

UNLOCKING POTENTIAL



2023-2024 Annual Report



We would like to acknowledge that the Coordinated Accessible National (CAN) Health Network is made up of organizations from coast-to-coast-to-coast that are situated on the traditional territories of many diverse Indigenous Peoples of Canada. As an organization on a mission to bring Canada together to create economic prosperity and better health for all, we are committed to working in the spirit of reconciliation, appreciation, and collaboration.

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01

ABOUT THE CAN HEALTH NETWORK

ABOUT THE CAN HEALTH NETWORK

The Coordinated Accessible National (CAN) Health Network is a national organization on a mission to bring Canada together to create economic prosperity and better health for all.

Our singular focus is to help Canadian health care companies scale through the Network, across Canada, and globally.

WHAT WE DO

The CAN Health Network unites health care operators from coast-to-coast-to-coast who share a commitment to scaling Canadian innovation and are prepared to purchase. We work with these operators to identify their biggest challenges and match them with the top Canadian technology solution.



IT HAS BEEN ANOTHER TRANSFORMATIVE YEAR FOR THE CAN HEALTH NETWORK.

Together, with our partners, we continue to scale homegrown innovation across the country, grow Canadian businesses, create more jobs, and improve the health of Canadians.

This year, we made great inroads into the North. Our partnership with Yukon Hospital Corporation is a significant milestone, and the first of many, to bringing advanced technology to remote communities and ensuring every Canadian has access to quality care when they need it.

We continue to have impactful discussions with health care leaders in Quebec. Soon, we will have multiple commercialization initiatives running throughout the province.

In November, we launched the CAN Health Long-Term Care (LTC) Innovation and Scaling Network – connecting LTC homes directly with solutions to actively address the sector’s most pressing challenges and improve care for over 200,000 Canadians that call LTC home.

Along with our external growth, we also welcomed many new faces to the CAN Health Network team this year.

Thank you to the Government of Canada, Communitech and our partners for helping to make this year a success. I am eager to see what we can accomplish over the years to come as we continue to shape the future of health care and lead the new health care economy.

Let’s keep doing the impossible.

Dr. Dante Morra

Founder and Chair, CAN Health Network

03

2023-2024

YEAR IN

REVIEW

26 CALLS FOR INNOVATION POSTED

29 NEW PROJECTS LAUNCHED

**19 NEW CANADIAN COMPANIES
SUPPORTED**

**PARTNERED WITH THE FIRST
NORTHERN EDGE IN THE NETWORK**

**LAUNCHED THE FIRST CAN HEALTH
SUBNETWORK**

OBJECTIVES & MILESTONES



GOVERNANCE

The CAN Health Network continues to expand its Board of Directors to include representation from across Canada.



EXPANSION

In October 2023, the CAN Health Network announced its partnership with Yukon Hospital Corporation – the first northern Edge – that will support the Network’s growth into remote communities. The CAN Health Network also continues to have conversations with leaders in Quebec to support the launch of the Network in this region.



DATA

The CAN Health Network continues to expand the functionality of, and access to, Communitech’s Northwatch – a database of health technology companies to support broad, rapid sourcing of companies and create commercialization projects more quickly.



STRATEGY

The CAN Health Network continues to work with Edges and partners to develop a strategy to increase engagement with Indigenous innovators and communities.



OPERATIONS

Ontario, Atlantic, West, Quebec, and North regions continue to streamline national operations and administration. This year, the CAN Health Network not-for-profit was officially incorporated and opened a head office in Oakville, Ontario.



SUSTAINABILITY

In its ongoing efforts to self-sustainability, the CAN Health Network presented its Sustainability Plan to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) in March 2024. For more information, see below.

OBJECTIVES & MILESTONES

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

The CAN Health Network has outlined a three-step process to reduce reliance on public funding over time:

01

BUILD A NATIONAL NETWORK

Continue to partner and engage with public and private organizations from coast-to-coast-to-coast with a focus on the North, Indigenous communities, and Quebec.

