



**RRC**  
POLYTECH

# Accelerating Towards a Zero-emission Transportation Future

Future Focused: *Developing Tomorrow's Talent*

Fanshawe College, London, Ontario

May 18, 2022

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# Outline

RRC Polytech Profile

Overview of VTEC

Meet SpaRRCKy - prototype BEV

Building a remote-controlled EV tractor

Battery second life applications

EV training for upskilling

Promoting workplace charging – a ZEVAI project

# RRC Polytech



Manitoba's largest institute of applied learning



Over 200 full- & part-time academic programs



Eight campuses across Manitoba



Annual research enterprise funding between \$6 and \$9 million



Over \$85 million research infrastructure



Three NSERC Technology Access Centres and two Build Innovation Enhancement programs



# RRC Polytech's Research Enterprise



## BETAC

Helping design more durable, energy efficient buildings in Manitoba.



## Prairie Research Kitchen

Developing new and innovative products from locally-sourced ingredients.



## SECD

Leading the way on the Science of Early Child Development.



## TACAM

Assisting aerospace and manufacturing businesses with specialized facilities.



## VTEC

Connecting heavy vehicle manufacturers with specialized facilities and emerging technologies.

# *Driving innovation forward on low to zero emission transportation since 2005.*



Vehicle-related  
Applied Research  
and Demonstration



2005/08: Solar Car



2005/06: HHICE/HFC Bus



2008/10: Prius PHEV



2010: MCI J4500



Electric Vehicle  
Technology and  
Education Centre



2011/13: EV Winter  
Operational Testing



2012: Prototype e-Bus



E-Bus Prototype  
and Demonstration



2013/17: e-Bus Demo

# Vehicle Technology & Energy Centre



**Established in 2016 – NSERC's  
Build Innovation Enhancement  
Grant**



**Build applied research  
capacity on**

- cold-weather/climatic testing
- emissions testing
- vehicle-related electronics and software
- energy conservation and alternatives
- light weighting/materials
- technology integration

