



PROJECT

POLREC

Open call Internationalisation

International Polymer-recycling matchmaking Mission in Quebec, Canada

From the 3rd to 7th of February 2025



Funded by
the European Union



Why going to Quebec, Canada ?

Québec is known for its diversified economy, its strategic location, its abundant natural resources, its numerous free-trade agreements, its booming exports and its capacity for innovation, especially in high-tech and cutting-edge industry.

➤ **Business environment :**

8th largest GDP in Canada with C\$40.1 billion

1,114 manufacturing companies (470 on advanced materials)

C\$92 billion export value in 2018, 70% of it going to the U.S.

➤ **Plastics, rubbers & composites industries:**

Canada is the world's 6th largest producer of plastics. Not counting the mould manufacturing sub-sector, Quebec accounts for 28% of Canadian companies in the plastics and composites industry, putting it in second place, just behind Ontario. Concerning the rubber industry, Quebec has the second largest industry in Canada, with 31% of the Canadian rubber companies.





Focus on Quebec polymer industries

In the plastics sector, injection moulding (34%), profile and tube extrusion (15%) and thermoforming (14%) are the most common processes. The polymer industry employs just under 25,000 employees, 85% of companies are SMEs with fewer than 100 employees with an average of 50 employees per company. The main applications markets are : Consumer goods or packaging, Products for the construction sector, Industrial supplies and Transport and marine leisure.

In the composites sector, the most common processes are contact moulding(19%), die-cutting (19%), injection (15%) and spraying (13%) are the most commonly used.

In the elastomer sectors, the majority of companies are involved in rubber processing, representing 6025 employees and 82 enterprises : 13 % of the companies from the rubber industry are involved in tyre processing, 28% in flexible tube and car's belt and 55% in other types of products. The industry employs 6025 employees.





Quebec recycling technologies

Circular economy and recycling of waste are key topics for the polymer and elastomer industries from the Quebec province. According to the cluster Alliance Polymer Quebec 70% of the plastic companies from Quebec use up to 79% recycled plastics. For the rubbers industries, 68% of rubbers companies are optimising production in order to reduce waste and

POLREC's partners have identified several companies and innovation projects on polymer & elastomer recycling, that could be include in the programme of site-visits according to the profile of participants. Below are some example :

- [Exxelpolymers](#)
- [Polystyvert](#)
- [RePlast products](#)
- [Environek](#)
- [Bridgestone Canada](#)
- [AirBoss](#)
- [Continental](#)





Our 3 Canadian clusters partners

POLREC's partners will collaborate closely with 3 industrial clusters, representing the plastics, rubbers and composites industries of Quebec, in elaborating the agenda of the exploratory and matchmaking mission :

- [Polymers Alliance Quebec](#) : the Alliance Polymers Québec (APQ) includes companies in the plastics, composite materials and mould and tool manufacturing sectors. Through its actions, the cluster aims to mobilize and coordinate the actions of economic partners around common objectives and intervention methods to promote the development of the composite and plastic materials sector in the province of Québec.
- [Prima Quebec](#) : PRIMA Quebec, the Advanced Materials Research and Innovation hub, supports and facilitates the advanced materials ecosystem by promoting collaborative innovation for the economic development of Quebec. It is the privileged catalyst between the industrial and research communities.
- [Elastomer Valley](#) : Elastomer Valley consists of a group of Canadian companies from all over the province of Quebec that have joined forces to pursue development opportunities. The group's shared vision is to be recognized as an international hub for its expertise, ingenuity, creativity and flexibility in the research, development and manufacturing of elastomer solutions.





Why participate to the mission ?

- Sectoral Expertise : Gain insights into Canada's polymer recycling market and explore advanced technologies in Quebec. Meet industry experts and share knowledge on innovative polymer recycling solutions.
- Develop Your Internationalization Strategy : Utilize the expertise of the POLREC clusters and partners to expand your reach into international markets. Build your profile in Canada and start forging collaborations with key Canadian enterprises.
- European Matchmaking Opportunities : Connect with European SMEs from the plastics, rubbers, and composites industries that will participate to the mission. Leverage this mission to network and establish relationships within your industry.
- International Matchmaking Opportunities : Take advantage of the mission's extensive Canadian network. Meet and collaborate with Canadian companies, R&D labs, technical centres, and industrial clusters through Canadian cluster connections.
- Schedule Bilateral Meetings : Capitalize on this mission to set up meetings with potential business partners, customers, and stakeholders, creating valuable business development opportunities.





