



LEAP

For Industry Transforming Technologies -OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS-

Looking to move beyond your competition, break into new markets, or transform your industry through the development and commercialization of breakthrough geospatial technologies? Apply for TECTERRA's LEAP Program and receive non-dilutive financial resources that only require repayment upon the commercial success of the proposed technology. Click [HERE](#) to submit an online application now!

CONSIDERATION FOR FUNDING

To be considered for funding, LEAP Program proposals must:

- The proposed technology must have the potential to transform an industry or market by significantly advancing the technological landscape.
- Projects must focus on the development and commercialization of a geospatial technology.
 - Geospatial technology must be fundamental to the value proposition of the product being developed.
- Be submitted and led by an **Alberta small or medium enterprise (excludes start-ups)**
 - Must be a for-profit company
 - Incorporated and operating in Alberta
 - Up to 500 full-time employees
 - Sales revenue must be more than \$1 million and cannot exceed \$50 million annually
 - Must be a technology development company
- Include a comprehensive technology commercialization plan with a well-defined target market or customer
- Provide regular full-time employment of at least two net-new Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP) to work in Alberta, primarily on the targeted development for the duration of the project
 - HQPs must be present and eligible to work in Canada by the start of the project
 - The HQP must represent a 'net new hire' for the company, meaning that the position identified must be additional to the current and recent activity of the company, and is not a replacement for a recently departed employee, contractor, or consultant.
 - Priority is given to projects generating multiple and long-term new employment opportunities.

- Priority is given to projects that demonstrate a radical technological change for the target market or industry with a large commercial opportunity.

Only one application per Applicant Company will be accepted for review at one time. In the case where multiple applications are submitted from the same applicant company, all same-company applications will be disqualified.

Applications from companies currently funded by TECTERRA under the BUILD or LAUNCH programs **will be accepted** if they are currently under contract for a **maximum of one other project**.

KEY TECHNOLOGY AND MARKET PRIORITY AREAS

TECTERRA is seeking opportunities to invest in projects focused on the development and commercialization of technologies in, but not limited to, the following technology and market areas:

- Resource Management
- Clean Technologies
- Smart Cities
- Unmanned Systems
- Internet of Things (IoT)

PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

TECTERRA assesses all applications based on various criteria including:

GEOSPATIAL

- To what degree does the value chain for the product or service have a geospatial component?
- To what degree does the geospatial or related technology component add value to the overall system and its application?

INNOVATION

- Is there innovation in the technology being developed for the product or service?
- Is there innovation in the application of the technology?
- Is there market innovation?
 - Is this a new product being developed for an existing market?
 - Is this an existing product being pushed or pulled into new market?

PROGRAM READINESS

In order to be eligible for the LEAP Program, applicants will have to demonstrate their ability and capacity to execute on their project plan by answering the follow questions:

- Does the applicant have sufficient technical expertise to complete the development?
- Does the applicant have sufficient business expertise to take this through to commercialization or utilization?
- Is a believable market problem clearly identified?
- Does the applicant have sufficient business expertise to commercialize the product?
- Is the product description understandable; a clear, tangible and marketable output that will meet that identified need?
- Does the project plan and project expense budget logically suggest the successful completion of the development and successful commercialization?

- Is the sales/utilization forecast realistic and corroborated?
- Can the applicant service and support the product or service beyond TECTERRA's engagement?

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA

- Will the project's profitability and growth profile provide a positive economic impact to Alberta?
- Is there an opportunity that the project will establish the funded company, Alberta, and/or Canada as a geospatial technology leader?
- Is there benefit to the broader industry, market sector(s), and/or society?
- Is there an acceptable project risk profile (i.e. project success potential vs. business, technical, and financial risk)?
- Is there a clear framework for intellectual property management among the involved parties (e.g. research, industry and government) to ensure mutual benefits for all stakeholders?

Applicant's prior performance in TECTERRA programs is considered in the assessment of applications.

FUNDING GUIDELINES

The LEAP Program is open to projects with budgets greater than \$1,000,000 and provides matching funding in the range of \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 per project.

BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS

For a project to qualify for TECTERRA funding it must meet the following minimum budgetary requirements:

- A minimum contribution from the applicant company and/or project partners representing 50% of the overall project cost
 - The company must demonstrate it has the resources, financial, human and other, in place and available for use at the start of the project
- Direct funding support to this project from other government programs (referred to as 'stacking') is not permitted.
- In-kind contributions from the applicant and/or project partners are encouraged but may not be used in the calculation for the 50% contribution requirement.

