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**KANATA
NORTH**
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

2024 Annual Report

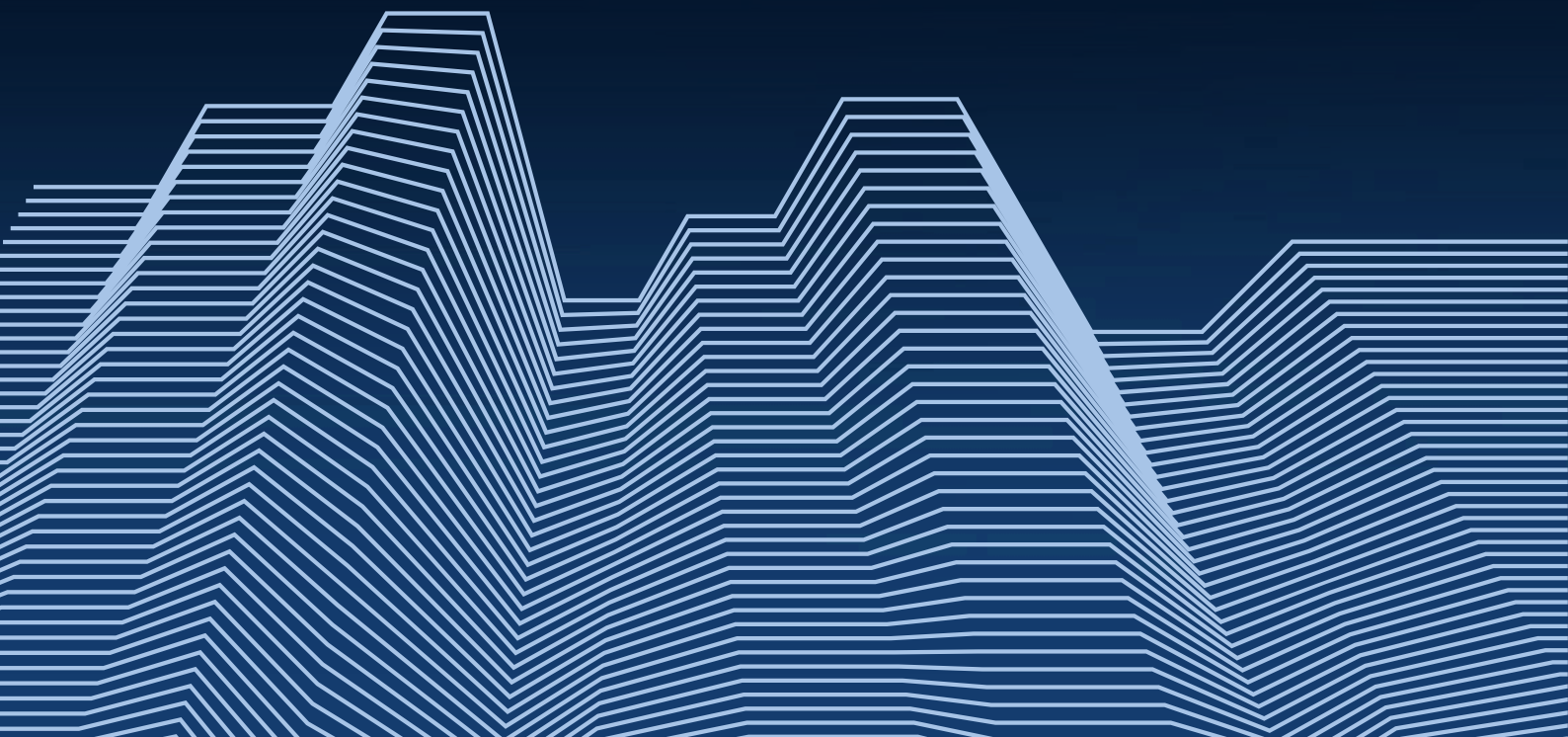
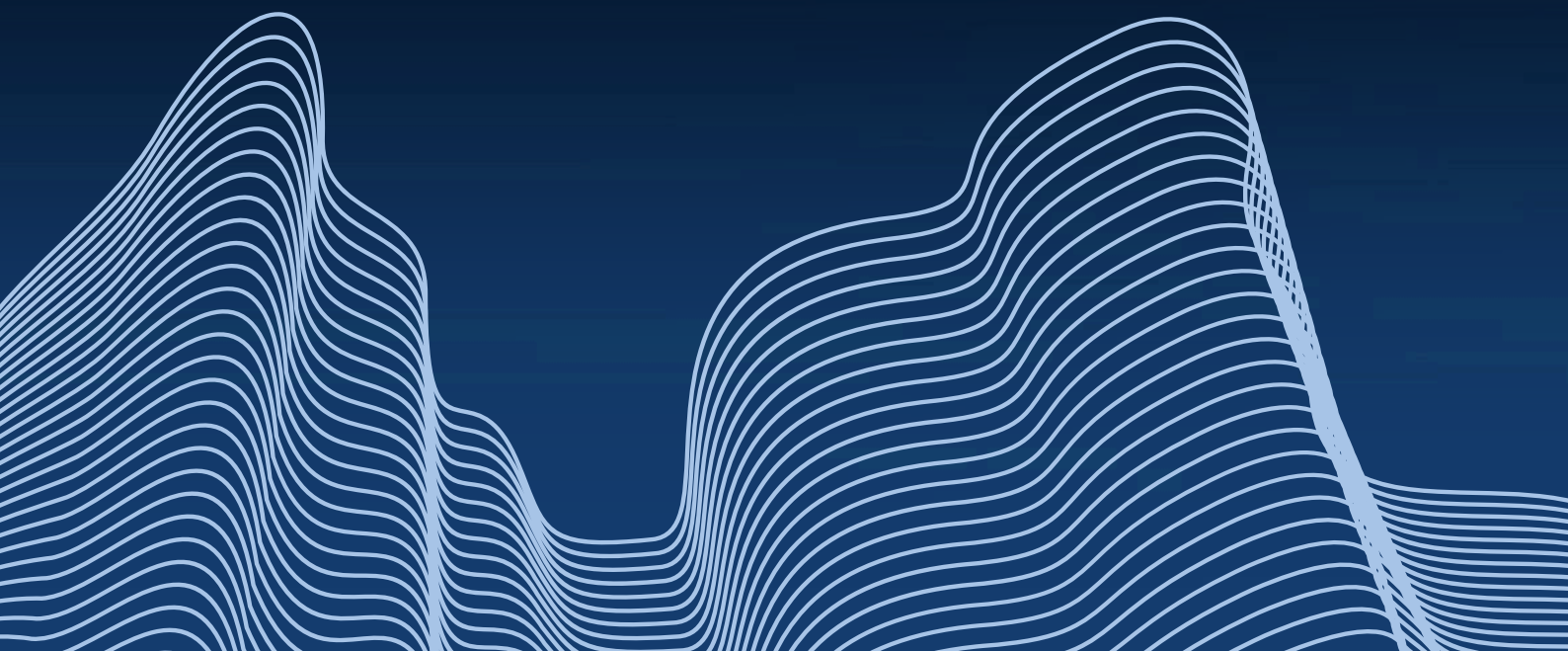


