

Technology Commercialization and Innovation Strategy Group



Peoria NEXT means intellectual wealth. The Peoria region is an environment ripe with opportunities for entrepreneurs and business investors. Fueled by multiple knowledge communities, business and discovery forums, and cutting edge Internet2 technology infrastructure, the wealth of intellectual property creates an environment where ideas become reality. NEXT brings together more than 300 PH.D scientists engaged in research and development projects at state-of-the-art facilities including a Fortune 100 manufacturer, the nation's largest Federal Agricultural Research Services Laboratory, a college of medicine associated with one of the largest healthcare complexes in the Midwest, and a nationally-recognized private university. Peoria NEXT brings together all the necessary components for the successful commercialization of knowledge into products, services, and emerging technologies. The value of the Peoria area research and development resources is manifested in a dynamic manner through the existence of thirteen Knowledge Communities. The Peoria NEXT Knowledge Communities are groups of scientists, researchers, and engineers that meet to discuss and debate science and technology.

Purpose:

The Commercialization and Innovation Strategy Group is charged with helping the region capitalize on the tech-commercialization related assets in place and ultimately diversifying and growing the local economy. This strategy group also examines how to assist new and existing companies fully understand how to access capital and where to grow their business. In addition, this Group will help in bringing business and capital from outside the region.

Duties:

Some of the duties for the Commercialization and Innovation Strategy Group include:

- Determining best-practices
- Developing commercialization programs
- Assisting in the recruitment of business
- Working with local companies to understand how to access capital
- Investigating accurate and updated statistics for the region
- Recruiting Angels and venture capital to the region

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