Automated Vehicles (AVs) in Ontario

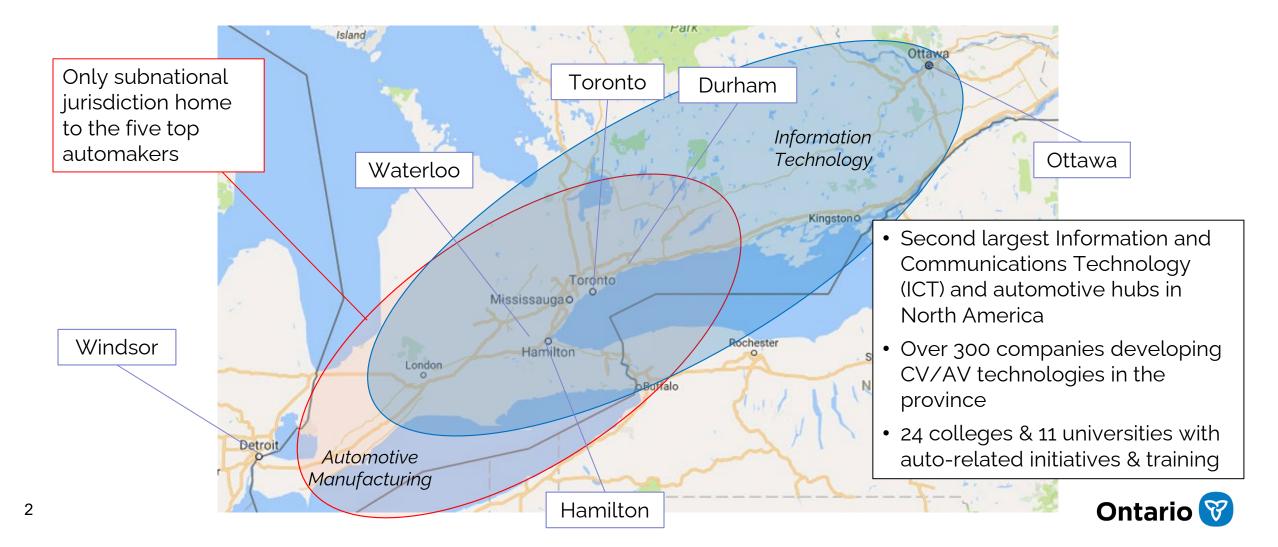
Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators – 2025 Annual Meeting June 9, 2025

Ontario 🕥

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

Ontario's Connected Vehicle (CV)/AV Advantage

Ontario is already a **leading jurisdiction** in the connected and automated vehicle (CV/AV) space in North America, uniquely positioned to lead in the **converging automotive and Information & Communications Technology** sectors.



How is Ontario preparing for the adoption of AVs?

The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) has developed legislation, policies, and programs that **support CV/AV research and testing**.

Highlights include:



Enabling testing on Ontario roads by launching **Canada's first Automated Vehicle Pilot Program** (O. Reg. 306/15) in 2016.



Supporting economic development and collaboration by launching the **Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network (OVIN)** in 2021.



Playing a leadership role in coordinating across jurisdictions, levels of government, and provincial ministries.



Working with partners to explore innovative intelligent transportation system technologies to see how they can

help traffic move more efficiently and make our highways safer.



Ontario's Automated Vehicle Pilot Program



January 1, 2016: Ontario became the first Canadian jurisdiction to regulate the testing of CV/AVs on public roads.

January 1, 2019: Ontario introduced three enhancements to the AV pilot regulation, in order to keep pace with technological advancements. These enhancements include:

- 1. Allowing the testing of driverless AVs as part of the pilot, under specific conditions to ensure safety;
- 2. Allowing the testing of cooperative truck platoons as part of the pilot, under specific conditions to ensure safety; and
- 3. Excluding from the pilot Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Level 3, if they are originally manufactured with a driving automation system, and eligible for sale in Canada.

MTO is committed to continuous monitoring of new research and best practices and to make amendments to the pilot framework as required to best support economic growth and innovation while ensuring safety.



Pilot Participants

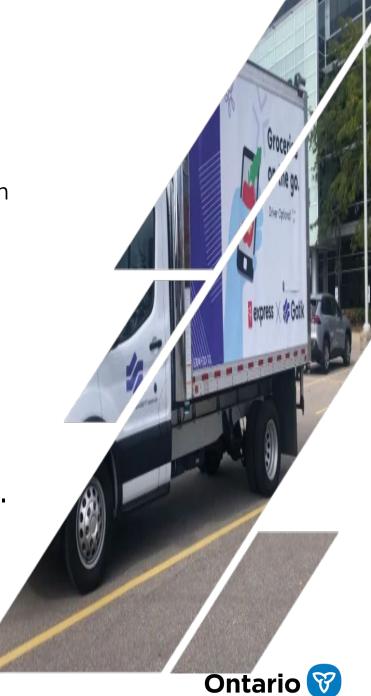
- Since 2016, the pilot has had **fifteen total participants, with three active participants currently**.
- Many participants have concluded their testing, as testing goals had been met (i.e., data collection, building relationships within Ontario, displaying technology and testing their automated systems).

Current Pilot Participants:

Gatik Inc.



University of Waterloo Magna International Inc.



Learnings of Automated Vehicle Testing





The Future of AV Testing

- Ontario is proud to be a leader within Canada's automated vehicle (AV) landscape and continues to see AVs as a part of the future.
- Testing frameworks provide an opportunity to gather crucial insights on AV use to inform long term decisions regarding the future of AVs not only in Ontario but within Canada.
- As we continue to explore AV testing and deployment, I leave you with a question to reflect on:

"As we continue to test AVs to inform future decisions, what are your expectations for this technology? Should the evidence show that AVs are as safe as human drivers, significantly safer, or do you expect them to be nearly perfect?"



Contact Us

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AV Pilot Regulation: Ontario Regulation 306/15

MTO Website – General information on CV/AVs:

https://www.ontario.ca/page/connected-and-automated-vehicles

Links

MTO Website – AV Pilot: https://www.ontario.ca/page/automated-vehicle-pilot-program

MTO Website – Platooning Pilot:

https://www.ontario.ca/page/cooperative-truck-platooning-pilot-program

OVIN: https://www.ovinhub.ca/