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2024 AGM Agenda

Call to order and welcome (*Ben Morris*)

- Declaration of pecuniary interest
- Tabling of notice of meeting
- Declaration of quorum
- Approval of the agenda for 2024 AGM
- Approval of the minutes from 2023 AGM (*March 21, 2024*)

Presentations

- Welcome by Councillor Cathy Curry, City of Ottawa
- City of Ottawa presentation by Krishon Walker:
 - Update on transportation (BRT Bus Rapid Transit, Special Economic District, Bloomberg and the action plan for Kanata North)

Executive Director Presentation (*Kelly Daize*)

Financial Report (*Ben Morris*)

- Approval of the 2023 Audited Financial Report
- Approval of the 2025 Proposed Budget

2024 KNBA Board of Management

- Approval of 2025 slate for the KNBA Board of Management

New business

Approval to adjourn the 2024 AGM (*Ben Morris*)

KNBA Board of Management

INCUMBENT BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD CHAIR - Ben Morris, Senior VP & Head of Syntronic R&D Canada

VICE CHAIR - Sandra Crocker, Associate VP Strategic Initiatives & Operations,
Carleton University

TREASURER - Vacant

Patrick Ferris - General Counsel, Corporate Secretary, KRP Properties

Sam Khatib - Owner, Papa Sam's Restaurant

Tracy King - VP Communications and Regulatory, Martello

Marcos Cavaletti - Sr. Advisor & Head of Ottawa Site, Ericsson

Cathy Curry - City of Ottawa Councillor, Ward 4 - Kanata North

John Luszczek - Business Opportunities Leader, Ericsson

OUTGOING & EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS

Amy MacLeod - VP Corporate Communications, MDA Space

Guy Levesque - Executive Director, Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking,
University of Calgary

INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS

None

EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS (NON-VOTING)

John Luszczek - Business Opportunities Leader, Ericsson

Cathy Curry - City of Ottawa Councillor, Ward 4 - Kanata North

KNBA TEAM

Kelly Daize - Executive Director

Julia Lewis - Marketing Director

Hannah Manierka - Marketing & Communications Manager

Erin Moretto - Programs & Operations Director

Julia Morris - Partnerships Director

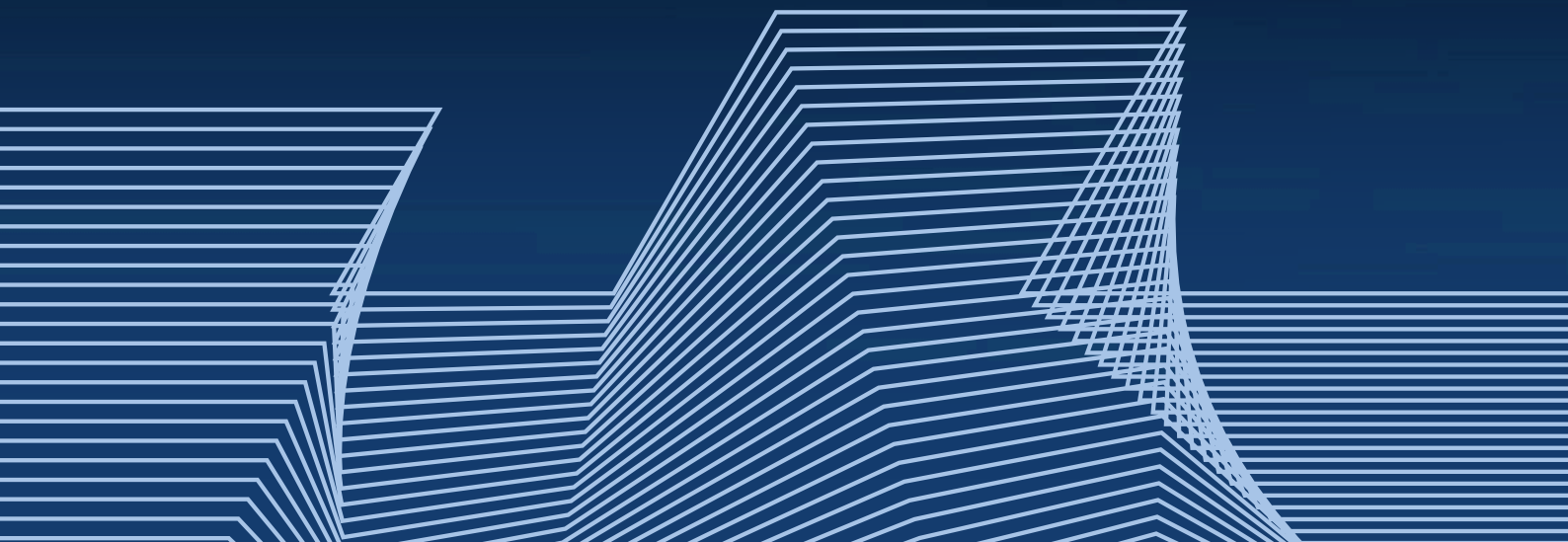
Kim Perry - Programs & Operations Manager

