

BERNARD COUPAL, PH.D., ENG.

Dr. Coupal is the President of T²C² (Transfer, Technologies, Commercialisation, Capital), a Québec based seed-venture fund. T²C² has the mandate of helping Québec universities and research centres develop their technologies into marketable products.

Born in Montréal, Dr. Coupal has a Bachelor's degree in applied sciences, chemical engineering (1959) from the Université de Montréal. He also has a Master's degree in applied sciences (1962) as well as a Ph.D. in chemical engineering (1965), from the École Polytechnique de Montréal (Université de Montréal) and the University of Florida respectively.

Dr. Coupal began his career as a professor in the Departments of chemical engineering of both the École Polytechnique de Montréal and the Université de Sherbrooke. He later combined teaching with a career in the private sector, where he has been concentrating his efforts over the last few years.

Before joining T²C² in 1997, he acted as president and CEO of Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal, a company he created in 1992 after taking part in the creation of BioCapital, a venture capital company in the sector of biotechnology. Earlier, he had been the first director general of the National Research Council of Canada's Biotechnology Research Institute, and assumed various management positions with companies specializing in new technologies, namely in the environmental sector.

During his career, Dr. Coupal received many rewards, namely the Université de Sherbrooke Board of Governors' Medal (1980) awarded to the best researcher of the Faculty of Applied Sciences, and the Armand-Frappier Biotechnology Award (1992) for his contribution to the development of Biotechnology in Québec. He was also nominated Bâtitteur of the financial magazine Revue Commerce in 1995. In 2000, he received the Lionel-Boulet Award, a prestigious award granted by the Government of Québec for his achievement in the field of innovation. He received two patents in the environmental industry, many grants for research, has collaborated to many publications and was a speaker in a number of conventions.

Dr. Coupal serves as a Board member for several biotechnology companies, namely Canada Foundation for Innovation, Procyon Biopharma and SignalGene.