

## Thinking Straight in a Non-linear World



# Brainovation

Innovation & Expertise Advice to Grow your Business

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To our new readers, welcome to Brainovation®!  
And to our returning readers, welcome back.



As always, I look forward to continue to share insights into global developments in the Innovation and Expertise fields - and how they can work in and improve your business. This month I'm revisiting Canada and comment on the state of Canadian innovation and entrepreneurship. Is your organization involved in entrepreneurial innovation? Share your thoughts on my blog, the Brainovation Twitter feed, Facebook page, or by email.

Our contact information is at the bottom, as well as reprint permissions. Also included is a brief taste of what you can expect in upcoming issues. And remember, "In knowledge organizations, learning is work, thinking is doing"

*Anders Hemre*

### **Entrepreneurial Canada – Trying hard north of the border**

The Canadian tech sector is doing relatively well. Last year it generated 7.1 % of Canada's economic output and employed over 870,000 people. The nation is home to a couple of unicorns – social media and e-commerce companies [Hootsuite](#), [Kik Interactive](#) and [Shopify](#).

However, for most entrepreneurial ventures turning good ideas into good business continues to be somewhat of a challenge.

The government run Industrial Research Assistance Program ([IRAP](#)) invests in technology start-up ventures without requirements for stake ownership or board positions, expecting returns on public funds through growth, jobs and taxes paid in Canada. Despite this, many Canadian entrepreneurs have continued to go south of the border for risk capital. Recently though, there has been a significant surge in Canadian VC activity with private companies raising a record \$881 million in the first quarter of this year.

Of course, financing alone will not create successful ventures, but will give entrepreneurs the chance to put their ideas – and themselves – to the test.

*Canadian Business* suggests the following seven entrepreneurial skills as crucial to master:

[Skills that small-business entrepreneurs need to master](#)

On LinkedIn, Hootsuite CEO Ryan Holmes comments on what it takes to be a unicorn: [5 signs you're a "Unicorn" employee](#)

### **In the Previous Issue**

In case you missed the September issue, here it is again:

[AT&T and Ericsson: co-creating innovation](#)

### **In Upcoming Issues**

Planned features for future issues of our newsletter include conversations with leading management gurus, interviews with international technology management executives as well as more readers' spotlights.



If you have feedback or questions about Brainovation, please contact me by email or through my twitter feed [@geoffdahl](#)

[Geoff Dahl](#)  
Brainovation editor

### **Guru Interviews**



Since our inception, sharing management and technology insights from around the world has been a focus of Brainovation. Now we give you the chance to enjoy all our previous guru interviews in one document.

[What the Gurus Say: Brainovation® Interviews 2007-2016](#) (PDF)

### **Article and Newsletter Reprint Permission**

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