Jessica Roedig - Partnership Development Manager



“I am thrilled to join the KNBA team and contribute to the continued success and growth of Kanata North and Canada’s Largest Tech Park. I have tremendous pride in our city, and this community has immense potential to drive innovation and address global challenges. I look forward to working closely with stakeholders to harness this potential.”

Kelly Daize, Executive Director of the Kanata North Business Association



Executive Director's Report

PRESENTED BY KELLY DAIZE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE KANATA NORTH BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2024, the Kanata North Business Association (KNBA) proudly advanced its mission to support, represent, and advocate for the over 540 companies in Canada's largest technology park. From economic development to talent attraction, smart mobility, clean energy, and community-building initiatives, our efforts this year focused on delivering strategic value and positioning Kanata North as a global innovation leader. This report outlines key accomplishments, challenges, and the path ahead as we continue building a vibrant, resilient, and inclusive tech ecosystem.

INTRODUCTION & VISION

In June 2024, I was honoured to accept the role of Executive Director of the Kanata North Business Association (KNBA) and to represent the members of Canada's largest technology park. KNBA was established in 2013 with a mission to advocate for and promote the interests of over 540 innovative member companies, while positioning Kanata North as the premier destination to work, live, and grow a business in Canada.

Our vision is bold and clear: to make Kanata North the best place in Canada for technology companies to grow, prosper, and thrive. Guided by three strategic pillars—Technology, Talent, and Community—our activities in 2024 focused on fostering innovation, strengthening collaborative ecosystems, and building a sustainable and inclusive future.



KEY ACTIVITIES

Through 2024, KNBA continued to build on our flagship events, supported our member and partner events, and increased our community involvement.

Discover Technata Career Fair

Record-breaking attendance saw 4,000 registrants and 30 exhibitors connected at a day-long event at the Brookstreet Hotel. Extensive marketing, including website takeovers of the Ottawa Senators led to greater-than-ever impact that supports all of our three pillars: tech, talent, and community.

Discover Technata Hacks

KNBA partnered with the Ottawa Climate Action Fund (OCAF) for the first time ever to deliver students from Algonquin College, Carleton University, and University of Ottawa, a problem statement that is crucially relevant to Kanata North. The winning team (Synergy) proposed an AI-controlled power nest that combines wind and solar power, and stores energy for use during outages, storms, and peak hours.

Annual Partner Summit

KNBA hosted its third annual partner summit at Hub350 in November of 2024. Starting with a government roundtable and leading into a day of panel discussions, ask-me-anythings, and diving deep into the challenges and opportunities facing Canada's largest tech park.



Best of Business Awards

Hosted jointly by the Ottawa Board of Trade and the Ottawa Business Journal, KNBA was honoured to sponsor two awards. The Kanata North Company of the Year was awarded to Fidus Systems, and the Innovation of the Year winner was given to Ross Video for their full-motion camera robotic system: Artimo.

Canada's Largest Semiconductor Cluster attracts CHIPS North

KNBA successfully attracted the Canadian Semiconductor Council's annual CHIPS North Executive Conference to the tech park, taking place at the Brookstreet Hotel in spring 2025. KNBA worked with our members to provide delegates with tours of their facilities, and the conference itself allowed our members to invite senior executives to speak at the conference and visit their local teams.

AI Compute Strategy Consultation

On September 19th, 2024, a Federal AI Compute Strategy Consultation was hosted at Hub350 with The Hon. Minister François-Philippe Champagne and The Hon. Minister Jenna Sudds. The industry roundtable included CEOs from select companies to discuss the new \$2B Canadian AI Sovereign Compute Strategy and AI Compute Access Fund.

