

## Thomas Rankin

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### Biography

Thomas Rankin is an investment manager at Innovacorp, where his focus is on identifying attractive seed and early stage investment opportunities in the clean technology sectors. He manages all aspects of the investment review, approval and closing cycle, and works hands-on with Innovacorp's portfolio companies to assist them in accelerating their growth, achieving milestones and securing additional financing.

Prior to joining Innovacorp, Thomas worked in international trade and clean technology development for seven years with Jacques Whitford (Stantec) and the Province of Nova Scotia. Internationally, he has experience developing business in Northern Europe, the Arabian Gulf, the Caribbean, the US and Mexico.

Thomas has an MBA from Dalhousie University and a Certified Management Accountant accreditation from CMA Canada. He is a graduate of the American Venture Capital Institute.

Thomas was recently selected as a member of the 2012 Clean50, a list that honours outstanding contributors to sustainability and clean capitalism in Canada. He was chosen for his work in building Nova Scotia's clean technology industry and increasing investment opportunities for local start-ups.

### Presentation Abstract: Venture Capital and the Clean Energy Revolution

Drastically increasing global energy demands have spurred a need for innovation. Energy generation, efficiency and management are critical opportunity areas as we head to a world of seven billion users. Global spending on clean energy reached \$260 billion in 2011, an amount that is expected to triple by 2020.

With its wealth of potential energy from sun, wind, wood and water, Nova Scotia is well positioned to become a global player in the field of energy innovation. The provincial government has stepped up to the plate through progressive environmental and energy policies. The stage is set, but much work remains. New business innovations are required if we are to maximize our share of the pie.

The Nova Scotia Clean Technology Fund – an early-stage venture capital fund managed by Innovacorp – seeks to fill the gap in financing for innovative new energy companies that will drive productivity and economic growth at home while creating companies that will compete for the global prize.