

# **Making Science Pay Off for Everyone**

An Interview with **Daniel Debow**, Technology Entrepreneur, CEO & Co-founder, Helpful

**Judy Goldring**, Executive Vice-President & Chief Operating Officer, AGF Management Limited

**Bilal Khan**, Founding CEO, OneEleven Innovation Hub **Stefan Larson**, Biotechnology Entrepreneur and Venture Partner, Versant Ventures

#### **Daniel Debow**

I think it's important for the government to be one of the key funders of basic research because in many cases businesses and other sources of funding are not there. Because the types of things that research scientists who are doing pure curiosity-driven research, the very definition of what they're doing means they can't necessarily give an answer to when this turns into a product or service that makes money. And the society as a whole still has a huge amount of benefit when a collection of scientists are chasing crazy ideas, and a few of them actually pay off. They come together in strange and unexpected ways.

## **Judy Goldring**

The innovative economy is absolutely linked to research and research investment. When I look at the future of our industry, I look at how technology is going to shape investing. We need to make sure we stay ahead of the curve on that.

#### **Bilal Khan**

We have policy makers who need to get out of this four-year mindset and we have to start thinking really disruptive, really meaningful business opportunities. Really meaningful economic opportunities get created when you think longer term. This is fundamentally at its core around bold leadership and driving our economy forward, versus short-term wins, which feel good in the short term but really can be detrimental down the road.



#### **Stefan Larson**

We as Canadians have to look at how are we competitive in the world? For Canada to continue to compete we have to maintain and increase government funding for basic research.

### **Daniel Debow**

I think this is a fundamental thing, it's as fundamental as investing in hospitals, as investing in highways, as investing in schools, as investing in basic research to understand the nature of our universe and what we're doing here.