



“Paying the Price”

Biography: Mr. Michael Dennis, Innovacorp

Michael Dennis is an investment manager at Innovacorp, where his focus is on identifying and developing seed and early-stage investment opportunities in the life sciences sectors. He manages all aspects of the investment review, approval and closing cycle. Michael has extensive experience in the commercialization of life sciences technologies through his career as a research scientist, entrepreneur and executive in early-stage biotechnology start-ups.

Prior to joining Innovacorp, Michael was CEO of Performance Genomics Inc. of Truro where he led a turn-around based on strategic partnering and financing for the company’s R&D program. He previously founded BlueBio Sustainable Biotechnology, a biotechnology consulting company based in Nova Scotia, and served as CEO of Genome Atlantic where he led development and financing of large-scale genomics research projects in Atlantic Canada. Michael also spent 15 years in the biotechnology industry in Montreal where he was co-founder and CEO of BioSignal, a biotechnology tools company that raised several rounds of venture financing, grew to profitability and was acquired by a U.S.-based multinational. He then served as CEO for SignalGene, a publically-traded medical genomics company where he led private and public financings and established strategic alliances with partners in the U.S. and E.U.

Michael holds a B.Sc. and M.Sc. from Dalhousie University and a doctorate in biochemistry from the Université de Montréal. He worked as a research associate at the National Research Council’s Biotechnology Research Institute and as an associate professor in pharmacology at the Université de Montréal. Michael has previously served on the board and investment committee of Innovacorp.