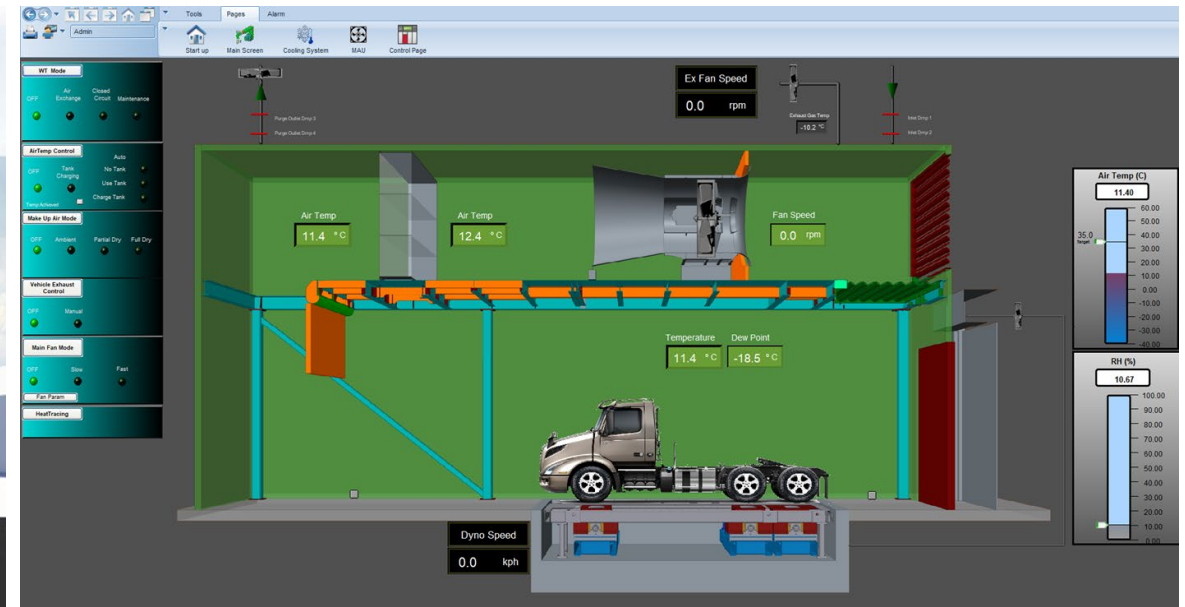
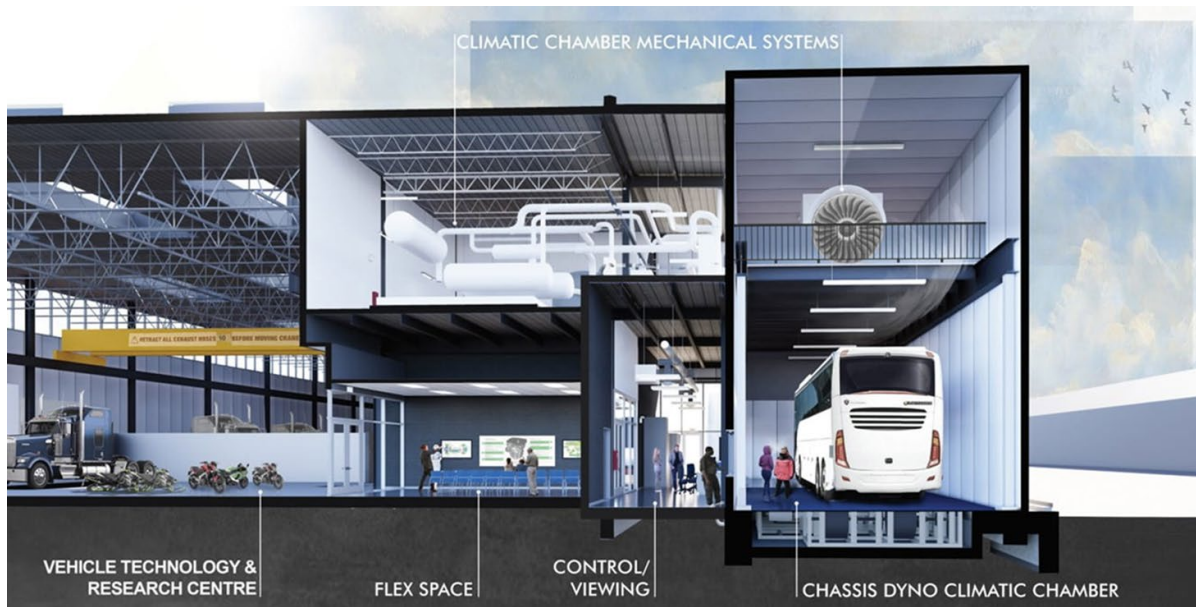
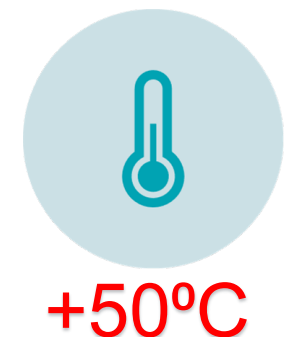
*Gained applied research capacity and technical expertise on electric vehicle technology*



