

## **Innovation Ecosystem Working Group**

September 21, 2020

10:00 - 11:00am

### **Draft Minutes**

**In attendance:** Julie Chen, Robby Bitting, Leslie Greis, Carlo Canetta, Israel Soibelman, Laura Teicher, Megan Marszalek, Liz Reynolds, Carolyn Kirk, Farhad Vazehgoo, Helena Fruscio-Altman, Scott Martin, and Meghan Abella-Bowen.

#### **Welcome and Introduction:**

Helena welcomed the attendees and took roll call.

#### **Approval of minutes:**

August Innovation Ecosystem meeting minutes approved unanimously.

#### **Update and Feedback on Innovation Ecosystem Strawman Model:**

Farhad provided an overview of the Innovation Strawman Proposal with feedback from working group members. The “Stakeholder” section was updated and aligned to reflect roles of the stakeholders. Specifying how we’re internally defining different aspects of the system.

- Based on input, have we identified the correct Stakeholder?
- SMEs vary differently across the industry; some are huge and some are smaller than 25 people. Hard to qualify/define them with just one definition.
- We don’t want to get hung up on size, but breaking them down by role/function/specialty could be effective (devices vs. process).
- Describe what we know they (SMEs) look like in MA, small batch, high value added, supply vs industry.
- Do SMEs fill the role of everything in between Start-ups and OEMs?
- Does every SME have a role in the ecosystem? Who are the SMEs we want to target?
- Look at industries that are accessing technology and upgrading, how do we help them become more innovative?
- Start-up piece is what really sets MA apart from the competition.
- Understanding the attributes that define the system are key. How are the elements applied to different stakeholders?
- Academia plays roll in rolling out start-ups and providing supports, but how we pass them off to the next step in the process is broken.
- Why are we not doing a better job rolling out start-ups?
- The work done by the FFRDC’s is focused on government problems and does not match 1 to 1 with commercial applications. They design for prototyping not for manufacturing.
- What can be done to reduce risk?

- We have gaps in the ecosystem. The system is highly reliant on relations with one another. Strength of innovation supports needs filled by same organization. Not Systematized.

**Next Steps:**

Review the Ecosystem by community (Start-up, SMEs, OEMs) and identify strengths and challenges and opportunities for each community.

**Materials and Exhibits Used at this Meeting:**

1. Draft Minutes – August 17, 2020 Innovation Ecosystem meeting minutes
2. Presentation – Innovation Ecosystem Meeting, September 21, 2020