Building our Future

In February 2025, Kanata North jointly hosted the first-ever 'Building our Future' Black History Month celebration in partnership with Wesley Clover and Invest Ottawa. The event spotlighted black founders, innovators, and leaders with an entrepreneur tradeshow, and focused panel discussions.

2023 KNBA Annual General Meeting

In March of 2024, the KNBA hosted its Annual General Meeting. Quorum was reached, all motions were passed unanimously, and we were proud to present on our major activities, finances, board of management, and strategy for the year ahead.



GCXpo and CAV Canada

Expanding our impact in the future of intelligent transportation, KNBA was proud to once again partner with Invest Ottawa on CAV Canada and supported GCXpo, including moderating panel discussions.

Small Business Week

In partnership with Kanata Central BIA, BDC, and our anchor partner RBC, the KNBA hosted a Small Business Week event in October 2024. Featuring networking, keynote speeches about small business money management, and economic outlooks for the coming year, we engaged our small business community by providing support and connection.

Ontario Trade and Investment Offices

On December 5th, 2024, KNBA was visited by the Ontario Trade and Investment Offices to present on Canada's Largest Tech Park. We hosted over 20 senior commercial officers from around the globe and MDEJCT senior staff members.

KNBA Launches Smart-Mobility Testing & Deployment of a Medium-Speed Automated Shuttle in Canada's Largest Tech Park

On December 9th, 2024, the KNBA launched its newest Transport Canada project: deploying a medium-speed automated shuttle in Canada's Largest Tech Park to test four-season capabilities. The Hon. Minister Anita Anand, The Hon. Minister Jenna Sudds and MP Yasir Naqvi announced the program alongside Kelly Daize out of Hub350.



HUB350 BOOKING STATISTICS

Total Bookings in 2024:

1,929



Total People in 2024:

9,773

Most booked rooms in Hub350 HQ:

- Mitel Boardroom
- uOttawa Booth

Most booked rooms in RBCx FQ:

- Wesley Clover Meeting Room
- Financial Quarter Event Space

KNBA continues to focus on maximizing usage of the Hub350 space and functioning as a community meeting and co-work space for members and partners to connect, collaborate, and innovate.

This plan includes the Digital Media Lab, powered by Ross Video. The Hub350 Media Lab, powered by Ross Video, offers everything you need to create standout videos, podcasts, and digital campaigns. The primary use cases in 2024 were to create videos for training, employee engagement, or event promotion purposes.





Total posts in 2024:

1,482

+34% from 2023

New followers in 2024:

3,541

+88.9% from 2023

Total followers in 2024:

23,263

+15.3% from 2023

2024 saw a huge boost in following and engagement across KNBA's marketing channels. We also focused on partnering with other BIA's and community-members to expand our local impact. Highlights from the year included:

- Running our first-ever televised commercial via TSN, as part of a new partnership with Rugby Canada.
- Website takeovers of the Ottawa Senators, running ads in all major placements on their website homepage to promote the Discover Technata Career Fair.
- Consolidating our newsletters from three to one (22,435 subscribers), laserpointing our focus and ensuring that our newsletter actively supports our three pillars.
- Increased focused on local news and highlighting member stories, leading to a huge boost in engagement, impressions, comments, and reshares, particularly on LinkedIn.



KNBA INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

In 2024, our members secured some incredible investments that promise to enrich the park and its mission to become a mixed-use community hub, optimized to live, work, play, learn, and innovate. Here is a snapshot of some 2024 investment activity:

- Nokia Canada investing around \$1B into transforming its campus into a mixed-use sustainable hub with residential and commercial spaces.
- Ericsson Canada partners with federal government on a \$470M R&D project that will create new jobs in Ottawa and Montreal.
- The city announced a multi-government deal that included \$181M for various transportation priorities, including the March Road Bus Rapid Transit project.
- CMC Microsystems receives \$120M.
- Ranovus receives \$4.8M from the Government of Canada, following \$36M commitment in 2023.
- Jabil Ottawa opening an advanced packaging facility to support Ottawa's semiconductor sector.
- Further investments in CPFC, Ross Video, ThinkRF, TutorOcean, Main + Main, and more.
- Carleton University announced their new Bachelor of Nursing program that will bring nursing students into the Kanata North tech park for training starting September 2025.