# Motivelab

## Environmental and performance testing

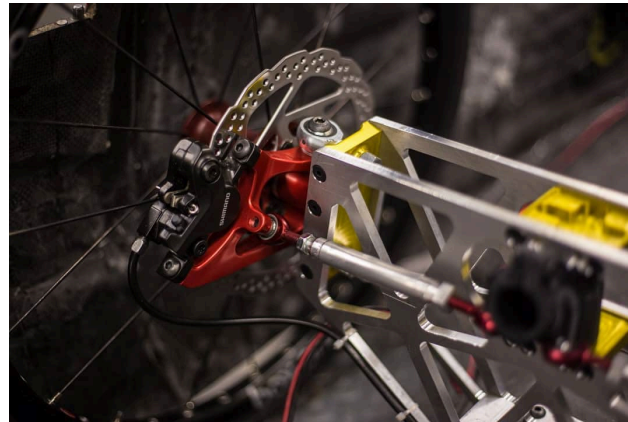
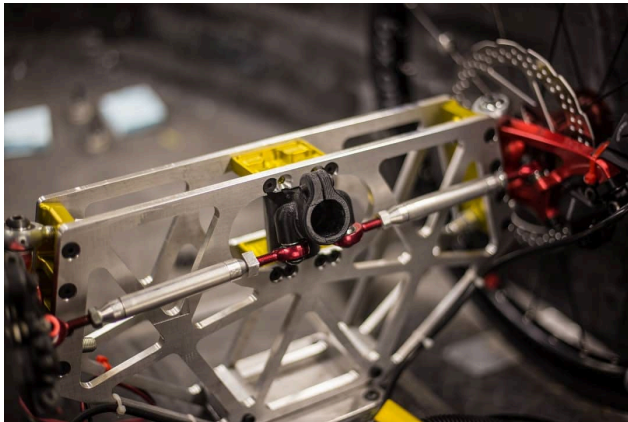
- various types of vehicles
- low to zero emission vehicles
- specialized equipment and processes





# Enhancing the student experience

# Shell Eco-Marathon: Make the Future





# Shell Eco-Marathon: Make the Future



**Shell Eco-marathon Americas 2019**  
Final results: Prototype Battery-electric

Rank	Team n°	Team name	Country	Organization	Institution type	Competition category	Energy type	Best attempt (m/kWh)
1	309	Eco Illini Supermileage	United States	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	University	Prototype	Battery-electric	152
2	306	Milhagem UFMG Elétrico	Brazil	Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais	University	Prototype	Battery-electric	141
3	305	Resistance Racing	United States	Cornell University	University	Prototype	Battery-electric	139.9
4	326	UOE Racing	Canada	University of Ottawa	University	Prototype	Battery-electric	127.8
5	315	Kiri FAN	Argentina	Universidad Tecnológica Nacional - Facultad Region	University	Prototype	Battery-electric	100.1
6	323	Trine Thunder	United States	Trine University	University	Prototype	Battery-electric	67.9
7	320	Red River College	Canada	Red River College	University	Prototype	Battery-electric	62.5
8	318	Miztli	Mexico	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México	University	Prototype	Battery-electric	56.9
9	308	CNS Performance Engineering UC	United States	Cicero North Syracuse High School	School	Prototype	Battery-electric	52.1
10	328	Electrón CEM	Mexico	Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de	University	Prototype	Battery-electric	35.1



# Roll-Over Training Tractor

How to teach farmers roll-over safety without putting anyone at risk?





