

## *Executive Summary*

### **The PUBLIC POLICY FORUM on Venture Capital and Innovation (“PPF”)**

QUEBEC CITY CONFERENCE – Quebec City, December 3 and 4, 2013

#### **THEMES**

One of the main themes of the 2013 edition of the PPF will be on how accelerators, seed investors, matching and crowdfunding platforms are changing the seed funding game for emerging technology companies, the opportunities and challenges this creates for the various players of the financing chain and potential implications for policy designers. This theme will be developed during plenary sessions and at the UNconference that will be one of the separate tracks of the PPF at the end of the afternoon and in the evening of the first day.

Another track will focus on Tech Transfer and Seed Funding Models in Life Sciences in the Context of Pharmaceutical Companies and VC Funds Looking for New Types of Partnerships.

Other topics addressed during plenary sessions will include:

- (i) Institutional investors’ perspectives on the financing of innovation;
- (ii) Recent international developments regarding government tools to support the financing chain: VC funds of funds and tax credits to individual investors;
- (iii) A Harvard business case on Angellist.

## **FORMAT**

The 2013 PPF will be held over one and a half days, on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013. It will conclude with a common networking lunch with IIR participants. It will not be followed by a “Main Conference” as was the case during the previous years.

### **Plenary sessions**

These will include keynote addresses by Dr Josh Lerner, *Jacob H. Shiff Professor of Investment Banking at Harvard Business School*, and Dr. Thomas Hellmann, *B.I. Ghert Family Foundation Professor in Finance and Policy, Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia*; fireside chats; panels; and the business case.

In the afternoon of the first day, the Forum will divide in two separate tracks:

#### **Track 1: Accelerators and Crowdfunding – the UNconference**

In a different setting that will intersperse the PPF audience with entrepreneurs and business angels, the UNconference will provide an opportunity (i) for accelerators, seed funds and platform managers to briefly pitch their respective models to the audience and discuss why their models will attract the best entrepreneurs and investors and will contribute to the building of the ecosystem, (ii) for successful entrepreneurs to explain how they went through the seed funding process, using these new models, and (iii) for policy makers to present specific programs designed to support these new models.

This event will conclude with an informal cocktail and dinner.

#### **Track 2: Tech Transfer and Seed Funding Models in Life Sciences**

A parallel track will be conducted around tech transfer and seed funding models in life sciences in the context of (i) pharmaceutical companies looking for new types of partnerships with universities and VC funds and (ii) VC funds developing new models for seeding their deal flow.

It will be structured as a series of short panels/discussions on specific issues, involving as many participants as possible in order for them to get to know one another and have a better understanding of their working models.

Participants in this Life Sciences track will include various models of tech transfer offices or intermediaries, VC funds, people in charge of R&D partnerships within pharmaceutical companies and policy designers.

This event will also conclude with an informal cocktail and dinner.

### **Lunches and dinners – Common session with the Institutional Investors**

#### **Roundtable (IIR)**

Networking lunches and dinners will be organized during the PPF and the event will end with a networking lunch together with IIR participants.

## **ABOUT THE PPF**

Now in its seventh year, the Public Policy Forum on Venture Capital and Innovation (“PPF”) has evolved into the premier gathering of public policy designers and industry leaders (GPs, LPs academics and other experts) from all major economies, responsible for encouraging high-potential entrepreneurship and venture capital.

It is a by invitation only international platform that gives participants an opportunity to exchange views, experiences and concerns regarding public policies in support of a buoyant venture capital ecosystem for financing emerging technology companies. Its proximity with the Institutional Investors Roundtable would allow its participants to engage with leading institutional investors from around the world having a renewed interest in the financing of innovation.

In 2012, 15 countries from North and South America, the Middle East, Asia and Oceania were represented. Despite substantial demand, attendees are limited to 150.

The Chairman of the Forum is Yigal Erlich, founder of the Yozma Group (Israel) and father of the Israeli venture capital industry. Dr Josh Lerner, Jacob H. Schiff Professor of Investment Banking at Harvard Business School, and a world leading authority on venture capital and private equity is Special Advisor. The President of the Forum is Canadian venture capital expert Dr Gilles Duruflé.