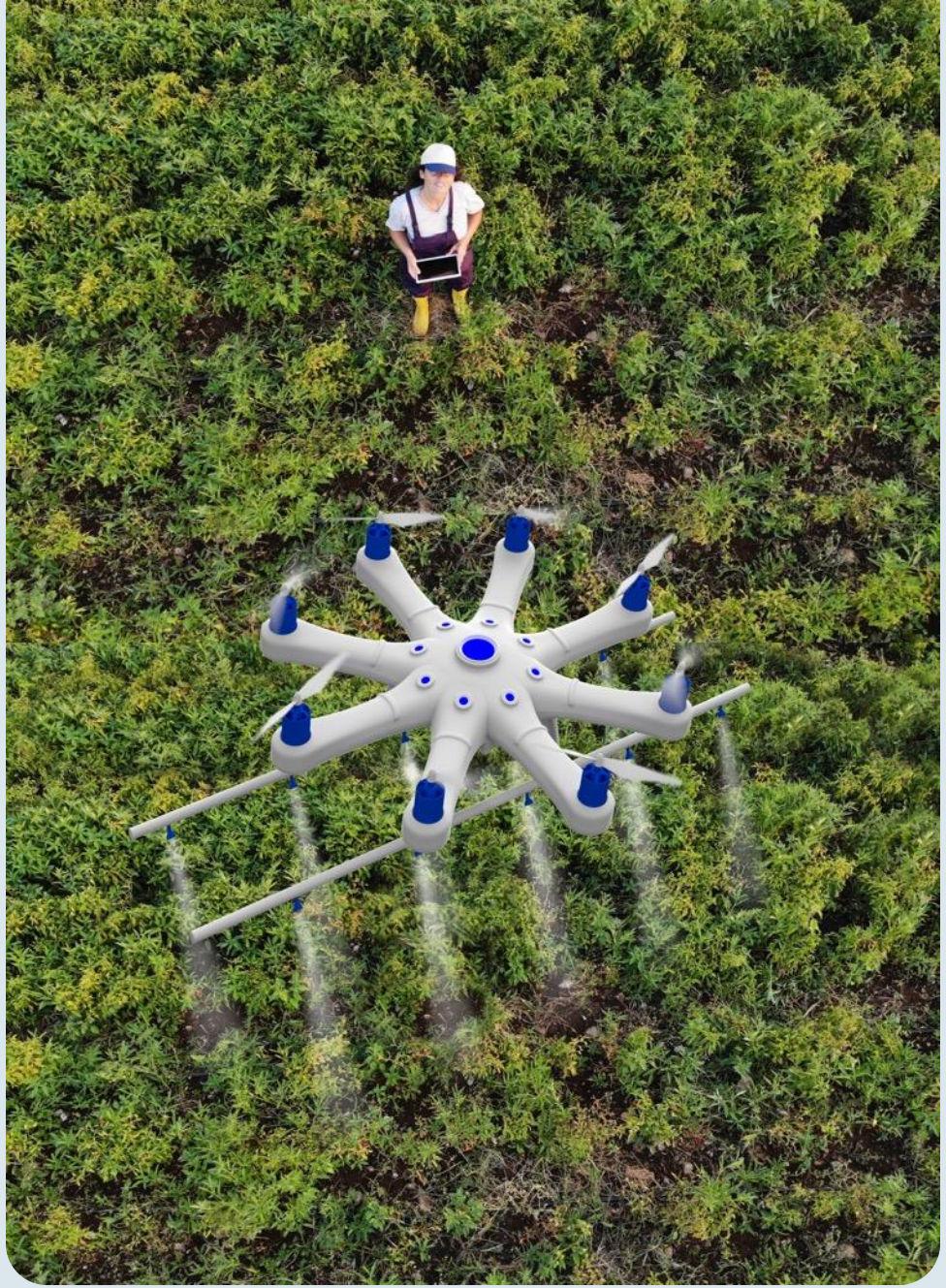
mitacs

Mitacs Accelerate Defence & Security Call

Talent and research powering Canadian defence and security innovation

Application deadline: August 17, 2026

Delivered in collaboration with Canada's Department of National Defence



Why This Call Exists

Canada is investing in sovereign defence innovation

- Defence Industrial Strategy priorities
- Need for dual-use innovation
- Need for talent and commercialization
- Importance of Canadian industrial capabilities

