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Saab strengthens ties to Quebec and Canada through CRIAQ partnership

Saab and the Consortium for Research and Innovation in Aerospace in Quebec (CRIAQ) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

This collaborative relationship aims to leverage Quebec's R&D ecosystem's strengths to encourage the development of collaborative research projects between Saab and Canadian industry, as well as universities and research organizations.

This collaboration has been formed to support Saab's future Industrial and Technological Benefit (ITB) commitments, if the Gripen fighter is selected for Canada's Future Fighter Capability Project (FFCP).

"The quality and breadth of aerospace research and innovation in Canada is globally recognised, with the Quebec region home to many excellent companies and institutions. Therefore, it was natural to reach this agreement with an important organisation like CRIAQ. We look forward to working together to benefit research and the fostering of talent in Quebec," said Jonas Hjelm, Senior Vice President and Saab's Head of business area Aeronautics.

"During such unsure times within the industry, this partnership demonstrates that the aerospace industry in Quebec and Canada remains attractive and world class. We are very pleased with this signing as we continue to develop our aerospace industry, adding a new global player to our ecosystem. I am convinced that CRIAQ's academic, industrial and SME community, and the Quebec economy as well, will clearly benefit from this international collaboration," said Alain Aubertin, CEO of CRIAQ.

The ITB Policy is the government's main tool for leveraging procurement to create jobs and economic growth in Canada. Saab has submitted an offer of 88 Gripen E fighters for the Canadian FFCP, and a core element of the Gripen industrial offering includes CAE in Montreal, Quebec who will supply training and mission systems solutions.

The MoU was signed in April 2020.

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About CRIAQ

The Consortium for Research and Innovation in Aerospace in Quebec (CRIAQ) is a non-profit organization (NPO) created in 2002 with the financial support of the Government of Quebec. Its mission is to increase the competitiveness of the aerospace industry by stimulating business innovation through collaborative R&D. Its role is to bring ecosystems together and develop a new generation of innovators to strengthen Québec's technological leadership in cutting-edge aerospace applications: digital aviation, air mobility of the future and sustainable aerospace

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