



ECCIR'S INTERNATIONAL INNOVATION MASTERCLASS



Innovate with Northern Sweden

Resource Package

March 22, 2023



International Innovation Masterclass Series



Previous



Bavaria

September 15, 2022



The Czech Republic

December 13, 2022

Upcoming



Catalonia

May 2023

Subscribe to our mailing list and follow us on social media for updates

Find previous webinar recordings [here](#).



Subscribe to ECCIR's [monthly newsletter](#) to stay up to date on our upcoming "International Innovation Masterclass" webinars.

European-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research

The European-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research (ECCIR) is a non-profit organization that facilitates innovative collaboration between European and Canadian SMEs, government agencies, and research institutions. ECCIR's funding comes from the Government of Alberta and Alberta Innovates. We offer a range of solution-driven services to corporates with international ambitions, including:

- Assistance with international strategy development
- Advising and grant writing support for key funding sources
- Tailored matchmaking through brokerage events and matchmaking trips to Europe
- Program and meeting arrangements for visiting delegations
- Internationalization events, webinars, and symposia

As the Network Coordinator for the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) Canada, ECCIR connects corporations through a comprehensive partnerships database, brokerage events, and company missions to help turn innovative ideas into international commercial successes.

Contact

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

[LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)

Reference contact: Laura Intemann

E-Mail: info@eccir.ca

City: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada



Subscribe to [ECCIR's monthly newsletter](#) to stay up to date on global partnering opportunities, funding sources, and upcoming "International Innovation Masterclass" webinars.

Enterprise Europe Network Canada



The Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)

With over 470 partner organizations in more than 60 countries, the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) is the world's largest support network for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with international ambitions. The European Commission launched the EEN in 2008 to help European businesses innovate and grow on an international scale.

The Network connects SMEs with:

- International partnerships
- Expert advice for international growth
- Support for business innovation

Website: <https://een.ec.europa.eu/>

EEN Canada

Established in June 2020, EEN Canada is an International Network Partner of the EEN. The EEN Canada offers insight, informational resources, and access to brokerage events to both European and Canadian companies, as well as the opportunity to share proposals and requests through the [Partnership Opportunities Database](#).

ECCIR coordinates the Canadian consortium of EEN, which also comprises the EU Chambers of Commerce in Canada in Toronto and Vancouver, the Next Generation Manufacturing Cluster (NGen), the Ocean Technology Council of Nova Scotia, In2novation, and PRIMA Québec.

Website: <https://een-canada.ca>

Host Event

Sweden Innovation Days

March 21 - 23, 2023



Sweden Innovation Days (SID) is a free, global, and digital event dedicated to fostering international collaboration. As the third annual SID, this year's event will bring together international innovation actors to foster partnerships with clear and actionable missions and create a more sustainable world. The event is organized by Vinnova– Sweden's Innovation Agency, Ignite Sweden, the Swedish Energy Agency, Formas, AI Sweden, Swedish Incubators and Science Parks, and Business Sweden.

ECCIR is excited host the [Innovate with Northern Sweden Webinar](#) as an official SID Side Event.

You can check out the complete program here: <https://swedeninnovationdays.se/>.

Co-Organizers



Unimova Innovation

Located in Umeå, Sweden, Uminova Innovation is one of the country's leading incubators. Uminova works so that more people, both in and outside of Sweden, will discover and get involved in the companies and innovations in the region. They do this through ambitious collaborations with industry, large companies, investors, partners, and their large contact network of talents and skills.

Contact

Peter Bäckström, International Business Developer

Email: Peter.Backstrom@uminovainnovation.se

Website: <https://www.uminovainnovation.se/>

EEN Sweden

EEN Sweden provides networks and supports to SMEs looking to internationalize their businesses from Sweden to other regions in Europe and beyond. They assist with a variety of services, including:

- Advising on opportunities for EU funding and EU legislation connected to internationalization



-
- Matchmaking with international partners
 - Assisting with participation in programs such as Horizon Europe

The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is the main financier, together with the European Commission, for the Network in Sweden.