Ranovus CEO Hamid Arabzadeh and MP Jenna Sudds

DRIVING INNOVATION WITH STRATEGIC FOCUS

A key priority for 2024 was the revitalization of our member data. We updated our member database to ensure accurate, sector-specific information for all 540+ companies. We also partnered with Doyletech and Invest Ottawa on an Economic Impact Study that revealed Ottawa’s Hardware and Semiconductor Cluster generated \$12.65 billion in output across Canada in 2024 and supported over 48,000 jobs nationally.

To guide strategic growth, we launched a Semiconductor and Hardware Steering Committee and we hope to follow a similar model to include Cybersecurity and AI sectors in 2025.

ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY: ADVANCING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

While working with our member companies, we heard consistent messages around their growing energy needs, the importance of resilient (100% uptime), green and net-zero requirements. KNBA partnered with Hydro Ottawa and the Ottawa Climate Action Fund to explore a Community Green Energy Resilience District.

Two RFPs—one assessing energy needs and one benchmarking global energy district models—will guide our path forward.

Major firms like Nokia, Cisco, and KRP Properties are already leading the way. Nokia’s upcoming campus will include a 10MW battery storage system, while others are leveraging solar, thermal, and ice-cooling technologies to reduce costs and boost resiliency.



SMART MOBILITY: ENABLING FUTURE-READY TRANSPORTATION

Building on previous low-speed automated vehicle trials, this new project will utilize a medium-speed automated commercial vehicle, initially in the secure testbed at Area X.O and then transition to a route on public roads in the Kanata North Tech Park. The trial will cover all four seasons and aims to explore future sustainable and accessible transportation options.

Project Partners: Area X.O., Aurrigo, City of Ottawa, Brookstreet Hotel, CSA Group, Deaf.AI, EcoSafeSense, Solink, University of Ottawa, Wesley Clover and Zendelity.



“This project represents a major milestone—moving to a modified commercial vehicle that operates at higher speeds in all four seasons, offering a real path to smart, safe, inclusive last-mile transportation. We’re proud to work with industry leaders and government to set the standard for real-world AV deployment in Canada.”

Kelly Daize, Executive Director, KNBA

BUILDING THE WORKFORCE OF TOMORROW

Talent remains a top priority for KNBA members. In 2024, we advanced efforts to align our programming with the workforce needs of our community. We are working on the development of a sector-focused talent strategy, targeting skills gaps and supporting recruitment for in-demand roles, especially those requiring five or more years of experience.

Signature events such as the Discover Technata Career Fair attracted over 4,000 registrants and over 30 exhibitors, providing access to a wide pool of talent. In partnership with Algonquin College, Carleton University, and the University of Ottawa, KNBA also co-hosted events like hackathons, office crawls, and student engagement programs to inspire the next generation of tech professionals.

