



Ontario Centres of Excellence

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Bryan Kanarens
Interim Director, Investment Accelerator Fund



OCE is pleased to appoint Bryan Kanarens as Interim Director of the Investment Accelerator Fund (IAF). IAF is one component of the Ministry of Research and Innovation's \$46 million Market Readiness Program.

The Market Readiness Program is being jointly delivered by OCE and MaRS to help build an effective innovation "ecosystem" to support delivery of a wide range of services offered to technology-based entrepreneurs, start-ups and SMEs in Ontario.

MaRS will administer the Business Mentorship and Entrepreneurship Program (BMEP) designed to deliver the management skills entrepreneurs need to take their high-tech product or service to market. OCE will administer the \$29 million IAF seed fund that will provide critical early stage investment to high-potential, technology based Ontario companies to get them off-the-ground and attract investment from other sources.

IAF and BMEP will be delivered in collaboration with a broad base of regional and sector specific partners to make the program accessible throughout the province. Bryan will be working closely with MaRS and OCE's senior management and business development teams as these exciting new initiatives are implemented.

Since joining OCE in 2002, Bryan has undertaken various roles, particularly within the Centre for Communications and Information Technology; first as Business Development Manager; most recently as Director of Strategic Programs. Previously, as Vice President and General Manager of WSi Interactive Corporation, a publicly traded technology incubator, Bryan steered venture and acquisition activities, and new business development. As head of Thomson & Associates, a direct marketing agency, Bryan and his team delivered customer loyalty programs for Air Canada, Sears, Imperial Oil and McLean Hunter. He also held a number of senior positions with American Express encompassing corporate planning, marketing, merchandising and customer loyalty programs.

Are you looking for an opportunity to make a tangible, tactical and strategic difference to Ontario's innovation agenda? If you possess superior management and interpersonal communication skills, visit our [Career Section](#) where you'll find exciting leadership opportunities with Ontario Centres of Excellence.