



# The AscendBio Advantage

**AscendBio in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, enables companies in the industrial biotech and agritech sectors to scale up their technologies and business operations. This is possible thanks to the Verschuren Centre’s scientific and technical expertise and infrastructure, along with Innovacorp’s sector expertise, business support and international networks.**

Companies that join the AscendBio program receive support to achieve technical milestones, raise the capital required, garner market insight, connect with potential customers and partners and join a community of like-minded companies. They have the ability to grow faster and increase their capital efficiency.

We have identified the success factors that make this possible. Through the efforts of the Verschuren Centre and Innovacorp, your experience at AscendBio will be tailored to meet the needs of your start-up:

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Specialized equipment suitable for commercial-scale development and demonstrations
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Feedstock (i.e., marine, forestry and industrial inputs)
- 

Scientific and technical expertise in fields such as chemical engineering, microbiology, pilot design, process engineering, biochemistry, fermentation, polymer science and organic chemistry
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A network of strategic partners, customers, research collaborators and investors
- 

A collaborative and agile approach to product and process development
- 

Land and industrial space to grow
- 

The ability to maintain full ownership of intellectual property
- 

Access to talent from one of Nova Scotia’s many post-secondary institutions
- 

A rolling intake process that doesn’t leave anyone out
- 

Visa support through the Start-Up Visa Program
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Access to non-dilutive capital from provincial and federal governments



**“We’ve been able to scale production and raise \$3.5 million in under one year.”**  
Khorcheska Batyrova, CEO, OzoneBio

# Is AscendBio for your company?

## The Sectors

Are you helping to address one of the world's biggest sustainability challenges: mitigating climate change or feeding the world's growing population? At AscendBio, clients from across the globe are piloting innovations related to disease detection, crop biostimulation and protection, and sustainable ingredients for industry to replace petroleum-based products and more.

## The Stage

Are you beyond the early stage and have strong customer-focused milestones? Maybe you have past start-up experience or have graduated from an accelerator, raised some early financing, and are focused on scaling the business? If this sounds like your company, contact us at [ascendbio@innovacorp.ca](mailto:ascendbio@innovacorp.ca).



**So far, more than 15 companies have experienced the AscendBio advantage.**

**Together they raised \$15 million in a year and continue to grow, with a combined valuation of \$43 million.**



**"We make a non-petroleum based glycolic acid and have been able to scale our production from 8L to 1000L in under a year using shared equipment and it's cost us less than \$1 million.**

A. Vikram Pandit, CEO, PHYCUS Biotechnologies

## AscendBio Partners

### About the Verschuren Centre

The Verschuren Centre for Sustainability in Energy and the Environment is facilitating the transition to a green and circular economy through supporting innovative clean technology commercialization. The centre has established teams of expertise in key areas to assist companies in advancing IP and accelerating uptake in manufacturing and primary production industries. Areas of specialty include industrial and agritech bioprocessing, carbon and polymer materials, thermal energy transitioning and storage and climate mitigation in aquaculture.

### About Innovacorp

Innovacorp is Nova Scotia's early stage venture capital organization. It finds, funds and fosters innovative Nova Scotia start-ups that strive to change the world. The organization provides entrepreneurs with access to venture capital, incubation facilities, expert advice and other support to help them commercialize their technologies, accelerate their companies, and succeed in the global marketplace. Target industries include information technology, life sciences, clean technology and ocean technology.



**We want you, and your start-up, in Nova Scotia.**

To get started contact Paul Richards & Beth Mason at [ascendbio@innovacorp.ca](mailto:ascendbio@innovacorp.ca).



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