

Ron Boch

VICE PRESIDENT, BIOTECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRY AFFAIRS

Dr. Ron Boch is the vice president of biotechnology and industry affairs and is responsible for BIOTECanada's policy development, reflecting the diverse nature of Canada's health, industrial, and agricultural biotechnology sectors. He brings a wide range of scientific, research and commercialization expertise to his work with emerging companies, vaccine manufacturers, and global pharmaceutical companies. He has worked for over 25 years in the industry, particularly in biopharmaceutical, biotechnology, and vaccine products.

In 2021, Ron was awarded the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences Award of Leadership in Canadian Pharmaceutical Sciences, and in 2023 was awarded a Fellow of the Society for demonstrated leadership in advancing the cause of pharmaceutical research and development in Canada.

As a named inventor of over 60 US and international patent applications, including nine different patent families, Dr. Boch developed new technologies for business opportunities and managed relationships with key opinion leaders in the biotechnology and biopharmaceutical industry. At QLT Inc., he contributed to the development of Visudyne, which is used for photodynamic therapy of age-related macular degeneration, the leading cause of blindness in people over 60. He led pharmaceutical development and formulation activities of various preclinical and clinical products.

In 2022, Ron was invited to join the Academy of Translational Medicine and the Regulatory Advisory Council, serving as an innovation hub to connect people from diverse sectors and accelerate the translation of scientific discoveries into the clinic. Dr. Boch serves on advisory Boards, including the Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences and Industry Advisory Committee of the Drug Development and Innovation Centre at the University of Alberta.

He completed postdoctoral studies at the University of British Columbia and earned a Ph.D. in Chemistry and a B.Sc. in Biochemistry from the University of Ottawa