

**Kyle Briggs**

Department of Physics, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON

[www.caninnovate.ca](http://www.caninnovate.ca)

**Title:** From Lab to Market: Commercializing Deep Tech in Canada

**Abstract:** Carrying technologies beyond the academic lab and into commercial development is a daunting process to contemplate, but many resources exist to assist in making the transition from academia to private sector development of promising technologies. This talk tells the story of one such commercialization project, [www.solidstatenanopore.com](http://www.solidstatenanopore.com), reflecting on lessons learned and discussing the challenges that exist to deep tech commercialization in the Canadian ecosystem. It also presents an overview of innovation support systems available to Canadian researchers interested in commercializing their work, both at the University of Ottawa and in the larger Canadian context.



**Bio:** Dr. Kyle Briggs is the Entrepreneur in Residence for the Faculty of Science at the University of Ottawa, as well as a recently exited deep tech entrepreneur and a Vanier Scholar. He is also behind CanInnovate ([www.caninnovate.ca](http://www.caninnovate.ca)), an independent column intended to shine a light on the challenges faced by early-stage Canadian companies attempting to commercialize academic research.



Dr. Briggs is the former CEO of Northern Nanopore Instruments, a recently acquired nanotechnology company spun out of his doctoral research. He holds a PhD (2018) from the University of Ottawa in nanoscale biophysics and has more than 10 years of experience in scientific research and 4 years of experience building and mentoring deep tech companies with complex technology roadmaps. He has received numerous awards for this research, including the CMC Douglas R. Colton Medal for Research Excellence in 2020.

Outside of his academic role, he is involved in the startup community as a mentor and advisor focused on supporting companies across the interface between academic research and early commercial operations.

#### **EDUCATION**

- 2008-2013: Honours BSc with Specialization in Physics-Mathematics (Co-op), University of Ottawa, Canada
- 2013-2018: Ph.D. Biophysics (supervisor: Vincent Tabard-Cossa), University of Ottawa, Canada

#### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

- 2024-present Entrepreneur in Residence, Faculty of Science, University of Ottawa
- 2020-2023 CEO, Northern Nanopore Instruments
- 2019-2023 Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Ottawa

#### **ACADEMIC HONOURS**

- 2023 Young Alumnus Award of Excellence, Department of Physics, University of Ottawa
- 2021 The Douglas R. Colton Medal for Research Excellence, CMC Microsystems
- 2019 University of Ottawa Pierre Laberge Prize in the Sciences
- 2015 Vanier Canadian Graduate Scholarship