



## Darrell Petras, P.Ag.

Newly-Appointed CEO, Canadian Agri-Food Automation and Intelligence Network

In his most recent role of Edmonton Unlimited's Vice President, Programs & Business Development, Darrell Petras has been working with individuals, start-ups, scale-ups, and the corporate sector to develop strategies and programs to support innovation-intensive entrepreneurship and bolster the commercialization of innovation arising from the Edmonton region.

Darrell is a business development and technology transfer leader with nearly two decades of experience facilitating the commercialization of innovation and managing innovation-based businesses. Much of his career has focused on realizing economic value from innovation generated by universities and private companies working in all facets of the agricultural, energy, IT, and health sectors. Commercial success includes partnerships related to energy distribution, communication technologies, newly registered plant varieties, clean technology, and animal health. Numerous closed commercial deals have generated a strong return on investment for stakeholders, including start-ups and multinational companies.

As a founder, business owner, and business coach with years of experience as a service provider focused on growing start-ups, Darrell has extensive knowledge of programs that accelerate the development of early and growth-stage companies. His background is complemented by years of not-for-profit and for-profit board experience working with technology companies and a small investment fund.