Tentative agenda

Time (local) & Date	Monday 03.02.2025	Tuesday 04.02.2025	Wednesday 05.02.2025	Thursday 06.02.2025	Friday 07.02.2025
9.00-12.30	Travelling & arrival in Montreal (Check-in hotel)	Transfert to Sherbrooke & site-visit	Match-making/networking event organised in collaboration with Canadian clusters	Site-visit	Transfert to Montreal
12.30 – 14.00		Lunch		Lunch	Lunch
14.00 – 17.00		Site-visit		Site-visit	Site-visit
17-19.00	Presentation of the canadian ecosystem	Site-visit	Transfer to Quebec	Free time	Free time/ Departure
19.00 -21.00	Networking reception reserved to the european delegation	Diner	Diner	Diner	
Location of the hotel	Montreal	Sherbrooke	Quebec	Quebec	





Financial contribution

Type of expenses	Total cost per person	Type of payment
Flights	1000€ per person	Booked and to be paid by each participant considering the timetable for arrivals and departure set in the agenda.
Accommodation	600€ per person for 4 nights	To be paid by each participant before October 2024 at the hotel pre-booked by POLREC's service-provider in charge of the organisation & logistics support.
Restauration	750€ per person for 5 days	To be paid by each participant at each restaurant during the match-making mission.
Transportation	Between 170€ and 250€ per person for 5 days	To be paid by each participant to the service-provider in charge of the organisation & logistics support before October 2024.
Organisation of networking events & logistics support	1000€ per person	To be paid by each participant to the service-provider in charge of the organisation & logistics support before October 2024.
Total amount of expenses	3600€ per person	





Funding available

POLREC Open Call	Objective	Activities funded	Dates	Second optional cut-off	Max. budget per SME	Number of awarded SME
Internationalisation Open Call – matchmaking mission	Support the internationalisation of SMEs from the polymer recycling industries and their development of collaborations in Canada – Quebec.	Participation in a 5-day mission in Quebec (travel included), organised by POLRE's partners, with site-visits and B2B meetings with local enterprises, research centers, clusters etc.	31 May – 31 August 2024	No second cut-off	3600€	Up to 36





Application process

Applicants must submit their proposal for POLREC Internationalisation Open Call on the [Cluster Submission Platform](#) by logging in the platform and filling-in the required fields.

Application questions to answer :

- **Questions about your company, Polymer recycling activities and application markets.**
- **Export turnover in EU countries and outside EU countries (if any).**
- **Is your company already present on the Canadian market? If yes please precise under which form (export sales, employees based in Canada, Canadian partners, sales representative) :**
- **Do you plan to develop your activities on the Canadian market or collaborate with Canadian partners ? If yes, please describe what are your projects.**
- **What type of partners do you want to meet? What topics are you most interested in ?**
- **What are your expectations towards the match-making mission?**





Payment procedure for the international exploratory & match-making mission sub-grant

Successful applications will receive the requested financial contribution in the form of a lump-sum according to the following schedule:

- A **pre-payment of up to 1250€ from the total sub-grant** will be provided to the applicant in **November 2024** after the **proof of its payment of up to 1250€ for the organisation, logistics support and booking of transportation** to the service-provider before the 31st of October 2024. If the applicant fails to respect the required deadline, its participation and sub-grant award will be cancelled and a participant from the waiting list will be awarded instead and invited to participate to the mission.
- The **final payment of the remaining sub-grant** will be provided to the applicant in **April 2025** after its participation to the mission and **upon completion of a report** on the match-making mission impact and international strategy outside the EU.



Open-call Calendar



Internationalisation Open Call - Matchmaking mission	
POLREC Internationalisation open call – Matchmaking mission open for submissions of proposals	31 May - 31 August 2024
Evaluation & Selection of winners	2 – 20 September 2024
Notification letters sent out to candidates	23 – 27 September 2024
1-hour of individual meeting scheduled between POLREC partners and each awarded SME to better defined the SME's needs & expectations on the match-making programme	23 September – 31 October 2024
Pre-payment of the service-provider by the awarded applicant (1,250€)	Before 31st of October 2024
Pre-financing of up to 1,250€ from the total sub-grant to the awarded applicant upon proof of payment to the service-provider	November 2024
Presentation of the final programme of the match-making mission	November 2024
Dates of the match-making mission	03-07 February 2025
Final payment of up to 2,350€ upon delivery of the final deliverable on match-making mission	2 months after the end of the mission





Eligibility rules

1. The applicant must be a legal entity.
2. Be a small or medium sized enterprise (SME) in accordance with the SME definition of the European Union.
3. Apply as an individual organization
4. Be established in EU Member States and Single-Market-Program countries.
5. Be an SME from the polymer industry (plastic or rubber) with project to implement/improve the recycling of industrial polymer waste (For example : SMEs generating waste and looking for a recycling process to implement internally, SME recyclers, SMEs working on recycling technologies)
6. The participant to the match-making mission/representative of the SME must be over the age of 21.





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Pôle de compétitivité des caoutchoucs, plastiques et composites



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