

Presentation Name: Building regional innovation partnerships that work

Organizer

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Abstract:

Within Mississauga an enviable partnership has developed that includes the municipal government (City of Mississauga Mayor's Office and Economic Development Office), the post-secondary institutions (U of T Mississauga and Sheridan College), The Regional Innovation Centre (Research Innovation and Commercialization (RIC) Centre) and our numerous industry partners. This partnership has developed over several decades and is a key component that has led to the success of our region as an innovative player both nationally and internationally. The Economic Development office strategically connects with international organizations to showcase the innovation and collaboration happening in this region to establish new ties, encourage business expansion and develop supply chains. They have been incredibly successful in this and Mississauga is positioned as Canada's second largest life sciences cluster with more than 400+ life science companies in the city. More recently the convergence between Mississauga's life sciences and information and communications technology cluster is helping to advance innovation and deliver digital health solutions. In addition Mississauga has a strong advanced manufacturing sector employing over 73,000. The RIC Centre has been integral in helping foster new and developing entrepreneurial companies and ensuring they have the support and funding to grow and remain in the region and to provide ties to the appropriate industry partners, in fact they are located in the Xerox research facility in Sheridan Park. The post-secondary institutions work closely with each of these groups and their industry partners, providing highly qualified students for cooperative placements and fulltime roles post-graduation in industry and developing entrepreneurial education and opportunities for students and community members to develop a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship both on campus and in the community. The collaborative efforts of all these partners has allowed for the city and region to excel in advancing Canada's innovation agenda, and this partnership will continue to grow and provide support to all of our stakeholders.