Contact for Northern Sweden

Peter Bäckström

Email: Peter.Backstrom@uminovainnovation.se

Website: <https://enterpriseurope.se/in-english.html>



Region Västerbotten

Region Västerbotten is located in Northern Sweden and is responsible for providing services and information related to healthcare, public transport, and education. Additionally, Region Västerbotten has invested heavily in research and development in several sectors, particularly in medical technology and innovation. Region Västerbotten provides support for research and development through information on funding opportunities, access to extensive biobanks, and partnerships with Umeå University.

Contact

Annelie Karlsson, Business and Education Coordinator

Email: annelie.karlsson@regionvasterbotten.se

Website: <https://www.regionvasterbotten.se/informationsmaterial-och-riktlinjer/andra-sprak/engelska-eller-english>

Webinar Agenda

Introduction

1. **Britta Baron**, *President of the European-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research*

Part 1: Northern Sweden's Innovation Ecosystem

2. **Dr. Ken Coates**, *Professor, and Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation at the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Saskatchewan*
Dr. Carin Holroyd, *Professor in the Department of Political Studies at the University of Saskatchewan*
3. **Annelie Karlsson**, *Business and Education Coordination for Region Västerbotten*
Peter Bäckström, *International Business Developer at Uminova Innovation AB*

Part 2: Success Stories

4. **Gunnar Rådberg**, *General Manager, Björkdal at Mandalay Resources*

Part 3: Resources

5. **Eric Holdrinet**, *Industrial Technology Advisor Eurostars, National Project Coordinator Eureka, and Deputy National Project Coordinator at the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP)*
6. **Laura Intemann**, *Project Manager at ECCIR*

Part 4: Q&A

1. Speakers

Britta Baron, a founding member of the European Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research (ECCIR) and is the Board Chair, President and CEO of the organization. Her career focuses on internationalization in higher education, research and innovation.

Dr. Ken Coates is a Professor and Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation at the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy at the University of Saskatchewan. He has a strong interest in northern development, Indigenous rights, and northern Canadian history. As of July 1, 2023, Ken will be a Professor of Indigenous Governance at Yukon University.

Contact: ken.coates@usask.ca

Dr. Carin Holroyd is a Professor in the Political Studies Department at the University of Saskatchewan. Her research focuses on the political economy of Japan, the comparative East Asian political economy, and national innovation systems.

Contact: carin.holroyd@usask.ca

Annelie Karlsson is the Business and Education Coordinator for Region Västerbotten. In this capacity, she coordinates the support provided by the Västerbotten region to businesses.

Contact: annelie.karlsson@regionvasterbotten.se

Peter Bäckström is the International Business Developer at Uminova Innovation AB and the European Enterprise Network. In these positions, he supports the internationalization of SMEs and facilitates the incubation process of businesses.

Contact: peter.backstrom@uminovainnovation.se

Eric Holdrinet is the Industrial Technology Advisor Erostars, the National Project Coordinator for Eureka, and the Deputy National Project Coordinator at the National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP).

Contact: eric.holdrinet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

Laura Intemann is the Project Manager for the European-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research. In this role, Laura helps Canadian companies establish partnerships with European businesses in various sectors.

Contact: lintemann@eccir.ca

2. Where can you find support for innovating with Northern Sweden?

In Canada

European-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research (ECCIR)

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

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Email: info@eccir.ca

Website: <https://een-canada.ca>

Embassy of Sweden in Canada

The Embassy of Sweden in Canada is the official representation of Sweden in Canada and monitors the social, political, and economic conditions that would impact bilateral relations between the two countries. The embassy also promotes research and development between Canada and

Sweden and works closely with Business Sweden in Toronto to host technical seminars and assist in overcoming trade barriers for Swedish companies in Canada.