02

CREATE VALUE WITH THE NATIONAL NETWORK

Continue to fund commercialization projects that result in sales for Canadian companies and help them scale into diverse health care organizations.

Launch more subnetworks, such as the Long-Term Care Innovation and Scaling Network, that focus on specific areas of the health care industry and connect Canadian companies with new markets.

03

GENERATE REVENUE FOR FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Continue to explore a range of strategies to generate revenue including: membership fees, sponsorships, consulting fees, database subscriptions, self-funded projects, philanthropic support, and venture capital support.



CAN HEALTH LONG-TERM CARE INNOVATION AND SCALING NETWORK

Powered by **Bruyère**

This year, we launched the CAN Health Long-Term Care Innovation and Scaling Network – a first-of-its-kind initiative designed to enhance the quality of life for long-term care (LTC) residents and operators by scaling Canadian-made technology solutions.

Building on the success of our current model, CAN Health is working with Bruyère to connect LTC homes directly with top solutions in the Network that can address the sector’s most pressing challenges.



Validate Solutions



Showcase Successes



Facilitate Connections



Problem Solving

04

PROJECT

SPOTLIGHTS

USING AI TO DETECT PATIENTS AT
EARLY RISK OF OSTEOPOROSIS

ADVANCING TREATMENT OF
CHRONIC WOUNDS

VIRTUAL PATIENT COMPANION FOR CARDIAC
SURGERY RECOVERY

USING AI TO DETECT PATIENTS AT EARLY RISK OF OSTEOPOROSIS





What I've seen through this project is a Sunnybrook, CAN Health, Rho team of professionals and doers that aren't satisfied with the status quo."

Dr. Alex Bilbily
Co-Founder & Co-CEO,
16 Bit Inc.

USING AI TO DETECT PATIENTS AT EARLY RISK OF OSTEOPOROSIS



THE CHALLENGE

Fractures are one of the most common causes of hospitalization in Canada.

Only 23% of eligible seniors are screened for osteoporosis.

THE SOLUTION

Sunnybrook and 16 Bit partnered on a commercialization project to assess the impact of Rho™ – 16 Bit's AI-driven screening tool – to detect patients with low bone density, a known risk factor for osteoporosis.

Rho automatically analyzes most X-rays for patients 50 years and older.

THE RESULTS

1,127 patients screened by Rho

572 patients identified as at-risk

Identification of at-risk patients led to a significant increase in bone mineral density screening referrals - **28.5%** of the at-risk patients.

ADVANCING TREATMENT OF CHRONIC WOUNDS





10 years from now, we will look back and know the CAN Health Network was the spark. This is what is going to get us to the next chapter and allow us to build this technology in Canada and expand globally to the rest of the world – starting here.”

Megan Leslie

Co-Founder & CEO,
NanoTess

ADVANCING TREATMENT OF CHRONIC WOUNDS



THE CHALLENGE

Chronic wounds and pressure injuries create significant burdens for patients and providers, and are very costly to the health care system.

Wounds are painful for patients, increase the risk of serious infection, hinder recovery and extend length of hospital stays.

THE SOLUTION

Alberta Health Services (AHS), in collaboration with W21C, explored NanoSALV Catalytic – a novel advanced nanotechnology wound care treatment developed by NanoTess.

NanoSALV Catalytic is an easy-to-apply nanotechnology-enabled matrix gel designed for the management and treatment of chronic wounds, acute wounds, minor wounds, burns and skin irritations.

AHS deployed the solution across multiple health care settings including specialized wound clinics, long-term care, senior living centers, and more.