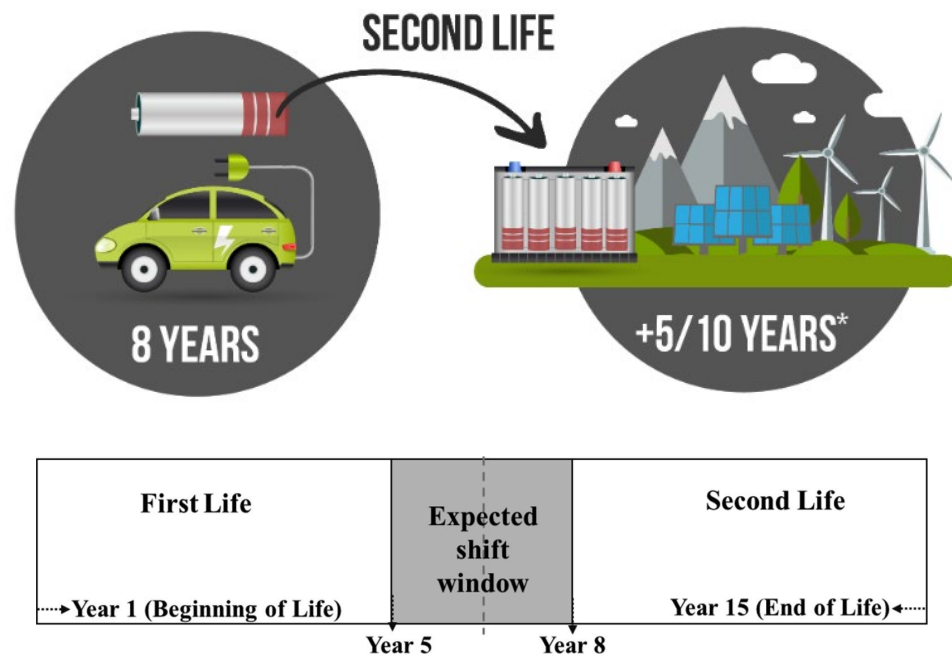
# Roll-Over Training Tractor



# Battery Second-life

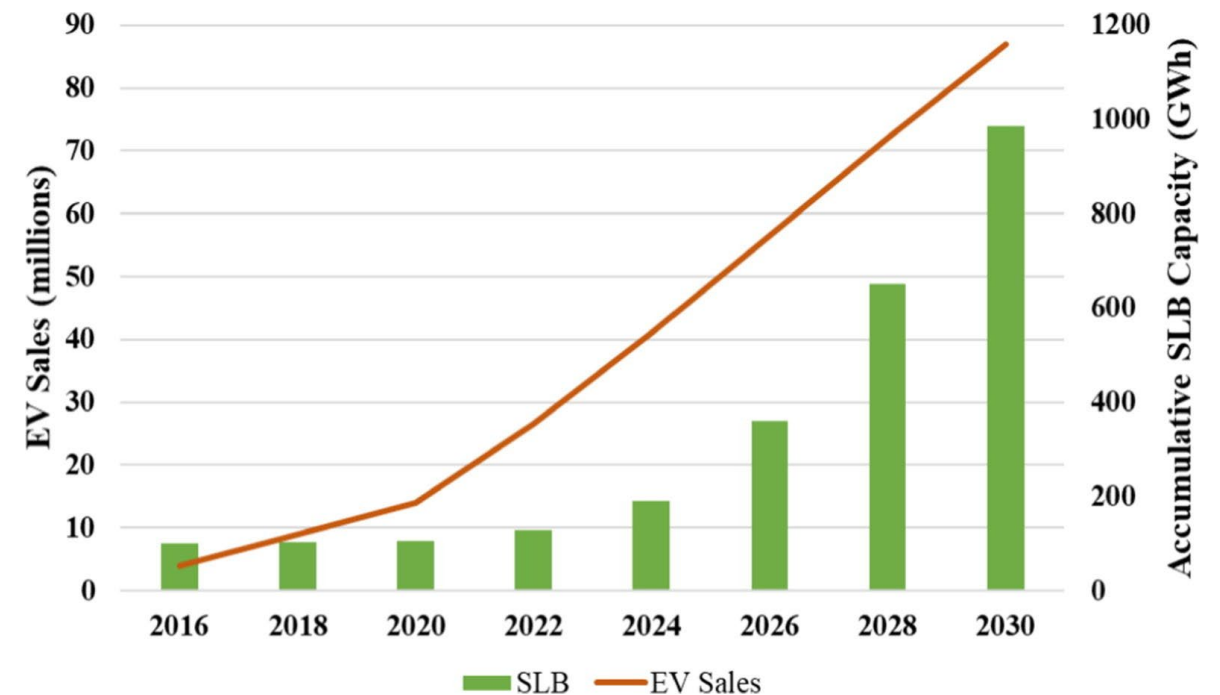


# Battery second life



Source: K. Venkatapathy, E. Tazelaar, B. Veenhuizen, A systematic identification of first to second life shift-point of lithium-ion batteries, in: 2015 IEEE Vehicle Power and Propulsion Conference, VPPC 2015 - Proceedings, 2015.