Email: ambassaden.ottawa@gov.se

Website: <https://www.swedenabroad.se/en/embassies/canada-ottawa/about-us/>

The National Research Council of Canada

As the Government of Canada's largest federal research and development organization, the National Research Council (NRC) has a mandate to take research from the lab to the marketplace, intersecting in academia, industry, and government. With 14 research centres covering numerous disciplines and technologies, the NRC encourages research excellence, engages with the ecosystems that bring together scientific knowledge, innovation support, and industrial capabilities, and expands the ways to help companies grow and scale.

NRC Website: <https://nrc.canada.ca/en>

Alberta Innovates

Alberta Innovates is Alberta's largest public research and innovation agency. From generating new ideas through applied testing, commercialization, and end use, Alberta Innovates supports high-potential, high-growth technology, and knowledge-based companies to bring novel innovations to market. They provide [applied research services](#), [expertise](#), [technical connections](#), [advice](#), and [funding programs](#) to stimulate and grow research and innovation across Alberta.

Contact: Sandra Candie

Email: sandra.candie@albertainnovates.ca

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

In Sweden

Embassy of Canada to Sweden and Trade Commissioner Service in Stockholm

The Canadian Embassy and Trade Commissioner Service in Stockholm provides information on the Swedish market, sector reports, and market insights for Canadian companies interested in conducting business in Sweden. Additionally, the Trade Commissioner Service supports trade and market expansion activities between Canada and Sweden through market development, trade leads, and missions trade shows.

Email: NordiCommerce@international.gc.ca

Website: <https://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/sweden-suede/index.aspx?lang=eng>

EEN Sweden

Tillväxtverket (The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth) is the national coordinator of the network in Sweden, which consists of 12 businesses and research organizations, and has

offices across 20 cities with 45 business advisors. The Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth alongside the European Commission is the primary financier of EEN Sweden.

Contact: Peter Bäckström, International Business Developer

Email: Peter.Backstrom@uminovainnovation.se

Website: <https://enterpriseeurope.se/in-english.html>

Unimova Innovation

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Email: Peter.Backstrom@uminovainnovation.se

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Website: <https://www.regionvasterbotten.se/informationsmaterial-och-riktlinjer/andra-sprak/engelska-eller-english>

The Forest Technology Cluster in Sweden

The Forest Technology Cluster (Skogstekniska Klustret) is an economic association of ten companies. The cluster strives to develop technology to further the forestry industry and connects its member companies with researchers, start-ups, and students to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and skills.

Website: <https://www.skogstekniskaklustret.se/>

Success Story Example: Mandalay Resources

Mandalay Resources is a Canadian-based natural resource company that focuses on growing its production and reducing costs to generate significant cash flow. As of 2019, they have begun operations in Sweden in the Björkdal gold mine in Northern Sweden. During this acquisition, they eliminated the costs associated with open-pit mining operations and increased the underground production capacity.



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

3. Funding Sources for Innovating with Northern Sweden

The National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP)

NRC IRAP is Canada's leading innovation assistance program for small and medium-sized businesses. IRAP is a funding program designed by the Canadian government to increase innovation and speed of research and development projects. NRC IRAP helps innovative small or medium-sized businesses in Canada to build innovation capacity and take ideas to market through financial assistance, advisory services, and connections to the best business and R&D expertise in Canada.

Reference contact: Eric Holdrinet, Industrial Technology Advisor Eurostars, National Project Coordinator Eureka, Deputy National Project Coordinator

Email: Eric.Holdrinet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

Website: <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation/nrc-irap-international-collaboration>

Joint NRC IRAP Funding Programs for R&D Co-Development Projects between Canada and Sweden

Eurostars [Eureka | Eurostars \(eurekanetwork.org\)](#).

