

2024 ONTARIO LIFE SCIENCES INNOVATOR AWARD

ABOUT THE AWARD

The Ontario Centre of Innovation is proud to launch the Ontario Life Sciences Innovator Award, designed to recognize a top entrepreneur leading an Ontario based life sciences company that has demonstrated significant impact in the sector.

This impact can be evidenced through **(1) Innovation:** Introduction of new technologies, therapies, or products that address unmet medical needs or improve existing solutions. **(2) Economic Growth:** Creation/retention of jobs, attracting investment **(3) Disruptive Impact:** New advancements in scientific research, leading to new discoveries, publications, and patents that push the boundaries of life sciences, placing Ontario as the forefront of the Life Sciences sector. **(4) Health Outcomes:** Improvements in patient care, treatment efficacy, and overall public health due to the implementation of new medical technologies or practices.

The top innovator will receive an award recognizing their contributions in the Ontario Life Sciences sector, presented by the Minister of Economic Development Job Creation and Trade at the OCI Annual General Meeting. And will be featured on OCIs social media, including a story in the FY24-25 OCI Annual Report.

NOMINATION CRITERIA

- Eligible innovators must be leading an Ontario based life sciences and healthcare technologies company related to human health. Note: Ontario or Canadian incorporated for-profit SMEs headquartered in Ontario

Note: Exclusions, agrifood and industrial biotechnology.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- All applications must be submitted by **September 13, 2024**.
- Applications will be reviewed by a panel made up of both internal and external leaders in the Life Sciences sector and only the top 3 applications will move forward to the voting period of the process.
- The top 3 innovators will be featured on the OCI website, entrepreneur, photo of the innovator, company description, company logo, voting buttons.
- Individuals will be able to vote for the innovators that they deem have demonstrated the strongest impact in the Life Sciences ecosystem based on one or more of the impact areas: (1) Innovation, (2) Economic Growth, (3) Disruptive Impact and/or (4) Health Outcomes

KEY TIMELINES

Launch of the award	August 12-16
Nomination deadline	September 16-20
Voting period	September 23-October 11
Announcement of the top innovator	October 21, OCI AGM

QUICK FACTS

- OCI has made significant contributions in the Life Sciences and human health technologies sector for the past 35 years.
- OCI has invested in over 75 companies in the Life Sciences and human health technologies sector through the Ready for Market (R4M) Co-investment Fund.
- OCI has invested an additional 17 companies through the Life Sciences Innovation Fund

ABOUT OCI

The Ontario Centre of Innovation (OCI) brings industry, academic, and government partners together to invest in collaborative R&D, technology development, and commercialization opportunities that generate the highest return on innovation for Ontarians.

As an ecosystem connector, OCI initiates unparalleled partnership opportunities, develops, and manages successful industry-academic collaborations, supports high-potential SMEs in commercializing ground-breaking research, and provides hands-on training and skills development opportunities for the next generation of highly skilled talent.

OCI drives economic growth and job creation through investments in the development, commercialization, and adoption of advanced technologies.

For more information: <https://www.oc-innovation.ca>