CANADA'S ENGAGED UNIVERSITY
SFU Innovates is a university-wide strategy that builds on our dynamic culture and seeks to strengthen Simon Fraser University’s commitment to innovation and entrepreneurship. Based on SFU’s vision to be Canada’s engaged university, SFU Innovates helps students and researchers mobilize their ideas for positive social and economic impact. **SFU Innovates is moving ideas into action.**

SFU Innovates **brings together one of the world’s most comprehensive continuums of programming and resources for entrepreneurs and changemakers**, from interdisciplinary learning; early stage ideation and venture mentorship; to helping companies scale up. SFU offers programming at every stage of the innovation journey.
SFU Innovates’ four interconnected pillars

**INDUSTRY & COMMUNITY RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS**
Bridging the gap to create innovations that benefit society.

**INCUBATION & ACCELERATION**
Transforming ideas developed in the classroom, lab and community into ventures that scale.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
Developing a mindset that applies creativity, adaptability and collaboration to solve problems that matter.

**SOCIAL INNOVATION**
Developing emerging leaders and solutions for a sustainable, just and healthy community.
INDUSTRY & COMMUNITY RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

Bridging the gap to create innovations that benefit society.
SFU Industry Engagement Office

SFU’s Industry Engagement Office works with industry and community organizations to identify research and co-innovation partnerships. **We believe that innovation is best achieved via the intersection of disciplines and sectors.** For example, SFU and Pacific Blue Cross have partnered together to form a Health Informatics Lab, which is advancing computational health research. This partnership brings researchers together to merge expertise in data science, statistics, health science, big data, business strategy, visualization design, security and privacy.

4D LABS

4D LABS is SFU’s $65-million, state-of-the-art materials science and engineering facility where researchers, engineers and industry clients can develop prototypes and leverage characterization and testing equipment to understand and resolve product issues. By providing comprehensive expertise and equipment all under one roof, 4D LABS brings in industry clients like Cooledge Lighting, Automotive Fuel Cell Corporation, Philips Ledalite and Mercedes Benz. **The interaction between industry, researchers and 4D LABS’ material experts has fostered an environment that has successfully transformed research into world-class companies** like Nanotech Security, Switch Materials and Ionomr.
Innovation Boulevard

Innovation Boulevard is a partnership between the City of Surrey and Simon Fraser University, created to foster an environment of innovation and collaboration and assist in the rapid commercialization of intelligent health technology solutions. Innovation Boulevard teams are exploring point-of-care devices, neutrotechnologies, medical computing applications with big data and advances in independent living. Through a combination of partnership, entrepreneurship and new technology, Innovation Boulevard is developing solutions to some of the most pressing challenges in the health care system.
Our goal is improve health care by creating a world-leading computational health research lab that focuses on the development of health informatics products and services. We are excited to lead the development of next generation technology with SFU.”

Jan K. Grude  
President and CEO, Pacific Blue Cross

4D LABS is an important resource for technology startups. Not only did 4D LABS provide access to prototyping tools that we otherwise could not afford, but their in-house advanced materials experts and researchers worked closely with us to evaluate and develop our technology.”

Philippe Schick  
VP Engineering, Cooledge Lighting
INCUBATION & ACCELERATION

Transforming ideas developed in the classroom, lab and community into ventures that scale.
VentureLabs®

VentureLabs is a highly successful business accelerator that works with science, technology and innovation-based companies that have strong value propositions and potential to scale-up. VentureLabs and its partners are committed to the creation of world-class companies through programs such as:

**Incubate Innovate Network of Canada (I-INC)** an innovation and business acceleration network founded by Simon Fraser University, Ryerson University and the University of Ontario Institute of Technology. The pan-Canadian business accelerator network connects partner universities’ strengths in technology research, innovation and commercialization in a nationally and internationally linked accelerator network that drives science & technology-based innovation, productivity and job creation.

**C2-CAN** supports commercialization of advanced technologies originating from China and Canada. The network connects technology innovators and entrepreneurial leaders with the people, programs and resources needed to accelerate commercialization and venture growth in both countries.
Coast Capital Savings Venture Connection®

Students, staff, faculty and recent alumni can apply to the Venture Connection incubator, which supports early stage entrepreneurs through:

- **Mentor Meet**: a flagship program run at all campuses where entrepreneurs can book time to address questions with seasoned mentors

- **Spark**: a self-guided validation process for ideas and ventures

- **Ignite**: a later stage incubation program with a dedicated mentor

- **Re-kindled**: a program for SFU alumni and serial entrepreneurs to receive support and opportunities to work closely with the SFU community
Coast Capital Savings Venture Connection provides a risk-tolerant and supportive environment to develop new technologies. They have helped us bridge different industries and disciplines together to create something bigger.”

