



MEDIA RELEASE
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**Proven Innovator Takes over Helm at Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE)
Dr. Tom Corr brings Industry-Academia-Entrepreneur Experience to Position**

TORONTO – Regarded as one of Canada’s foremost experts in bringing research to commercial success, Dr. Tom Corr, currently CEO of the Accelerator Centre at the Waterloo Research and Technology Park, and Associate Vice President of Commercialization, University of Waterloo, has been named as the new President and Chief Executive Officer of Ontario Centres of Excellence Inc.

The appointment of the new CEO was announced today by OCE’s Chair of the Board of Directors, David J. McFadden. Dr. Corr will assume the new position March 1st.

“We are extremely pleased that Tom has decided to join Ontario Centres of Excellence at such an exciting time for innovation in the province,” said McFadden. “Tom knows what the innovation continuum is all about because he’s lived it. He is a successful entrepreneur who knows what it takes to drive new ideas from inception to commercial success.”

Dr. Corr’s appointment was announced following an extensive, executive search with a number of outstanding candidates. McFadden said Dr. Corr was chosen in part because of his unique background linking academia, industry and entrepreneurs which will serve him well as he takes on his new role at OCE. Dr. Corr’s relationships within the financial community with venture capitalists as well as his interaction with various levels of government made him a natural fit for the CEO role, said McFadden.

Dr. Corr is the Associate Vice President of Commercialization at the University of Waterloo, CEO of the Accelerator Centre at the Waterloo Research and Technology Park and CEO of the Accelerator for Commercialization Excellence (ACE). Prior to that he was also Director of Commercialization - IT & Communications at the University of Toronto.

“I sincerely believe I am joining OCE at the beginning of a new era,” Corr said. “OCE is an incredible organization with an enviable track record of taking great ideas to commercial success. These are going to be very exciting times and OCE will play an integral role in the recently announced Ontario Network of Excellence (ONE). I look forward to working with all of OCE’s partners to further the role of innovation in the province and drive Ontario’s innovation agenda.”

Dr. Corr’s career spans more than 30 years in the IT sector including positions as Managing Partner at Catalyst Partnership; founder and CEO of Momentum Systems; founder, CEO and President of Applied Development Corp., and President of Canadian Data Processing Corp. He has also taught in the EMBA program at the University of Toronto and is an industry professor at McMaster University.

His education includes a Doctor of Business Administration degree from Henley Management College/Brunel University in England, an MBA from the University of Toronto, and an Advanced Post Graduate Degree in Management Consultancy from Henley Management College.

Dr. Corr is also a graduate of the Directors Education Program of the Institute of Corporate Directors and holds the ICD.D designation.

McFadden also expressed his thanks to David Choat who will continue to serve as Interim CEO until March 1st and OCE Board of Directors' search committee for their time and efforts.

For more information contact Sean McNeely at (416)-861-1092 ext. 1034 or sean.mcneely@oce-ontario.org

About Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) Inc. (www.oce-ontario.org)

Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) Inc. drives the commercialization of cutting-edge research across key market sectors to build the economy of tomorrow and secure Ontario's global competitiveness. In doing this, OCE fosters the training and development of the next generation of innovators and entrepreneurs and is a key partner with Ontario's industry, universities, colleges, research hospitals, investors and governments. OCE's Centres work in communications and information technology, earth and environmental technologies, energy, materials and manufacturing and photonics. OCE is funded by the government of Ontario and is a key partner in delivering Ontario's Innovation Agenda. OCE through its Centre for Commercialization of Research (CCR), an initiative supported by the federal government, also acts as a catalyst which allows innovative businesses to grow and achieve sustainable, commercial success and global competitiveness.