THE RESULTS

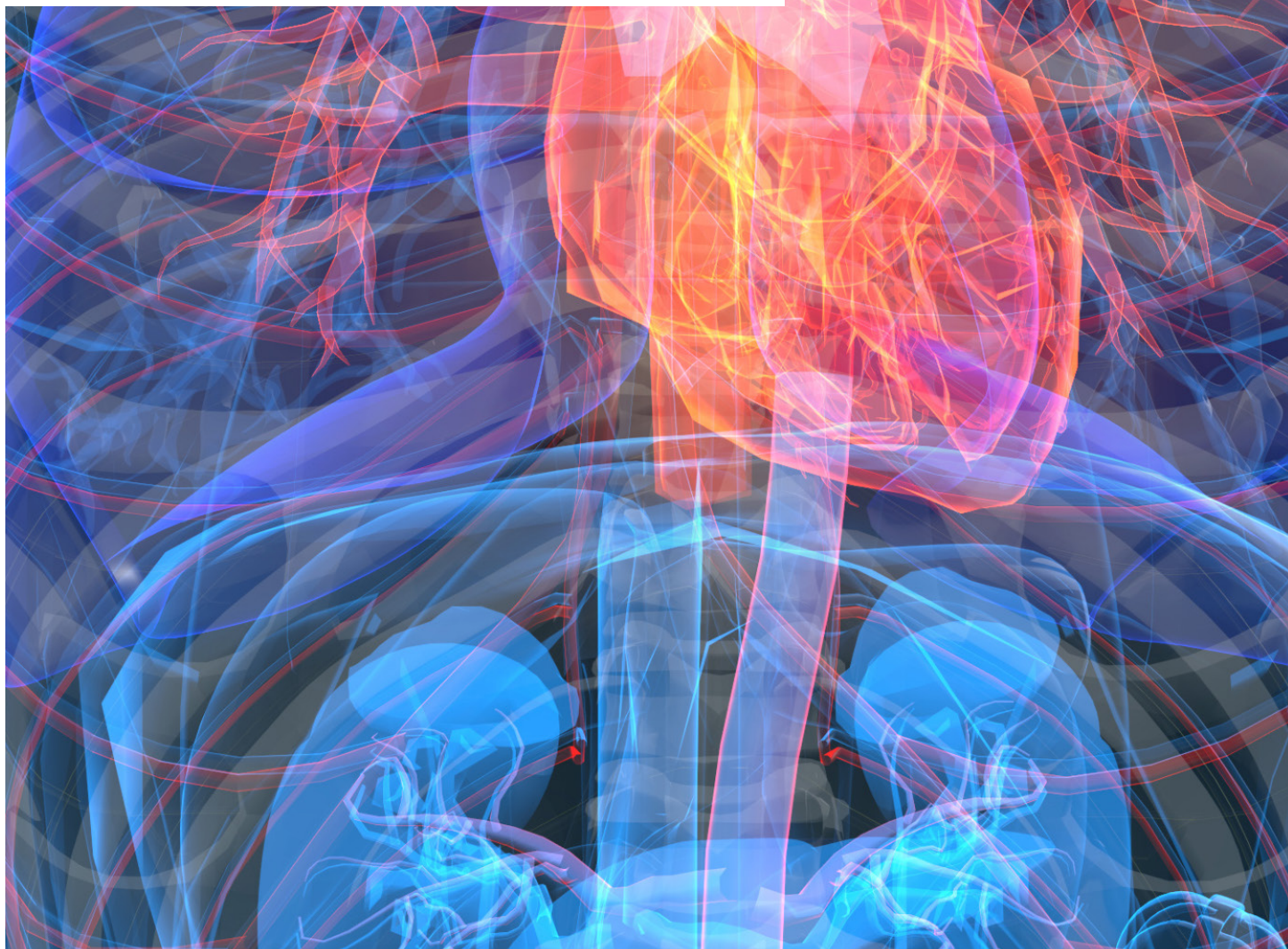
NanoSALV was able to close wounds nearly 56% faster than traditional treatment methods used at AHS.

Preferred by patients and providers over standard of care products.

VIRTUAL PATIENT COMPANION FOR CARDIAC SURGERY RECOVERY



SeamlessMD





We're immensely grateful for the support the CAN Health Network has provided over the past years. In this time, the adoption of our digital patient engagement and remote monitoring solution has skyrocketed."

Dr. Joshua Liu
CEO & Co-Founder,
SeamlessMD

VIRTUAL PATIENT COMPANION FOR CARDIAC SURGERY RECOVERY



THE CHALLENGE

The New Brunswick Heart Centre (NBHC) is the sole provider of advanced cardiac care for the Province of New Brunswick. This includes all cardiac surgical services and percutaneous therapies like valve interventions.

