



# Cape Breton

## Nova Scotia, Canada



## Technology & Innovation

Few places in the world provide such strong support to bring an idea from the concept stage to the commercialization stage. With a growing cluster of over 40 firms involved in various IT-related activities, Cape Breton is an ideal place for companies looking to establish or grow operations. Innovative businesses create products and services in such diverse fields as medical devices, nutraceuticals, gaming and the music industry.



### Investment Opportunities

- ▶ **Launch a new innovation business**  
With R&D support from our university and colleges as well as government programs, Cape Breton has many advantages to offer new ventures in the technology and innovation sector. Companies that are not geographically dependent find that Cape Breton's quality of life and business climate allow them to attract talent and retain them with very low turnover rates.
- ▶ **Provide technical and customer support**  
Cape Breton has become a hub for telecommunications-based technical support and customer contacts centres. International firms have located here due to our pool of skilled talent, low turnover rate and telecommunications infrastructure.

- ▶ **Draw on the region's natural products**  
Cape Breton's inherent strengths can be the base ingredient or the value-added feature for your technology & innovation venture. Our minerals, forests and the sea yield abundant natural products which can open up vast opportunities for business.

### Top Reasons to Invest in Cape Breton

- ▶ **Skilled workforce**  
Cape Breton University (CBU) and Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) campuses can provide a talent pool for technology and innovative businesses. The low cost of living and unmatched quality of life helps to attract and retain top talent.

- ▶ **Support for ideas**  
Innovacorp conducts the I-3 Tech Startup Competition, in which entrepreneurs enter their new business concepts for a chance to win seed investment. Spark Cape Breton is an innovation challenge that awards up to \$50,000 to the best early-stage technology companies to support the completion of prototypes or preparation for taking the product or service to market.
- ▶ **Seed capital**  
Programs available from The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), Innovacorp and other agencies allow entrepreneurs to nurture their startups through to the commercialization stage.





## Key Infrastructure/ Resources

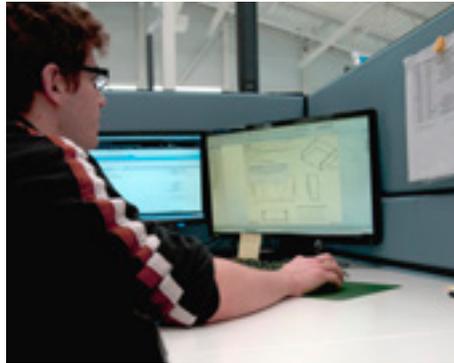
### ► Business support

ACOA plays a significant enabling role in the technology and innovation sector by providing financial and other support services. Innovacorp has an internationally recognized approach to technology commercialization and has more than \$60 million in capital commitments available for high growth technology companies from its Nova Scotia First and Clean Technology funds. Nova Scotia Business Inc. attracts new companies to the province, and works directly with companies to help them meet their growth potential through international business development, financing and venture capital. The National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program provides technology assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises at all stages of the innovation process, to build their innovation capacity.

### ► Industry support

Our industry is supported with advocacy, networking opportunities and education by BioNova, Nova Scotia's life sciences association. Digital Nova Scotia provides networking and business development

opportunities, advocacy, branding, and resource gathering and distribution to its membership and the industry at large. The technology community is also networked through a number of regular gatherings that foster idea sharing, mentoring and collaboration. This includes the regular TecSocial, Entrepreneurs Meetup and CEO Roundtables. Golstant, a company that develops scalable, realtime, multiuser, collaborative applications got its start through a meeting at TecSocial. The company was recently sold to Salesforce.com for \$70 million.



### ► Research support

Post-secondary institutions are actively involved in research and development. The Verschuren Centre for Sustainability

in Energy and the Environment at CBU collaborates with firms in the clean tech sector, such as Lockheed Martin, to conduct R&D on new technologies and applications. Université de Sainte-Anne has conducted research with companies in the marine sector. Additional research is conducted at CBU and the NSCC campuses.

### ► Infrastructure support

For start-ups looking for full service technology incubation, Venture Solutions Inc. provides office and laboratory space, as well as access to a central receptionist, accounting, and project management services.

### ► Telecommunications infrastructure

Cape Breton is connected to the world via world-class telecommunications infrastructure. The main fibre optic networks connect through Sydney and on to Newfoundland and Labrador. Bell Aliant, Rogers Communication, and MTS/Allstream networks all hub through Cape Breton. Seaside Communications provides wireless broadband to all rural areas.



## Technology & Innovation Success Stories

### ► Marcato Digital

Marcato Digital makes software as a service (SaaS) applications for the music industry. Its global Marcato Festival product is being used by such renowned festivals as Coachella, CMA Fest and Celtic Colours International Festival.

### ► Billdidit Inc.

Billdidit is the developer of the Coady Clutch system that allows drummers to generate the desired amount of sizzle from their hi-hat cymbals. The company has a growing and loyal following among drummers. In early 2014, renowned cymbal manufacturer Sabian Inc. acquired Billdidit and plans are to increase global market share.

### ► Techlink Entertainment

Named one of the top 100 companies in Atlantic Canada, Techlink is an inventive gaming technology solutions company, introducing first-to-market offerings in gaming machines, games, systems and responsible gambling tools.

### ► Halifax Biomedical Inc.

Halifax Biomedical Inc. (HBI) is an evidence-based Orthopaedic clinical measurements company and a world leading provider of micro-instability assessment services using very precise proprietary Stereo Radiography imaging technology. HBI focuses on two clinical problems: detection of implant loosening for total hip and knee replacements, and quantification of instability of the spinal column in patients with chronic low back pain.



**Invest in Cape Breton Today!**

► [www.InvestInCapeBreton.com](http://www.InvestInCapeBreton.com)

► 902-562-6059

► Toll Free: 1-844-868-0967

Visit the website or call to find out more about financial support and investment opportunities.