Yash Pachchigar
Mechatronics Systems Engineering student and Co-founder of Vamotech

Being part of the VentureLabs network has created a ton of opportunities for Curiate from access to investors and strategic partners that are helping us explore opportunities for expansion into China and other international markets.”

Jennifer Chen
CEO, Curiate
Entrepreneurship

Developing a mindset that applies creativity, adaptability and collaboration to solve problems that matter.
Charles Chang Certificate in Innovation and Entrepreneurship

While most entrepreneurship certificates are offered by a single faculty, at SFU our certificate program is delivered and supported by seven faculties including the Beedie School of Business, Faculties of Applied Sciences, Communication, Art and Technology, Environment, Science and Health Science and is supported by Coast Capital Savings Venture Connection® and RADIUS incubators. In this unique model, undergraduate students, as early as their second semester, can choose their own adventure by enrolling in classes and programs that focus on the specific types of problems they want to solve, ranging from health, environmental, business, technology to design. Multi-disciplinary participation and real-world problem solving differentiates a student’s experience at SFU.

Invention to Innovation — Graduate Certificate in Science and Technology Commercialization

This pioneering certificate program equips graduate and post-doctoral students with the management skills they need to make their inventions a commercial success. The program is taught by leading faculty and Innovation scholars from SFU and provides frameworks and skills that contribute to new product development, whether for an existing firm or start-up venture. The Graduate Certificate in Science & Technology Commercialization develops skills such as opportunity assessment, market prioritization, innovation management, leadership and how to develop and validate a business model.
The Technology Entrepreneurship program takes Business and Applied Science students and puts them into interdisciplinary teams to develop market-based solutions. I have learned to embrace the messy, non-linear product design process and am working towards an actual venture through the support and mentorship of Venture Connection.”

William Brenner
Co-founder and CEO, Orello Hearing
and SFU Beedie School of Business Graduate

80% of PhD students in science and engineering in Canada won’t go into a career in academia. However, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) would employ our scientists, but require them to know something about new product development. That’s what we aim to do with this program.”

Elicia Maine
Professor in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Academic Director, Science and Technology Commercialization
Developing emerging leaders and solutions for a sustainable, just and healthy community.

SOCIAL INNOVATION
RADIUS (RADical Ideas, Useful to Society)

RADIUS is SFU’s social innovation lab and venture incubator, supporting innovators to question old rules and push forward new ideas about how our economy and society might work. RADIUS develops social economy leaders via its Fellowship program, builds innovation lab programs with community partners like Ecotrust Canada to test new economic models and ideas, delivers incubation and acceleration programs for social ventures, and runs experiential courses like the SFU Change Lab.

RADIUS Ventures

RADIUS Ventures helps social ventures that are addressing meaningful societal and/or environmental challenges become market ready, growth ready and investor ready.

RADIUS programs include:

- **Trampoline**: a validation stage program for social impact-focused entrepreneurs seeking to test and refine their business model
- **Slingshot**: an intensive 6-12 month program for high impact, growth stage companies that are pursuing growth capital, new market entry or new product launch
- **RBC First Peoples Enterprise Accelerator**: a program that provides support and services to Aboriginal entrepreneurs who wish to become the next generation of leading innovators. With assistance from local Aboriginal partners, its incubation programming offers technical assistance as well as strong research and evaluation processes. The program is facilitated in partnership with SFU’s EMBA in Aboriginal Business and Leadership.
From Ecotrust Canada’s perspective, the LEDlab partnership with RADIUS is an exciting marriage of our organization’s boots-on-the-ground community development work with the social venture expertise and research rigour of RADIUS and Simon Fraser University.”

Brenda Kuecks
Former President, Ecotrust Canada

RADIUS’ Slingshot program gave me an opportunity to engage with a group that is driven by social impact. I had no business training and Slingshot gave me the opportunity to learn about a core set of principles, understand social enterprise practices and work with mentors who really cared and continue to care about my success.”

Craig Vandermeer
CEO and Founder, Insight Global Education
ENGAGE WITH SFU INNOVATES

Industry and Community Partners

➔ Are you interested in learning more about SFU’s areas of expertise and facilities that support innovation and research?

Researchers

➔ Are you looking for funding opportunities?
➔ Are you interested in co-innovation with industry and community partners?

Students

➔ Are you interested in entrepreneurship or social changemaking?
➔ Do you have an idea or venture that you would like to build or explore?
MOVE YOUR IDEAS INTO ACTION.

Visit www.sfu.ca/innovates