PROJECT DURATION

The LEAP Program looks to fund substantial projects with estimated durations of 18 to 24 months.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Only actual and direct project expenses are eligible under the program and include:

- Labour
- Consulting fees
- Prototyping
- Product testing and validation
- Travel
- Marketing and sales events
- Marketing materials

- Non-capital equipment and supplies used in the project
- Other actual expenses incurred directly and solely on the project

INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Expenses that are ineligible under TECTERRA guidelines include:

- Expenses incurred prior to Project Start Date
- Non project-specific expenses
- Capital purchases
- Operational expenses including overhead, in-house general and administrative labour and interest on debt.

LOAN REPAYMENT MODEL

TECTERRA does not seek corporate equity or IP ownership/license rights; however TECTERRA's funding is not a grant. TECTERRA requires repayment from every project investment that has achieved commercial success.

Successful SME applicants will be required to repay 100% of TECTERRA's investment after successful commercialization of the product/service. Payments are made in quarterly installments each equaling the lesser of

- 20% of TECTERRA's funding, or
- 25% of the gross revenue from the sale and/or license of the product/service and all associated revenue.

NOTE: This means that payback is based upon commercial success and will not actually start until the project is complete and revenue is generated!

APPLICATION PROCESS

The program application process is as follows:

- Applicants submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) at any time through the online client portal [HERE](#)
- EOIs are reviewed by TECTERRA within 1 week of submission
- Successful applicants are invited to meet with TECTERRA in a 60 min meeting consisting of:
 - 10 minute pitch
 - 50 minute questions and discussion
- Successful applicants from the meeting are invited to submit a Full Proposal (FP)
- Full Proposals are reviewed by TECTERRA management and the external Project Advisory Committee and suitable applications are recommended to the Board of Directors for funding
- TECTERRA's Board of Directors reviews and approves qualified projects
 - The estimated program budget, number of awards and average award size and duration of acceptable projects is subject to the availability of funds as determined by TECTERRA's Board of Directors.
- All applicants are notified of their status

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) STAGE

Applicants may submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to TECTERRA at any time and may do so in the [online form](#) provided by TECTERRA. EOI submissions will be reviewed by TECTERRA and **successful applicants will be contacted and invited to a meeting with TECTERRA**. Successful applicants will be invited to submit a Full Proposal (FP) containing full project details for final consideration and decision.

Prior to submitting an EOI, **you are strongly encouraged to contact Richard C. Gorecki, Director of Portfolio Development** at (403) 532-4279 or rgorecki@tecterra.com for the purpose of addressing any questions and ensuring proper alignment with the program.

TECTERRA reserves the sole and absolute right and discretion to select all, some or none of the EOI submissions for Full Proposal consideration.

NOTE: Submissions must be in the [online form](#) provided by TECTERRA. Only applications submitted via the online form will be reviewed. All other submissions will be disqualified.

FULL PROPOSALS (FP) STAGE

FP submissions are by invitation only and applicants are required to follow the FP template and instructions provided by TECTERRA. In addition to the template, applicants are also required to submit a pitch video with a maximum length of 2 minutes. FP submissions will be reviewed by TECTERRA as well as its external Project Advisory Committee. Suitable submissions will be recommended to TECTERRA's Board of Directors for funding approval. Successful FP applicants will be contacted to complete the definitive funding agreement, which will include all terms and conditions.

TECTERRA reserves the sole and absolute right and discretion to select all, some or none of the FP submissions for funding. TECTERRA also has the sole and absolute discretion to determine all funding amounts, which may be different from the amount requested by the applicant.

We encourage all applicants to submit their Full Proposal as soon as possible as project funding is limited.

CONFIDENTIALITY AND DISCLOSURE

TECTERRA will hold all LEAP Program information, including application details and financial information as confidential. TECTERRA, however, reserves the right to use some information about funded companies as may be required for its reporting and marketing purposes.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about the program, process, or your eligibility, **you are encouraged to contact Richard C. Gorecki, Director of Portfolio Development** at (403) 532-4279 or rgorecki@tecterra.com.