

# Proposed Winter Weather Testing Centre of Excellence in Thompson, Manitoba

With the continuing acceleration of technological advancements, the need for a state-of-the-art winter weather testing facility for vehicles, robots, machinery and equipment has never been greater.

Thompson, Manitoba, is positioned to meet this need. Leveraging an unbeatable combination of prior experience, harsh winter weather, daylight hours, and an accessible location, Thompson is exploring the creation of a leading-edge facility to suit the needs of its future customers, and future global trends.

## Why Thompson, Manitoba?

Located in Northern Manitoba, **Thompson is the premier centre for winter weather testing in Canada, and beyond.** Boasting 25 years of winter weather testing experience, Thompson offers four key advantages:



### Premium Winter Weather

- Average low temperature of below zero Celsius for **222 days** of the year
- Snow cover for up to **six months**
- Average daily low temperature of -20 Celsius or colder for **103 days** of the year
- Considerably longer daylight hours than other northern test locations



### Central Location, Accessibility & Privacy

- Centrally located within the North American land mass
- Well connected by **road, rail, and air all year round**
- Regional isolation and boreal forest helps facilitate test site privacy and confidentiality
- Land available to provide all future infrastructure, building, test tracks, test slopes, and facilities



### Experience & Existing Amenities

- Over **25 years of experience**: Vehicle, snowmobile and aviation companies have been winter and cold weather testing in Thompson **since the 1980s**
- Existing facilities that demonstrate Thompson's ability to use its variety of frozen lakes, secluded terrain, and isolated roads to create real-world results
- Excellent existing community amenities and infrastructure to support visiting clients
- Existing fiber-optic connection that can be leveraged to meet needs of future customers



### Strong Local Economy & Community

- Cost effective testing due to low Canadian dollar
- **Attractive rates for logistics, facilities, accommodation, electricity and gas.**
- Enthusiastic and supportive population
- Variety of recreational and entertainment activities within the city

## What's Proposed?

The Thompson Chamber of Commerce in association with its newly developed brand, “**Sub Zero North Inc.**,” is exploring the feasibility of a Winter Weather Testing Centre of Excellence (WWTCE). This state-of-the-art winter weather facility will accommodate the testing of vehicles, robots, machinery and equipment of all shapes and sizes.



## Who's Involved?



**CAVCOE**, a consulting company which specializes in helping corporate and government clients prepare for the era of autonomous vehicles, is helming the feasibility and concept development work in association with **KGS group**, a Winnipeg-based engineering firm and **Stiletto Consulting**, a market research and strategic planning firm.



Funding for this project has been provided by the **Churchill Regional Economic Development Fund (CRED)**, **Communities Economic Development Fund / Look North (CEDF)**, **Vale** and several other corporate and private donors to formally establish an office to coordinate winter weather testing services.

## Exploring Possibilities

**Thompson has decided it is time to explore its full potential as the world's leading winter weather testing location.**

The proposed facility will marry traditional automotive offerings with leading-edge facilities and digital infrastructure, along with world-class communication links. Clients interested in Thompson's WWTCE will enjoy the customizability that comes with the facility's future-thinking outlook and flexible mandate.

Both small-scale and high-profile customers and clients have the opportunity to find what they need, and more, in Thompson. We want you, our potential client, to tell us what a state-of-the-art winter weather testing facility means to you. In the facility's execution, we aim to beat your expectations.

Real-world conditions for real-life results.

Get your equipment and systems **Thompson-Tested.**

*"Thompson has the potential to be the best outdoor cold weather test site not only in North America but worldwide."*

- Thompson Winter Weather Testing Feasibility Study

*"Nestled in the heart of Canada's boreal forest, the City of Thompson is northern Manitoba's bustling regional hub. We are proud of our capability to provide "real-world" test conditions in a pristine natural environment, and the strength of our commitment to the cold weather testing industry. An abundance of cold weather is matched only by our warm hospitality."*

- Jimmy Pelk, WWTCE Committee Chair

## Contact us to learn more:

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