

High adVENTURE on the East Coast

Venture capital, described rather ominously in some quarters as investments in new or expanding businesses in which there is a substantial element of risk, isn't exactly flourishing in Atlantic Canada — but it is here. Of course, the number of deals and their aggregate dollar value pale beside those of other jurisdictions in Canada (notably Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia).

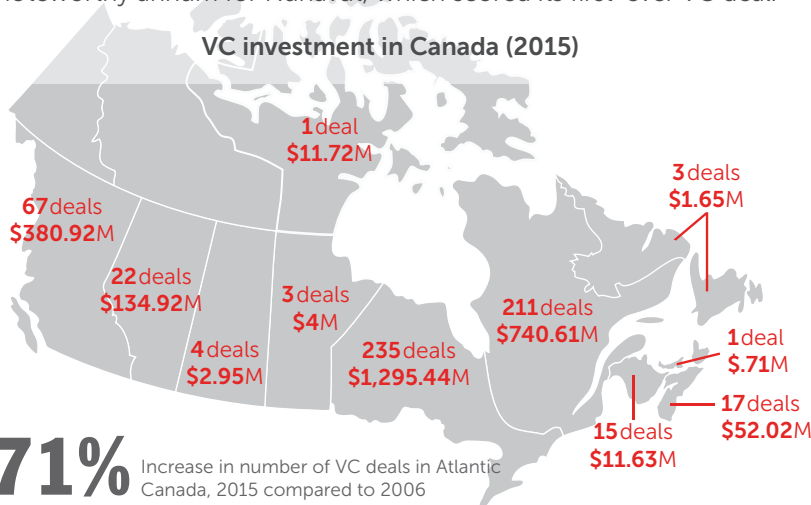
A YEAR TO REMEMBER

2015 was a record-setter across Canada, with \$2.6 billion of venture capital invested in 579 deals — an 11% increase over 2014 and the highest number of financing rounds since 2005. It was an especially noteworthy annum for Nunavut, which scored its first-ever VC deal.

\$18.61M

Atlantic Canada's top VC investment of 2015 went to Dartmouth, N.S.-based Unique Solutions Design Ltd. (www.me-ality.com)

VC investment in Canada (2015)



Where the money went

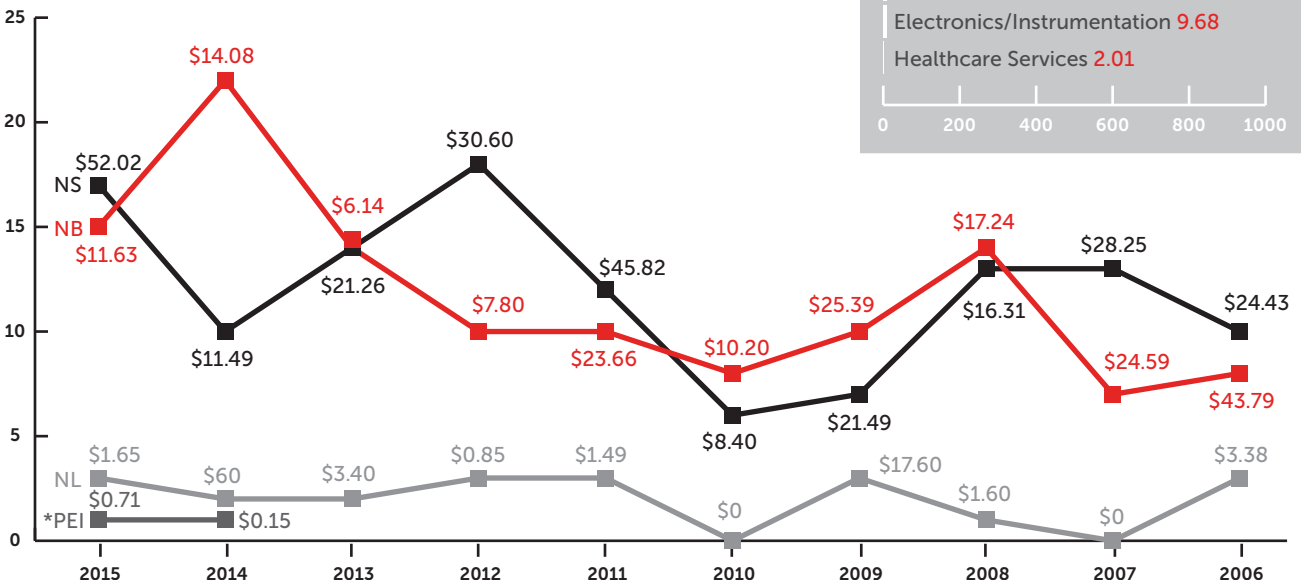
(\$ millions)

Software	956.84
Industrial/Energy	441.47
Biotechnology	397.18
IT Services	175.03
Media and Entertainment	134.76
Semiconductors	130.51
Consumer Products and Services	113.78
Medical Devices and Equipment	61.26
Retailing/Distribution	49.63
Unknown	35.70
Business Products and Services	33.42
Financial Services	30.93
Networking and Equipment	30.15
Computers and Peripherals	24.42
Telecommunications	9.81
Electronics/Instrumentation	9.68
Healthcare Services	2.01

71% Increase in number of VC deals in Atlantic Canada, 2015 compared to 2006

REGIONAL OVERVIEW: 10-year trend

While the value of VC investments in the region was down in 2015 compared to 2006, there was an encouraging increase in the number of deals made — particularly in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.



* Prince Edward Island had no VC investments from 2006 to 2013
Investment values in millions

Source (page): Thomson Reuters 2015 Venture Capital Analytics