The Ontario BioAuto Council, headquartered in Guelph, Canada, is an industry-led, not-for-profit organization established in 2007 to link chemicals, plastics, manufacturing, auto parts and automotive assemblers with agriculture and forestry.

The Council’s membership includes large Canadian auto parts companies who manufacture and sell products around the world. Foreign membership is attracted from multi-national industrial biotechnology, chemical and agri-business companies wanting to partner with Ontario’s manufacturing sector to develop global markets for biobased products.

The Council also links industry with leading universities and provincial and international centres of research excellence in bioplastics and biocomposites. Auto21, The National Research Council of Canada and FP Innovations are a few of the important research links.

The Ontario BioAuto Council established a Commercialization Fund in 2007 with initial start-up funding of $6 million from the Province of Ontario. The fund helps to diminish the risk for companies commercializing bio-based products and processes using emerging green technologies (e.g. biotechnology, nanotechnology, green chemistry and material science). Funding is eligible to Ontario-based startups, small and medium enterprises and multi-national companies who typically partner with international biopolymer and biochemical suppliers in the product and market development process.

The initiatives of the Council and its Commercialization Fund focus on four major priorities:

- Improving the global competitiveness of Ontario’s manufacturing sector – by developing new products that can better compete on price, performance and environmental footprint.
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions – by using renewable-based bioplastics, biochemicals and high performance natural fibre composite materials that can reduce vehicle weight and improve recyclability.
- Reducing the use of toxic chemicals in production processes and consumer products.
- Increase market demand for bioplastics and biochemicals across industry sectors.

The Council also establishes partnerships between Ontario’s global automotive and manufacturing sectors and similar sectors in the US, Europe, Brazil and Japan. Through these partnerships it hopes to accelerate the commercialization of new technologies and build global market demand.