What This Call Supports

Applied R&D

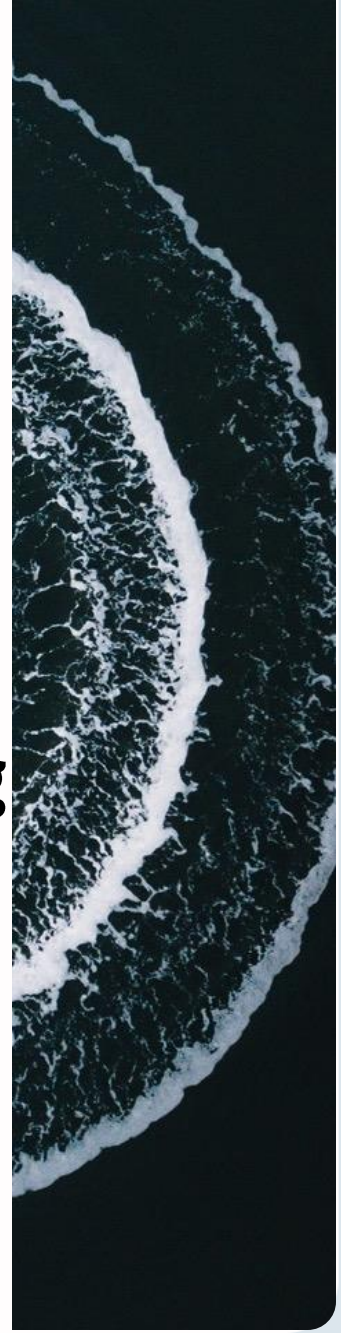
Dual-use technologies

Workforce development

Commercialization pathways

Sovereign Canadian capabilities

- Aerospace
- Digital Systems (AI, Cyber)
- In-Service Support
- Personnel Protection
- Sensors
- Space
- Specialized Manufacturing
- Training & Simulation
- Uncrewed Systems
- Quantum Science and Technology
- Arctic Sovereignty



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Funding Structure

Project	Funding

• **Up to 30 internship** units per project
• **Maximum** 2-year duration
• **Minimum** 50% of named units per project
	• **Masters & PhD:**
	  • $20,000/unit
	  • $10,000 contribution
	  • Minimum 15K stipend
	• **PDFs**
	  • $25,000/unit
	  • $12,500 contribution
	  • Minimum 20K stipend

Who Should Apply?

Ideal applicants include:

- Defence companies
- Dual-use technology companies
- SMEs scaling innovation
- Academic researchers
- Applied R&D teams
- Organizations seeking commercialization support

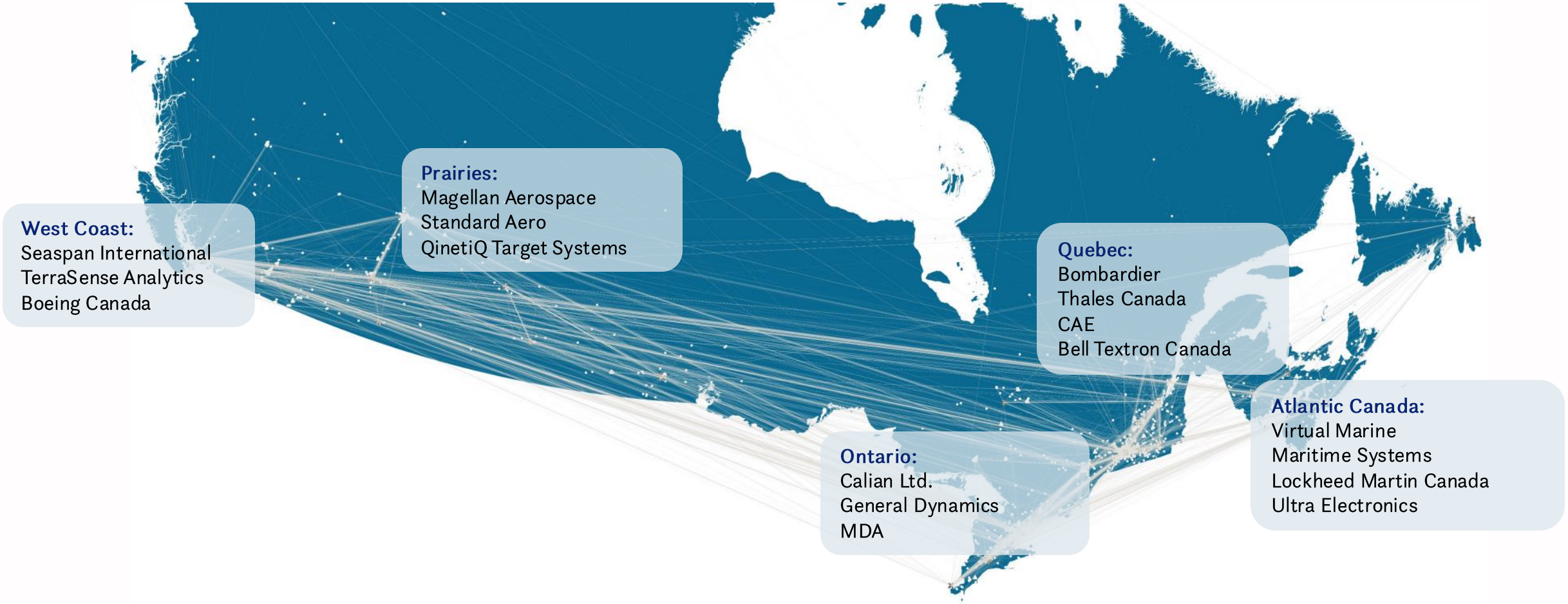
Strong fit indicators:

