



Dr. Jack Stewart

Soricimed Biopharma Inc.

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Prof. Jack Stewart is the founder and chief scientific officer of Soricimed Biopharma Inc. a drug and development oncology company based in Moncton, New Brunswick that may be close to a major breakthrough for cancer treatment. Prior to the establishment of his company in 2005, Prof. Stewart completed an undergraduate degree in organic chemistry at the University of Regina where he continued his studies as a graduate student in biochemistry. Prof. Stewart began his admirable career as an associate professor at Mount Allison University, where he remained as a full-time educator and scientific researcher for thirty years.

During his time at Mount Allison, Prof. Stewart taught various undergraduate courses including organic chemistry, biology and biochemistry, eventually earning Full Professorship and appointment as the dean of sciences. During his time at Mount Allison, Prof. Stewart was the first to discover and characterize an unusual paralytic toxin found in the venom of the northern short-tailed shrew, a mammal native to North-eastern North America. Following further research of the unique peptide, which he named Soricidin, Prof. Stewart recognized the potential for the compound's anti-cancer therapeutics. As a joint effort with former information technology executive Paul Gunn, Soricimed was founded in Sackville New Brunswick.

After four years of balancing both a business and full-time professorship, Prof. Stewart made the decision to leave his career in academia for the private sector, a transition he



describes as being made easier through the collaboration with his creative business partner. In 2016 the company struck major misfortune as their building was ravaged by fire and burned to the ground. With everything lost except for their data, Prof. Stewart's affiliates at University of Moncton and Mount Allison University graciously offered the company lab space and amazingly Soricimed was back and running in just three weeks. The company's focus on targeted therapies for solid tumor cancers has since shown more than promising results. Their drug SOR-C13 is a novel region of Soricidin that binds and disrupts calcium channels that are over-expressed in many types of cancerous tumors. Recently SOR-C13 has successfully completed phase 1 clinical trials and has been granted FDA orphan drug status for the treatment of ovarian and pancreatic cancer. As the company's discoverer and founder, Prof. Stewart's role continues to change and evolve with his current focus being on scientific publication, patent writing and providing historical reference for the several employees that he oversees.

Throughout his considerable career, Prof. Stewart has undoubtedly witnessed many changes in the industry and praises the role of technology as it allows for the connection between people and their expertise from all over the country. Reflecting on his very accomplished career, one of the most fulfilling aspects of Prof. Stewart's profession has been taking what once an idea and translating it into something tangible and impactful to real-life people. Some attributes Prof. Stewart searches for in graduate students and prospective hires entering the increasingly competitive work force includes their background and experience with lab techniques, but more importantly their ability to learn quickly and be flexible from one role to another. An individual's education is never ending; therefore, one must always be willing to develop themselves, read and learn more.