Global accumulative sales of EV and SLB capacity



Source: G. Reid, J. Julve, Second life-batteries as flexible storage for renewables energies, 2016

# Battery second life

Selection process



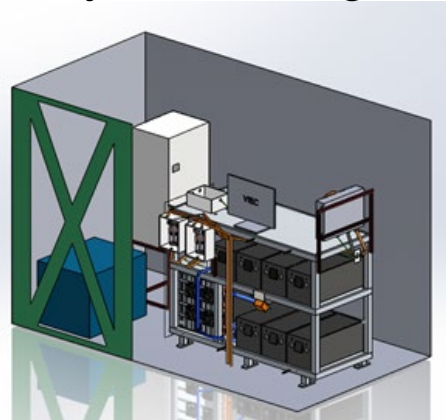
Transfer



Detailed testing



System design



Build/certification



Demonstration





# EV Tundra Buggy

## Project milestones

- Initial assessment
- Research and technical feasibility
- Evaluation and review
- Prototyping
- Demonstration

# EV Tundra Buggy

Initial assessment – visiting Churchill, Manitoba





# EV Tundra Buggy



*Left: VTEC team working on the battery pack integration on the EV Tundra Buggy (EVTB).*

*Above: EVTB unveiling at RRC Polytech.*

# EV Tundra Buggy



The EV Tundra Buggy crossing the Churchill River from their northern lights season.

*Video footage courtesy of Frontiers North Adventures.*



**Supporting industry  
upskilling**

# Intro to e-Bus/EV Training

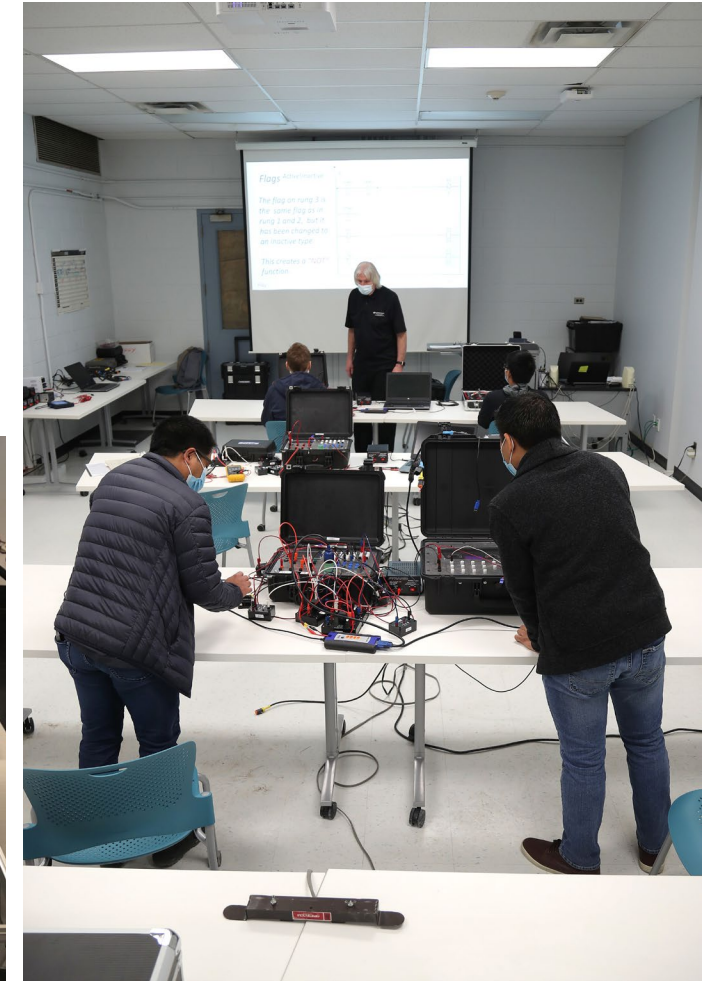
## Project milestones

- Conversation with key stakeholders
- Technical assessment
- Outline review and feedback
- Curriculum and training aid development
- Pilot run
- Student feedback and material update

# Intro to e-Bus/EV Training

All training aids were developed in-house to align with the course materials

Designed and fabricated by VTEC research team with close coordination with the Academic team