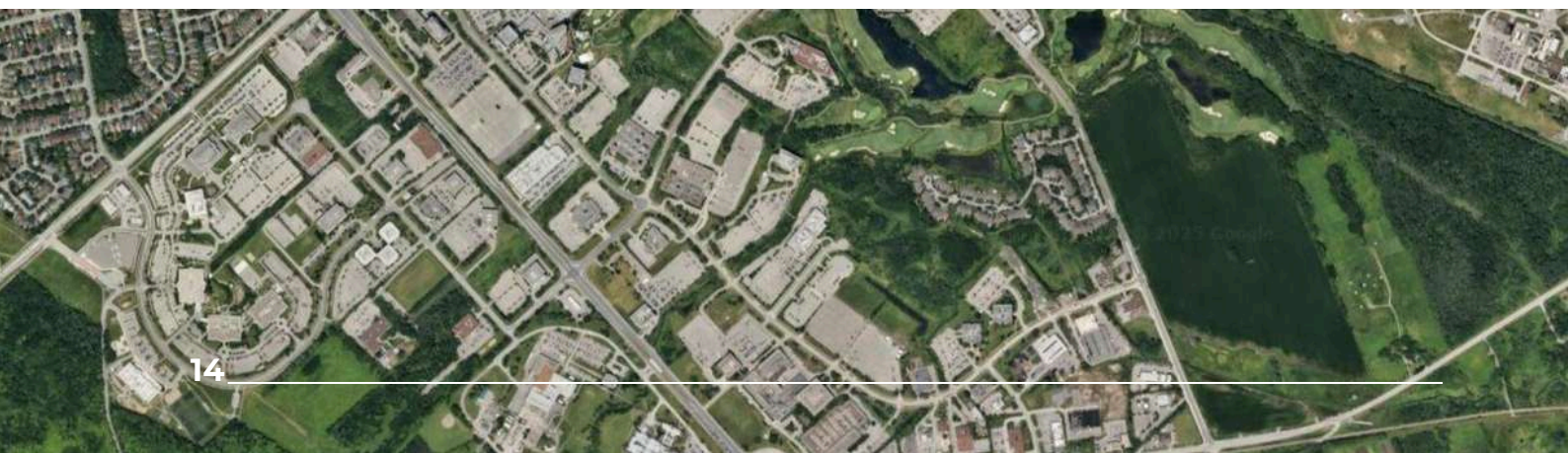


SHAPING A VIBRANT INNOVATION DISTRICT

2024 was a year of transformation for Kanata North's physical and social landscape. With over 4,000 new residential units and significant commercial developments underway, we are seeing a true evolution from a business park to a dynamic, mixed-use community. This shift supports our long-term goal of creating a 'live, work, play, learn, innovate' environment.

KNBA played an active role in conversations with developers, city officials, and community leaders to ensure growth aligns with member priorities. We are also working closely with the Rotary Club and local stakeholders to develop a new Community Hub and Amphitheatre to support public engagement and programming in the heart of the park.

From seasonal events like Wellness Wednesdays, the Hub350 Holiday Party, and volleyball leagues, to professional networking and inclusion initiatives, KNBA continues to enhance community engagement. Our partnerships with the Ottawa Board of Trade, Invest Ottawa, and the local BIAs have helped amplify our efforts and opened doors to new collaborations and investment.





HUB350: A NATIONAL PLATFORM FOR COLLABORATION

Hub350 continued to deliver significant value in 2024, serving as the central gathering place for our tech ecosystem. With over 100 events and 10,000 visitors, Hub350 hosted leadership roundtables, AI strategy sessions, job fairs, and hackathons.

The Ross Video-powered Media Lab also enabled us to amplify our members' stories through high-quality video production and storytelling.

We welcomed new partners across sectors—including Rugby Canada, Polytechnique Montréal, and the National Research Council of Canada—further expanding the reach and impact of our collaborative network. As we look ahead, we will continue to operationalize Hub350 as a launchpad for member engagement, strategic events, and innovation acceleration.



LOOKING AHEAD: A STRATEGIC PATH FORWARD

The KNBA will continue to evolve as our community evolves ensuring that we are nimble and responsive to the needs of our members and partners. We will continue to expand on partnerships with business, academia and government leaders by working together to support this region's success.

The continued recognition of Kanata North as a Special Economic District by the City of Ottawa reinforces our critical role as an economic engine. We are poised to lead in green energy, smart mobility, and digital innovation. Our collective strength—fueled by deep collaboration—will propel the park to even greater global recognition.

There is no question that Kanata North is a key technology hub in Canada. Through strategic partnerships, bold ideas, and unwavering collaboration, we will continue to build an ecosystem that drives innovation, fuels business success, and enhances quality of life. Thank you to our members, partners, Board, and the entire KNBA team for your trust and support. I am proud of the achievements in 2024 and excited for 2025! Together, we are shaping the future.

TECH. TALENT. COMMUNITY.