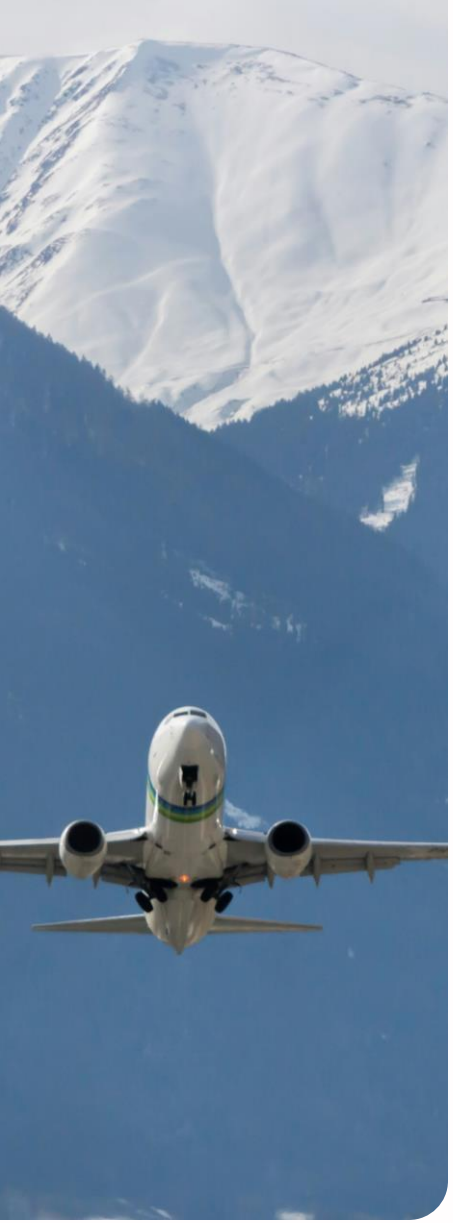
- Existing prototype or TRL advancement
- Need for research expertise
- Talent pipeline needs
- AI / sensing / autonomy / advanced manufacturing focus

National Reach in Defence and Security Sector

Strong industry partnerships

Mitacs has collaborated with 90% of Canada's Top 20 Defence companies, including:





Mitacs and Bombardier

Project synopsis:

