



**NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Atlantic Canada research comes to life at technology showcase**

**October 18, 2005, Halifax, NS** – Some of the most innovative research taking place in Atlantic Canada will be on display tomorrow as the Springboard Member Technology Showcase: *Bringing Research to Life (Faire vivre la recherche)* comes to the World Trade and Convention Centre in Halifax.

On October 19, researchers from universities in the region will be on-hand to discuss their innovations and highlight what they have available for commercialization and partnerships. The showcase, which runs from 12 noon to 6:30 p.m., will have researchers and university staff delivering short, five minute presentations throughout the day to an audience of business and industry leaders, scientists, investors, government representatives, service providers, media, students and the general public.

“The idea behind this showcase is to take the outstanding research that’s being done in our universities and bring it to life for the public,” said Sara Jane Snook, Executive Director of Springboard. “This event will provide our researchers with a forum to showcase exactly what they have to offer, and they have some great success stories to tell.”

The showcase kicks-off with a breakfast for invited guests at 8:30 a.m., where Michael Volker, director of Simon Fraser University’s Industry Liaison Office and founder of Canada’s oldest angel network will be the special guest presenter. Mr. Volker will be offering his comments on the model for commercialization of university research and his experience with the angel network.

“In our work to advance commercialization in this region we are constantly debating the balance on university push versus industry pull,” said Snook. “Mr. Volker’s thoughts as a knowledgeable participant from both sides of this debate will be a welcome addition to the showcase and we are delighted to have him as our guest speaker.”

Twelve universities from across Atlantic Canada will be represented at the showcase with researchers presenting in the areas of Health & Medical, Chemistry, Environmental, Engineering & Manufacturing, Applied Social Sciences, Physics and Information Technology. A full schedule of presenters and their topics is attached and can also be viewed at [www.springboardatlantic.ca](http://www.springboardatlantic.ca).

During the showcase, Springboard will also be helping to launch the second issue of *Progress Research & Discovery* magazine, which features some of the researchers presenting at the

showcase. Highlights of the magazine can be viewed at [www.progresscorp.com](http://www.progresscorp.com) on or before October 21, 2005 and copies will be available to showcase attendees.

**About Springboard:**

*Springboard* is a network whose mission is to encourage the effective and efficient transfer of technology among universities in Atlantic Canada and to advance the commercialization of research within both universities and the region's private sector. [www.springboardatlantic.ca](http://www.springboardatlantic.ca)

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