that are ready, willing and able to assist you!





















The TACs' industry-friendly Intellectual Property policies put the IP in the hands of industry to commercially exploit, no strings attached, allowing companies to stay nimble.

TACs focus their service offerings on the mid-to-late stage TRLs, helping companies over the "valley of death" of commercialization.



INTERACTIVE VISIT AND STRATEGIC INTERACTION PROCESS



© COMPANY ELIGIBILITY:

- Incorporated and operating in Canada.
- <500 employees.
- Demonstrated intent to grow and generate profits through innovation.
- Meets NRC IRAP eligibility criteria.

Sorry, this program is only for companies referred by the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP).

B TO GET STARTED:

IRAP clients: contact your Industrial Technology Advisor (ITA) or Client Engagement Advisor (CEA) to discuss your innovation challenge

- If you are not working with NRC IRAP, contact the TAC you want to work with to learn about other ways to collaborate with TACs.
- If you are not working with NRC IRAP, please visit
 https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation to learn how NRC IRAP can help your business.
- If you don't know which TAC you want to work with, visit
 TACJumpball.ca to describe your challenge. We'll connect you with one or more TACs willing and able to assist.

NEXT STEPS:

Firms referred by NRC IRAP can go to **InteractiveVisits.ca** and fill out the online form to request an Interactive Visit or Strategic Interaction! We'll ask about your company, your innovation challenge, your timelines, and the correct point of contact.

- We'll assign the Interactive Visit or Strategic Interaction request to a TAC or TAC leader.
- The TAC will be in touch to discuss a project plan.
- You pay \$250 to "unlock" the 20 hours or \$500 for the 55 hours of innovation support service.
- The TAC completes the project within 90 days of client approval of the Statement of work and receipt of the upfront fee payment.

Based in Ottawa since 2016, Tech-Access Canada is a member-driven not-for-profit organization. We are the voice of Canada's TACs and we administer the Interactive Visits and JumpBall programs. We also facilitate sharing best practices between members, harmonization of service standards, and promote college applied research to external audiences.

You can learn more about us and our member TACs at MeetTheTACs.ca