Q2 2020

Impact Highlights

Invest Ottawa is the lead economic development agency for knowledge based industries in Canada’s Capital, facilitating wealth and job creation in the City of Ottawa. Our team delivers venture development, global expansion and talent programs and services that help to fuel the growth and success of entrepreneurs and firms.

Invest Ottawa is helping to:

Fuel the Growth of Our Economy

- **768** Jobs facilitated
- **$64M** Domestic and foreign investment attracted
- **$148M** Capital attracted by startup portfolio

Increase the Global Competitiveness of Companies

- **178** Business expansion meetings
- **127** Foreign direct investment meetings
- **5** Companies helped to grow globally
- **33** Helped to Grow Locally
Attract New Talent and Firms

- 8 Missions to foreign markets
- 1 Visiting foreign delegations to Ottawa
- 2 International soft landings
- 4 Foreign Investor Visits to Ottawa

Accelerate the Growth of Startups and Scaleups

- 5,199 Workshop attendees
- 4,380 Advisory hours provided
- 271 Startup companies actively engaged
- $1.4M Value of market analysis reports
- 65 Net Promoter Score

Enable the Development, Attraction, and Retention of Top Talent

- 3,915 Candidates registered in the talent program
- 50 (82) Firms with active requisitions (jobs)
- 25 Hires through the talent program
- 10 Program PR/Recruiting events completed

Drive CAV and Smart City Innovation and Business through the L5

- $32M Total L5 public-private investment
- 24 SMEs and Firms Supported
- 4 Impactful R&D and Business Events
COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS – 2020 Q2

ADVANCED SYMBOLICS INC.

Disrupting Traditional Market Research During COVID With On-Demand Insights

How do you predict the future? Who will win an election? How will people react in a pandemic? What is the suicide risk in populations? By combining Artificial Intelligence (AI) with market research, you can produce insights with much more accurate trending and forecasting.

Advanced Symbolics Inc. (ASI) is a leading market research company that uses AI to predict human behavior. Its President and CEO, Erin Kelly, has over 20 years experience in advertising and market research, and is a Chartered Professional Accountant. She is featured regularly in the Canadian and international media and was recently selected by Canada51 and Women of Influence as one of the top “25 Women to Watch” for her leadership, resilience and forward thinking.

The research done by Polly, ASI’s Artificial Intelligence product, has provided insights to organizations such as GM, Health Canada, The World Wildlife Fund and many other companies around the world. ASI holds two U.S. patents on population sampling for online media and recently correctly predicted the BREXIT vote and the 2016 American Election.

ASI and its innovative tech solutions are in-demand in Canada and around the world during this current pandemic.

“This crisis has made access to immediate and reliable information more important than ever, giving us the opportunity to showcase the value of our Canadian AI,” says Kelly.

VBI VACCINES

VBI Vaccines Awarded Up to CAD$56 Million Contribution from Canadian Government to Accelerate Coronavirus Vaccine Development

VBI Vaccines, whose Canadian Research operations are in Ottawa, has recently been awarded up to $56 Million from the Canadian Government to accelerate the development of their anti-Coronavirus Vaccine program.
The funding will allow VBI Vaccines to further their study with the National Research Council of Canada (NRC), support the advancement of their Phase 2 clinical development and lead to clinical testing by the end of 2020. VBI Vaccines expects the grant money will be used to expand the workforce at its research and development facility in Ottawa and finalize their manufacturing process.

“We are grateful for the support of the Government of Canada and we share their public health commitment to providing an effective response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic,” said Jeff Baxter, President and CEO of VBI Vaccines. “This funding will help accelerate our vaccine candidates into and through clinical development.”

The Canadian Government is currently communicating with leading pharmaceutical companies to guarantee a supply of candidates for potential COVID vaccines. “We are working hard on all possible fronts to deliver safe and effective treatments and vaccines against COVID-19 for Canadians as fast as possible,” said The Honourable Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry.

Invest Ottawa’s Global Expansion team has supported VBI Vaccines over the past year by fostering strategic collaborations and supporting grant applications, including the company’s COVID-19 vaccine application. This enabled the company to increase their awareness at the government level and their biopharmaceutical footprint in Ottawa.

INVEST OTTAWA COVID-19 RESPONSE

51
Number of Accelerator and Scale-Up companies engaged in addressing challenges caused by COVID-19

46
Number of BRE Companies engaged in addressing challenges caused by COVID-19

411M
Invest Ottawa Media Relations Reach