



## Nova Scotia Business Success Down to a Science

In Nova Scotia, the life sciences industry is moving forward with a solid research foundation and strong companies supported by skilled workers, access to specialized research tools and early-stage financing. With attractive R&D tax credits, competitive wages and a favourable real estate climate, Nova Scotia is an attractive centre for life sciences companies.

Companies operating in the fields of neuroscience, medical robotics, biodiagnostics, microbial genomics and agri-science build on the province's ability to continually attract investment dollars to important research initiatives.

A favourable research environment makes Nova Scotia ideal for a variety of clinical

studies. With the regional healthcare centre for all the Atlantic provinces situated in Halifax, a comprehensive patient database streamlines the clinical trial process.

Some major life sciences companies operating in the province include Ocean Nutrition Canada, one of the world's largest producers of Omega-3 supplements; Precision Biologics, which produces chemical reagents for clinical lab work; Acadian Seaplants, the world's largest manufacturer of seaweed-based specialty products; and ImmunoVaccine Technologies Inc., a company that engages in immune system treatments to help fight infectious diseases.

## Fast Facts

- » Nova Scotia has the highest per capita rate of PhDs in Marine Science in the world.
- » The QEII Health Sciences Centre has the highest number of certified clinical research coordinators among hospitals in North America, with an outstanding track record for clinical trials.
- » Halifax is home to the Brain Repair Centre, a multi-disciplinary collaboration of researchers from Capital Health, Dalhousie University, the IWK Health Centre and the National Research Council of Canada (NRC). The centre is internationally known for its successful treatment of the symptoms of Parkinson's Disease.
- » NRC offers the Industrial Research Assistance Program, which provides business advisory services and financial support to growth-oriented Canadian companies.
- » The Scientific Research & Experimental Development Tax Incentive Program is a federal tax credit program encouraging Canadian businesses to conduct research & development in the country. Companies can earn significant investment tax credits and rebates through the program.
- » The Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF) is a \$300-million pool of research funding that is available to companies operating in Atlantic Canada. AIF funding is awarded to selected eligible projects through a series of competitive funding rounds.
- » The October 2006 issue of The Scientist magazine ranked Dalhousie University the #1 university in Canada at which to perform scientific research.
- » The Bedford Institute of Oceanography, located in the Halifax Regional Municipality, is Canada's largest centre of ocean research.



**Nova Scotia Business Inc.** is Nova Scotia's private sector-led business development agency. NSBI is the investment attraction arm of the province and helps businesses in Nova Scotia meet growth potential through advisory services, trade development, business financing and venture capital.

World Trade & Convention Centre  
1800 Argyle Street, Suite 701  
PO Box 2374 Halifax, Nova Scotia  
CANADA B3J 3E4

Tel: 902.424.6650

Fax: 902.424.5739

[www.novascotiabusiness.com](http://www.novascotiabusiness.com)

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