



Good afternoon,

Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) is pleased to announce that **registration for the Western Innovation Forum 2021 is now open**. There is **no cost** to register for this event.

Due to restrictions related to COVID-19, WIF 2021 will take place **virtually on March 2-4, 2021**.

Why participate in WIF

WIF 2021 is an industry-oriented conference that connects western Canada's aerospace, marine, defence and security industries, cutting edge innovators, and researchers to innovation-driven investment, research, partnership, and ITB-related business opportunities. Last year WIF 2020 was hosted in Vancouver and was attended by over 300 participants, including 31 prime defence contractors, and featured nearly 300 B2B meetings.

WIF 2021 will feature:

- A virtual B2B meeting program that will connect defence prime contractors, innovative western Canadian companies, and post-secondary institutions.
 - The B2B meeting program will also offer B2G (business-to-government) meeting opportunities with representatives from key federal government departments.
- Presentations from relevant government and industry leaders.
- In-depth highlights of ITB-related industrial strengths in each of western Canada's four provinces.

How to participate

- Click on the registration link below and complete an organizational profile on the WIF platform. The capabilities selected in your profile will be used to facilitate connections with other WIF participants.
- *For B2B and B2G meetings*, all participants identify available meeting times in their WIF platform calendars so other participants can request meetings during these times (if desired) using the "Networking" panel.
 - *Please note: As part of WIF's B2B meeting program, WD will be providing prime contractors with a list of recommended B2B meeting candidates. If you wish to be considered in this process, please ensure that you have registered with a completed organizational profile before **Sunday February 7th, 2021**.*
 - *Participants can begin scheduling meetings when the meeting scheduling period opens on **Monday February 15th, 2021**.*
- *Conference presentations* are listed in the "Conference" panel. For most presentations, you will be able to submit questions using the chat function. All participants will be automatically registered for the conference presentations, please use the provided link to join at the time presentations commence.

[Register for WIF 2021 here](#) (Microsoft Explorer is not supported)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the WD ITB Team at: wd.itb-rit.deo@canada.ca.