There are significant geographical challenges to providing this type of care while ensuring timely access for all, and optimal follow-up post intervention in all regions of the province.

THE SOLUTION

SeamlessMD is a digital patient engagement and remote patient monitoring platform designed to guide patients before, during and after hospitalization.

Patients access the SeamlessMD app from their smartphones, tablets, or computers, and are guided before and after surgery with reminders, evidence-based education, symptom-tracking surveys and videos to help them follow the care plan prescribed by their care team.

THE RESULTS

646 new patients enrolled

85 emergency department visits averted

1,329 bed days saved

\$1,506,231 cost savings

92% of patients felt more confident at home after surgery

05

CELEBRATING

CANADA'S

INNOVATORS

THE NETWORK AWARD
EDGE OF THE YEAR
IMPACT AWARD
TRAILBLAZER OF THE YEAR
INNOVATION AWARD
COMPANY OF THE YEAR
LOCAL LEADER AWARD

THE CAN HEALTH NETWORK AWARDS

Established in 2021, the CAN Health Network Awards recognize the Edges, companies, partners, and individuals in the Network who are transforming health care in Canada and leading the new health care economy.

THE CAN HEALTH NETWORK AWARDS

2023 AWARD WINNERS

THE NETWORK AWARD: SUNNYBROOK HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE & MOLLI SURGICAL

CAN Health's highest honour. Recognizes an Edge and company who have clearly demonstrated the power of collaboration in advancing Canada's health care system and supporting Canadian innovation.

molli
precision surgery made simpler™

Sunnybrook
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE

LOCAL LEADER AWARD

Recognizes the Network Member who has played a paramount role in the development of the Network in their region, and who has demonstrated a commitment to scaling Canadian innovation within their communities.

Atlantic: Laurae Kloschinsky

Executive Director, Health Innovation Cluster, Government of Prince Edward Island

Prince Edward Island
CANADA

Ontario: Prathiba Harsha

Manager, Clinical Innovation, Hamilton Health Sciences

Hamilton Health Sciences

West: Patty Wickson

Executive Director, Alberta Health Services

Alberta Health Services

INNOVATION AWARD: NANOTESS

Recognizes a Network Member that has demonstrated one of CAN Health's core characteristics – thinking differently – to bring an innovative solution to Canadians.

NANOTESS
nanotechnology solutions

IMPACT AWARD: 16 BIT

Recognizes the Network Member that has made a significant contribution to Canada's health care industry and has positioned themselves as a leader in the Network.

16BIT

TRAILBLAZER OF THE YEAR AWARD: CRYSTAL TREVORS, FOUNDER & CEO, STEPCAN TECHNOLOGIES INC

Recognizes the Network Member who has demonstrated exceptional leadership within the Network and stands out as a powerful voice in the health care industry; someone who continues to challenge the status quo.

stepscan

COMPANY OF THE YEAR: POLYUNITY

Recognizes the Network company that has achieved outstanding results throughout the project lifecycle and beyond, while demonstrating that the Network model succeeds in breaking down barriers and helping Canadian companies scale.

PolyUnity

EDGE OF THE YEAR AWARD: GRAND RIVER HOSPITAL

Recognizes the health care organization that truly exemplifies what it means to be an Edge – consistently engaging in CAN Health initiatives at all levels of the organization and demonstrating a commitment to solving challenges with Canadian innovation.

GRAND RIVER HOSPITAL
Advancing Endoscopic Care

06

EQUITY,

DIVERSITY &

INCLUSION

EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

The CAN Health Network’s mission is to bring Canada together to create economic prosperity and better health for all. Here are some of the steps we’re taking to get there:

International Women’s Day 2024

In recognition and celebration of International Women’s Day 2024, CAN Health hosted its second annual event with over 40 senior and emerging leaders from health care, business, finance, and technology for a panel discussion to discuss how we can all work to create more equity, inclusion and economic empowerment for women at all stages of their career.

