



# RESEARCH2REALITY

Shining a light on research & innovation.

## A Cure for Investor Skepticism

**Mitchel Sivilotti**, Chief Operating Officer, CCRM, Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine

CCRM is a leader in development and commercialization of regenerative medicine. An important reason why CCRM exists is because 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. And some of the things that CCRM is doing is we're starting at every level there, in terms of forming those companies and creating an industry.

We start very early in working with academics, helping them understand what intellectual property is, what patents are, how the beginning stages of commercialization start. We bring in a lot of students from Canadian universities, for example. We have a great deal of PhDs who are working here, and we're training. We train those people internally, and they can end up being the leaders of tomorrow in those companies that are spun out.

As well, we're providing the commercialization expertise in later stages, to provide support in creating the companies, helping them raise money, et cetera. And then there's the next step of that, where we have the laboratory facilities here, filling gaps in their scientific process, in their manufacturing process, for clinical trials or at a commercial level for eventual commercialization.

Regenerative medicine is still a very early area in healthcare. That said, there are many things that are making it to market today. Most recently we can speak of the approval of an immunotherapy by Novartis. This was approved

TODAY'S RESEARCH. TOMORROW'S REALITY.