The Kanata North Business Association continues to drive results in our three key pillars to reinforce our strategic vision.

TECHNOLOGY:

Nurture a thriving technology community through thought leadership programs and collaborative partnerships.

TALENT:

Engage, attract and retain world class technical and business talent to Kanata North.

COMMUNITY:

Foster a vibrant social ecosystem that drives purpose and impact for the community at large.

2024 Financials and 2025 Budget

2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

REVENUE			
Levy after rebates and remission		\$	(481,391.60)
Grants		\$	(1,454,437.00)
Sponsorship/Contributed Services		\$	(1,485,579.00)
			\$ (3,421,407.60)
	TOTAL REVENUE		
EXPENSE			
Departments			
Capital & Infrastructure		\$	-
Administration		\$	753,415.75
Promotion & Marketing		\$	2,587,816.00
	TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 3,341,231.75
		(surplus)/Deficit	\$ (80,175.85)

2023 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

We have audited the financial statements of The Kanata North Business Improvement Area (the "Entity"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, the statement of operations for the year then ended, the statement of changes in net financial liabilities for the year then ended, the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies (Hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at December 31, 2023, and its results of operations, its changes in net financial liabilities and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.



Minutes from the 2024 AGM

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

2024 Chair Mr. Ben Morris welcomed all participants and called the 12th AGM of the KNBA to order at 9:00AM.

TABLING NOTICE OF MEETING

Mr. Ben Morris tabled that the notice for the 2024 AGM had been duly served to all members and that official notices were distributed to all members in good standing via email on Friday, December 20th with a final reminder on Monday, January 20th, 2025. Furthermore, Mr. Ben Morris stated that notices for AGM were posted widely across the Kanata North Business Association's social media, website, and newsletter between the dates of Friday, December 20th 2024 and Monday January 20th, 2025.

DECLARATION OF QUOROM

Mr. Ben Morris called for quorum and confirmed that a quorum of 20 members were present in person or represented by proxy. Mr. Ben Morris asked members moving or seconding any motion do so by raising their voting cards, announcing their name along with their request to move or second the motion, for recording in the minutes.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR 2024 AGM

Ms. Vicki Coughy from Fidus Systems moved the motion and Mr. John Luszczek from Ericsson seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE 2023 AGM

Held on March 21st, 2024. Mr. Sam Khatib from Megabyte Café moved the motion, and Ms. Cathy McCallion from Ross Video seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the previous AGM. The motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL AND CONFIRMATION OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR 2025

Mr. Martin Vandewouw from KRP Properties moved the motion, and Ms. Vicki Coughy from Fidus Systems seconded the motion to approve the Board of Management. The motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes from the 2024 AGM

APPROVAL OF THE 2023 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mr. Sam Khatib from Megabite Café moved the motion, and Ms. Vicki Coughy from Fidus Systems seconded the motion to approve the 2023 Audited Financial Statement (auditor's report). The motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF THE 2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mr. Sam Khatib from Megabite Café moved the motion, and Ms. Cathy McCallion from Ross Video seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Ben Morris called for the presentation of any new business. Ben announced that the KNBA Board of Management is looking for two additional members to add to the board. Ben acknowledged and thanked Mr. Martin Vandewouw, President of KRP Properties (22+ years) for his incredible contribution to our community and wished him the best of luck in his retirement. No additional business was discussed.

APPROVAL TO ADJOURN THE 2024 AGM

Mr. Martin Vandewouw from KRP Properties moved the motion, and Ms. Vicki Coughy from Fidus Systems seconded the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Ben Morris thanked the attendees for their participation.

Mr. Ben Morris declared the meeting adjourned at 10:05am.

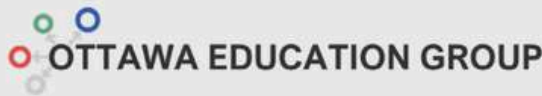


Ben Morris
Chair, KNBA Board of Management



Sandra Crocker
Vice Chair, KNBA Board of Management

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



National Research Council Canada

Conseil national de recherches Canada