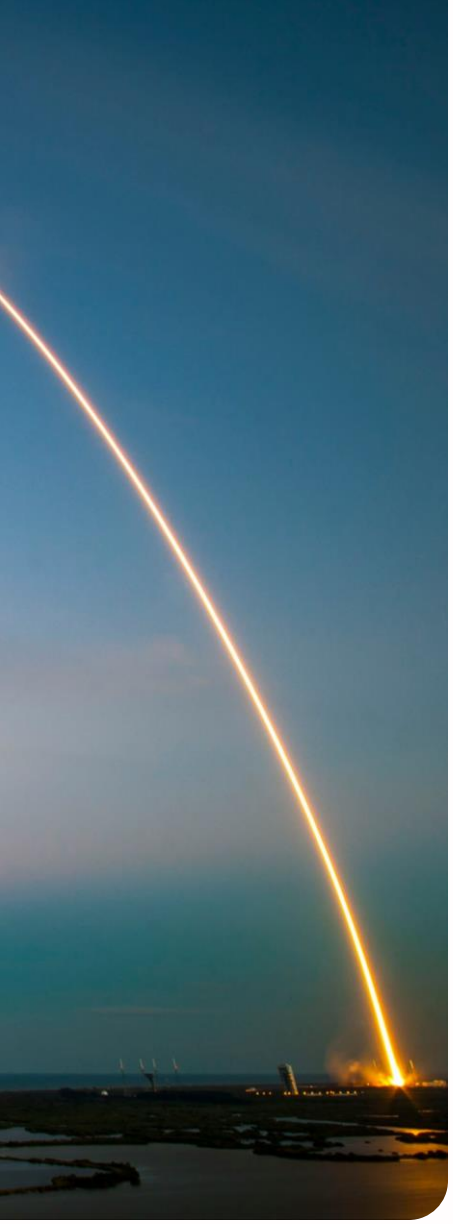
Working with **Bombardier Inc.,** Mitacs interns from **Polytechnique Montréal** are helping to integrate **advanced modeling and optimization techniques into aircraft design** to explore new configurations for the development of sustainable aircraft.

This work aims to efficiently manage complex **trade-offs and reduce computational costs in the design process**, supporting Bombardier's innovation in greener aviation.

Project demonstrates:

- Support for the DIS Build-Partner-Buy framework and securing supply chains
- Scale R&D and innovation
- Advance dual-use technologies
- Access specialized research talent
- Supporting cost-effectiveness and productivity

Bombardier



Mitacs and Magellan Aerospace

Project synopsis:

Working with **Magellan Aerospace Limited**, Mitacs interns from **York University** are helping to develop technologies for tracking and understanding objects in space, such as defunct satellites or debris.

This research **supports identifying and reducing threats from the growing number of space objects,** providing Canada with critical low-cost solutions for national security in space.

Project demonstrates:

- Scaling innovation
- Advancing dual-use technologies
- Accessing specialized research talent
- Entering domestic and export markets
- The critical importance of Mitacs to strategic investment to build an innovative defence sector

MAGELLAN AEROSPACE

Mitacs and Ericsson Canada

Project synopsis:

Communications with drones are expected to be one of the important applications of 5G networks. With 5G, pilots maintain communications with drones across large distances over the cellular network. This is a little revolution, a significant technological advancement and an enabler for drone applications that need wide geographical area coverage such as the **delivery of parcels or medical supplies**. The interns involved in this project are trained in this burgeoning field together with the worldwide 5G equipment leader Ericsson.

Project demonstrates:

- Scaling innovation
- Advancing dual-use technologies
- Accessing specialized research talent and further developing their skills

ERICSSON

Mitacs and AIRmarket

Project synopsis:

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) such as drones provide the flexibility to reduce costs. In the case of natural disaster occurrence such as earthquake, flood or hurricane, drones can quickly fly over to high risk areas where human access would be impossible or dangerous and provide information for rescue operations, etc.

In this project with **AIRmarket**, the goal is to **develop an automated drone for surveillance purposes** that can provide real-time monitoring. The solution will be used to generate a framework for the next stage drone technology that can make **drones fly beyond visual line of sight.**

Project demonstrates:

- Working with small businesses
- Accelerated R&D in dual use technologies
- Potential commercialization outcomes
- Talent retention and workforce development

AIRmarket

Small business

Mitacs and Kraken Robotics

Project synopsis:

Mitacs interns at **Memorial University** are working with **Kraken Robotics** to accelerate development of high-resolution seafloor survey technology for mapping, habitat classification, and environmental monitoring.

This **dual-use technology** also has strong potential for defence and security applications, including underwater surveillance and strategic seabed mapping.

Project demonstrates:

- Working with SMBs to build Canadian Defence capabilities
- Secure supply of innovative talent to Canadian SMBs
- Accelerated R&D in dual use technologies
- Potential commercialization outcomes
- Talent retention and workforce development

KRAKEN ROBOTICS

Thanks to our funding partners