The CAN Health Network Board of Directors

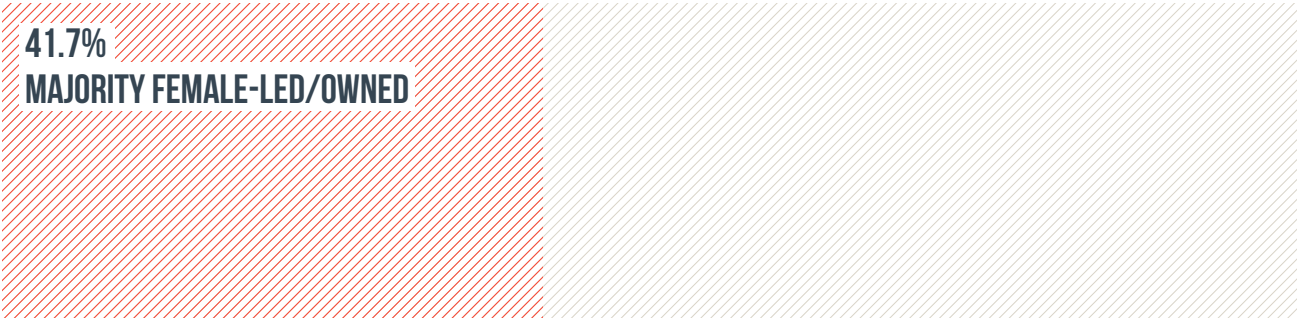
The CAN Health Network is in the process of approving two new Board members and is actively recruiting more individuals to meet the 50% gender criteria.

Over the course of the next year, the CAN Health Network plans to exceed the 50/30 ISED challenge with Pan-Canadian representation.

Indigenous Strategy

The CAN Health Network continues to engage with Indigenous organizations to develop a tailored program for Indigenous communities and innovators.

Female-led/owned companies in the Network



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FINANCIAL

SUMMARY

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Cost Category	Government of Canada	In-Kind Contributions	Total Eligible Costs
Salaries & Wages	4,436,571	5,182,212	9,618,783
Equipment & Facilities	289,952	174,480	464,432
Materials & Supplies	94,126	73,316	167,442
Travel, Meals & Accommodation	108,702	5,096	113,798
Dissemination & Translation	90,090	23,749	113,839
Other Direct Costs	1,368,512	729,934	2,098,446
Outreach & Administration	911,368	-	911,368
TOTAL	7,299,321	6,188,787	13,488,108

Funding and financial notes

Communitech Corporation has provided Board-approved, audited financial statements to ISED for the year ending March 31, 2024. Financial statements were audited by KPMG.

The financial controls of Communitech Corporation operate as intended. Confirmation was provided by KPMG for the year ending March 31, 2024.

All operating and administrative expenses incurred for this project have been funded with project funds allocated to the reporting period ending March 31, 2024.

No employee or director receives compensation exceeding \$300,000 per year.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

No updates to existing investment policies, standards and procedures occurred during the reporting period.

No member disputes occurred during the reporting period.

Network data security

The Communitech Corporation team ensures ongoing integrity, redundancy, retention and disaster recovery systems, policies and procedures are in place. Communitech and the CAN Health Network adhere to all privacy and personal information requirements including PIPEDA.

Key hardware and software vendors supporting the CAN Health Network IT systems include Cisco and AWS services.

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PROJECTS

COMPLETED

IN

2023-2024

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2023-2024

AS OF MARCH 31, 2024

Edge	Company	Project Description	Status
Bruyère	Caring Support	Staff recruitment platform	Procured
SE Health	Caribou	Caregiver rewards and recognition	Procured
Horizon Health Network	SeamlessMD	Digital patient education for cardiology	Procured
Trillium Health Partners	DMF Medical	Anesthetic Gases - eliminating disposable materials and reducing greenhouse gas emissions	Procured
Hamilton Health Sciences	MOLLI Surgical	Breast and non-breast magnetic seed localization	Not procured

