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Canada Eyes Leading Role in Regenerative Medicine

An Interview with leaders at the Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine (CCRM):

Michael May President & CEO

Mitchel Sivilotti Chief Operating Officer

Michael May

I was a scientist, and I decided that I wanted to try to bridge the gap between science and industry and entrepreneurship. So I'm the President and CEO of the Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine, or CCRM. And it's a centre to accelerate the development of regenerative medicine technologies to the clinic, and ultimately to the market, regenerative medicine being associated with the promise of stem cells.

Mitchel Sivilotti

An important reason why CCRM exists is because Canada is starting to understand very well that there's a gap between all the great research that we do and commercializing that, making companies that can grow and be a strong part of our economy here. It's very difficult for companies to get from that initial idea to the clinic, to the patient, to an organization that is creating revenue to grow an economy. It's a long process, particularly in the therapeutic area where a lot needs to be invested in those early stages when ideas just aren't proven.
[question.](#)

Michael May

Stem cells were discovered in Toronto. There's a legacy of scientific excellence in the country. But eventually, how do we get a return, how do we translate that excellent science into products? What we are doing with academic partners and industry partners is putting together all the pieces of the puzzle that can fill in those gaps.

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