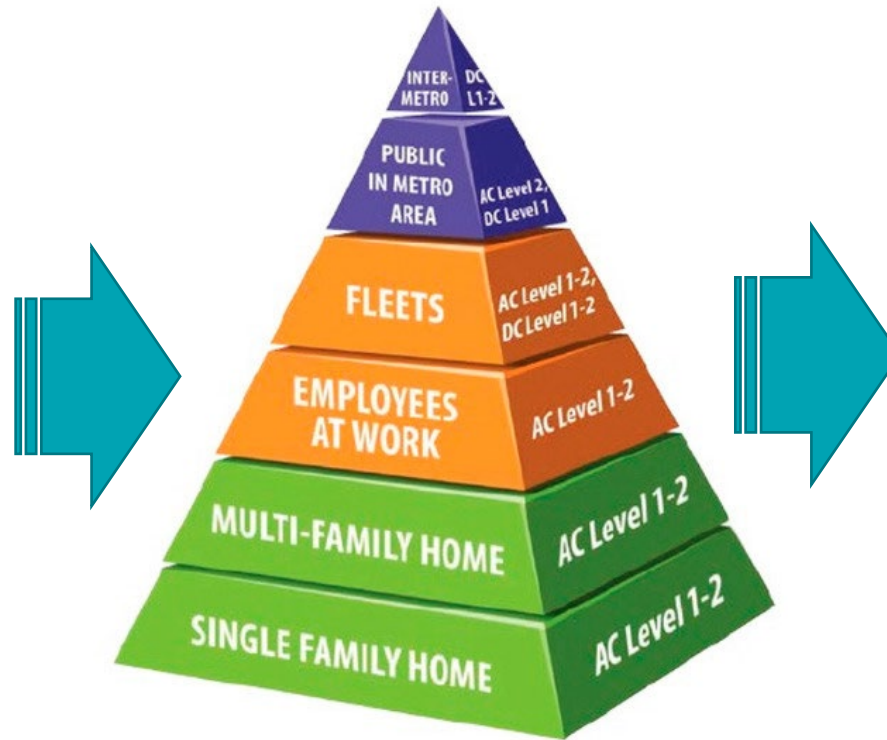
**Maximize new and current  
strategic partnerships**



# Zero Emission Vehicle Awareness Initiative (ZEVAI)



January 2022 to March 2023  
\$225,000 funding  
Natural Resources Canada



Share of Canadian ZEV New Vehicle Registrations 2019 - 2021				
Province	2021	2020	2019	Share Change 20 - 21
British Columbia	13.0%	9.4%	8.6%	3.6%
Quebec	9.5%	7.5%	6.2%	2.0%
Yukon Territory	4.5%	1.7%	0.5%	2.8%
Ontario	3.3%	1.8%	1.3%	1.5%
Prince Edward Island	2.9%	0.8%	0.7%	2.1%
Alberta	1.8%	0.9%	0.7%	0.9%
Nova Scotia	1.6%	0.6%	0.3%	1.0%
Manitoba	1.4%	0.7%	0.5%	0.7%
New Brunswick	1.4%	0.6%	0.4%	0.8%
Saskatchewan	1.2%	0.5%	0.4%	0.7%
Northwest Territories	0.7%	0.1%	0.1%	0.6%
Newfoundland & Labrador	0.6%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%
Nunavut	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
National	5.6%	3.8%	3.1%	1.8%
CMA	2021	2020	2019	Share Change 20 - 21
Vancouver	15.6%	11.4%	9.8%	4.3%
Montréal	10.7%	8.6%	6.9%	2.1%
Toronto	4.3%	2.5%	1.5%	1.8%

Note: Canadian Light Vehicle Registrations 2019 - 21  
Source: IHS Markit © 2022 IHS Markit

# Key Takeaways

Students benefit the most when they engage in applied research projects.

- Gain technical knowledge
- Learn the value of teamwork
- Technical and communication skills are improved
- Practiced problem solving and critical thinking
- Learn new skills

Industry driven applied research provides the opportunity to stay ahead of the skills required in the future



# Thank You! Any Questions?

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