Eurostars is the largest international funding programme for SMEs wishing to collaborate on R&D projects that create innovative products, processes, or services for commercialization. Generally, Canada and Sweden have funding for each semi-annual Call. Project selection is made centrally, and funding criteria are national. The registration deadline for Canadian SMEs is 16 March 2023, and the application deadline is 25 April 2023.

Eureka Clusters, [Eureka | Clusters \(eurekanetwork.org\)](#).

Eureka Clusters are industry-led international communities focused on strategic technology areas that aim to meet market needs and solve economic, technological, and societal challenges. Canada currently funds all five Clusters (including EUROGIA2030 (sustainable energy), whereas Sweden has funding for have funding for the following: **CELTIC-Next** (information and

communications technology), **ITEA 4** (software), **Xecs** (electronics), and **SMART** (manufacturing). Each Cluster typically launches an annual Call for proposals in the Fall (except CELTIC-NEXT, which has two calls annually).

Swedish Cluster information: <https://www.eurekanetwork.org/countries/sweden/clusters/>

Eureka Network [Eureka Network | \(eurekanetwork.org\)](https://www.eurekanetwork.org).

The Eureka Network is mostly used to set up calls for proposals whether bilateral, multilateral, or national. Sweden has funding and accepts Eureka Network proposals year-round from SMEs, large firms, universities, and research centres. Canada has participated in many bilateral and multilateral Calls where NRC IRAP reserves funding for Canadian SMEs.

Swedish participants should contact their national funding authority for details, using the tool at the bottom of the page: <https://www.eurekanetwork.org/countries/sweden/>.

- **Eureka Network ‘Lightweighting’ technologies Call for proposals**
 - National funding bodies from Sweden and Canada are funding research and development projects in lightweight technologies in areas of Energy and resource efficiency, Creation of sustainable value circles, and bolstering lightweight integration in more areas.
 - [Eureka | network-projects/lightweighting-2023 \(eurekanetwork.org\)](https://www.eurekanetwork.org/network-projects/lightweighting-2023)

Alberta Innovates’ International Technology Partnership (ITP) Program

The ITP Program supports Alberta-based SMEs to commercialize their products, achieve an optimal market position, increase revenue, and potentially expand into global markets. SMEs in the Program receive funding to find and enter into a partnership with an “International Project Partner.” Within these partnerships, SMEs have the opportunity to pilot their product’s technical and business merits, further product development, and advance commercialization. The Program is designed to de-risk the commercialization process by offering funding and coaching to eligible companies.

Website: <https://albertainnovates.ca/programs/international-technology-partnership-program/>.

4. Research, Development, and Innovation Mobility Support Financing

ERASMUS+

Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth, and sport. An estimated budget of €26.2 billion for 2021 provides opportunities for over 4 million participants to study, train, gain experience, and volunteer abroad. Canada is eligible for certain actions, as well as Erasmus Mundus scholarships.

Website: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/>

5. AIMDay Research Support

AIMDay

AIMDay stands for Academic Industry Meeting Day and presents an opportunity for industry and research institutions to meet and discuss some of the pressing issues facing specific industries. In this format, research institutions and universities are invited to partner with industry organizations based on each participant's interests and needs. The purpose of this matchmaking is to accelerate innovation and exchange knowledge. Some of the university partners in Canada include:

- University of Saskatchewan
- University of Manitoba
- Toronto Metropolitan University
- Queen's University
- University of Ottawa

Swedish partners include:

- Umeå University
- Uppsala University

Contact: Anette Stache

Email: anette.stache@uu.se

Website: <https://aimday.se/>

6. Additional Resources

[“Innovation in Northern Sweden: Are There Lessons for Canada?”](#) Ken Coates and Carin Holroyd, *Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy*, 21 Sept. 2021.

[“Doing Business in Sweden.”](#) Government of Canada, 16 Sept. 2020.

[“Sweden-Alberta Relations 2017 November.”](#) Government of Alberta, 7 Dec. 2017.

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