09

NEW

PROJECTS

LAUNCHED IN

2023-2024*

* All new projects in-progress as of March 31, 2024

PROJECTS IN-PROGRESS AS OF MARCH 31, 2024

ONTARIO

Edge	Company	Project Description	Project Budget*
Bruyère	Canada MedCart	Medical Cart Solutions for long-term care	\$361,850
Bruyère	ManagingLife	Digital pain management	\$215,000
Hamilton Health Sciences	MIMOSA	Identifying early signs of pressure injuries	\$571,127
SE Health	Welbi	Recreation platform for reduced social isolation	\$390,080
Sinai Health	Agota Health	Nurse agency management software	\$126,949
St. Mary's General Hospital	Distributive	Solving challenges through computing resources	\$88,838
St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton	BookJane	Shift fulfillment application	\$440,485
Trillium Health Partners	Dr.Bill	Automating and streamlining patient eligibility	\$67,500
Trillium Health Partners	Medworks	Employee health care app	\$356, 223
Trillium Health Partners	Myant Inc.	Holter monitors	\$1,199,409
Trillium Health Partners	Signal 1	AI patient predictions	\$897,344
University Health Network	SterileCare	Sterile catheter solution	\$268,600
University Health Network	Able Innovations	Patient transfer technology	\$315,023

* Includes all partner contributions

PROJECTS IN-PROGRESS AS OF MARCH 31, 2024

ATLANTIC

Edge	Company	Project Description	Project Budget*
Shannex	Blanc Labs	Employee onboarding automation	\$125,196
Vitalité Health Network	SeamlessMD	Digital patient surgery navigation	\$415,435
Health PEI	Liminality Innovations	Family integrated care in PEI neonatal units	\$154,900
Horizon Health Network	PolyUnity Tech Inc.	Agile supply chains/3D printing	\$150,000
NL Health Services	Prescriby	Prescription tapering	\$500,001
Horizon Health Network	Skip the Waiting Room	Community health centre appointment management	\$60,000
Nova Scotia Health Authority	PolyUnity Tech Inc.	Agile supply chains/3D printing	\$176,469
Nova Scotia Health Authority	Tenzr Health	Remote wearable rehab	\$202,170
Nova Scotia Health Authority	NovaResp	AI for CPAP machines	\$595,631
Nova Scotia Health Authority	Able Innovations	Improving patient transfers	\$608,408
Nova Scotia Health Authority	DeCell Technologies	Wound care	\$202,631
Horizon Health Network	ProcedureFlow	Research workflow documentation	\$522,209
NL Health Services	Cyno	Holistic wellness program	\$500,052

* Includes all partner contributions

PROJECTS IN-PROGRESS AS OF MARCH 31, 2024

WEST

Edge	Company	Project Description	Project Budget*
Emmanuel Health	NanoTess	Wound care	\$269,750
Covenant Living	GotCare	Digital transition and enhanced care platform for residents	\$250,000
CASA Mental Health	ExpeFlow	Digital incident management	\$206,854

* Includes all partner contributions

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LOOKING

AHEAD

LOOKING AHEAD

The CAN Health Network’s goal is to position Canada to lead the new health care economy. As we enter into the third year of our agreement with ISED, we will continue to:

01

Build a truly national network with the intent to create projects in all provinces and territories of Canada. Specifically, we are working towards expanding into Quebec, and with the North and Indigenous communities.

02

Increase faster adoption of Canadian-made technology solutions in Canada by running commercialization projects with public and private Edges.

03

Lead the Network towards financial sustainability and growth by expanding investment opportunities and revenue streams with organizations that align with the CAN Health Network’s mission and values.

Guided by our strategic directions:

DELIVER

We will deliver a Network to commercialize and scale Canadian companies.

PARTNER

We will partner with leading public and private sector organizations to scale Canadian companies and attract investment.

CREATE

We will create future prosperity for Canadians by building an integrated ecosystem to steward innovation.

THANK YOU

The CAN Health Network would like to thank the Government of Canada for its ongoing support and for enabling us to drive Canadian innovation across the country and create economic prosperity for all.

Canada 



Innovation, Science and
Economic Development Canada