Michele Romanow net worth – CBC Dragons Den Entrepreneur



This article is about 'Michele Romanow net worth'. I chose the 'net-worth' subject again, as a number of people are interested in entrepreneurs net worth.

Having already written about a few of the BBC's *Dragons Den investors*, I thought I'd introduce Michele Romanow. A Millennial-entrepreneur and a successful Canadian woman in business. As this business blog is an *international business blog* site, I needed to look over the pond for *international entrepreneurs*. Michelle Romanow has been one of the dragon investors on CBC Television Dragons Den in Canada since 2015. A *Toronto-based* business woman. She will be first of many *international entrepreneurs* I will write about.

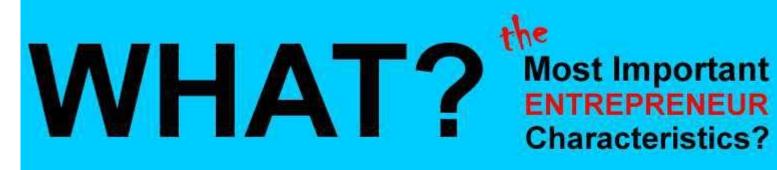
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#### My interest in Michele Romanow is three-fold:

- She's an entrepreneur for one, and I love to read and write about *entrepreneurial people*;
- *Michele Romanow* is not just an entrepreneur, but also a tech-based-business-woman. This is a subject I have already written about.
- Which leads me onto the third reason, which is my interest in 'Women-in-business'

#### Michele Romanow net worth...

Michele Romanow's net worth is estimated at around \$150 Million. Not bad for a young-entrepreneur who was born in 1985.



So at age 32 (the age at the time of writing this article) that's \$4.7 million made for each year of her life.

Entrepreneurial life began with The Tea Room at Ontario's Queens College. The USP for this start-up business was a 'zero-consumer-waste-coffee-shop'.

Michele Rowman was just 22 when she started her first small business.

Related Article Link: Young Entrepreneurs and Millennials with multi-million dollar businesses

She set this business up when she was studying there for her engineering degree. This 'green-business' pioneered both environmentally friendly technologies and practices.

From tea rooms to caviar...



Her next business venture was Evandale Caviar. This new business continued her interest in sustainability and food.

This new company was set up to supply the world's largest caviar market, the United States. But the business was also aligned to preserving the endangered sturgeon species too.

#### Cartier Woman's Initiative Awards...

There's an interesting interview with Romanow, which is worth a read on Cartier Woman's Initiative Awards. When asked in this interview about 'why sustainable food?' she said 'As engineering students at Queen's University in Canada, we were challenged to build things not only faster and lighter. So I started thinking about ways to produce food more sustainably.'

Michele Romanow – "You can't be married to one idea."

Related Article Link: <u>Ten deadly mistakes of entrepreneurship that could kill an entrepreneurs small business</u>

Why caviar, was the next question, and she answered: 'I chose caviar because it represents luxury and timeless elegance and has some of the largest profit margins in the food industry.' However, when luxury retail collapsed in late 2008, and with a change in federal legislation, the business came to an abrupt end.

#### Romanow was not married to her first business idea...

Not put-off and saying 'you can't be married to one idea', this *switched-on-young-entrepreneur* and millennial, just 25 at the time of starting this second business, was not put off by her business failure.

Romanow recognised that failure does happen in business. So with oodles of confidence, Romanow moved on to the next business opportunity...

#### From food to tech entrepreneur...

After making some money from sustainable food, **Michele Romanow's net worth** really began to motor, when she switched to becoming a *tech entrepreneur*...

So how did Michele Romanow make her money and create her current net worth?



Romanow teamed up with two college colleagues with her first two *business ventures*. These two coinvestors, Anatolly Melnichuk and Ryan Marien, joined her in the next joint business venture.

However, business woman Michel Romanow along with her co-founders changed tact.

Tech entrepreneur Michele Romanow co-founds mobile couponing app...



So more recently, *Michele Romanow* has become a *tech entrepreneur* or techpreneur, having built SnapSaves and sold this to Groupon.

She also co-founded Buytopia, which was her third and current business.

*SnapSaves* was acquired in June 2014 for an undisclosed amount by Groupon, and was reported in a local Canadian newspaper.

SnapSaves is a smartphone app and was created by Toronto-based company Buytopia. The *mobile couponing app* has a deal of the day business model similar to Groupon, which will be the reason for the acquisition by the Chicago-based company. Buytopia is a deal-finding platform. Their motto is "Because life is better at 50-90% off".

From humble beginnings back in 2012, where the business began with just three engineers, they have saved subscribers over \$100,000,000. You can read some interesting facts about them on the Buytopia annual report page.

#### Michele Romanow and Dragons Den Canada...



The youngest ever investor on Dragons Den Canada, she brought a new dimension to the CBC show, joining in the tenth season in 2015.

Described as a 'Tech Titan' and by Forbes as the only Canadian to rank as one of the top 20 most disruptive "Millennials on a Mission."

She has an engineering degree and an MBA to her name. So this naturally borne business woman is intelligent as well as a plucky entrepreneur.

One of her *Den-Investments* is in Tapplock – the world's first smart fingerprint padlock.

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David Tao and Kayden Li are Toronto-based entrepreneurs who were looking for \$200,000 for a 5% investment on the show.

Three of the dragons in the den offered angel investment, but a deal was struck with Romanow in the end, for a 5% royalty and a 6.5% equity stake in the company.

Romanow was thinking outside the box once more, to secure an investment she wanted to run with.

Romanow closed a deal on air on CBC's Dragons Den for \$1 million for a 27% stake in TDot Performance. Related Article Link: Lori Greiner invested in the biggest success story in Shark Tank history. The Scrub Daddy. For an investment of \$200,000 for a 20% stake, the business has now had revenues in excess of \$75 million.

Another investment deal on the Dragons Den show was where Michele Romanow offered a staggering \$1 million investment for a 27% stake in TDot Performance.

An online eCommerce store for performance car parts that ships anywhere in Canada. With a projected turnover of \$10 million back in 2015.

#### Michele Romanow net worth moves to fintech...

Investment in *fintech companies* exceeded \$36 billion in 2016, which was up on the 2015 estimate of \$20 billion, which in itself was up 66% on 2014. This meteoric rise didn't miss the keen eye of entrepreneur Romanow.

The fintech based company she launched is clearbank.com. Clearbank.com is a financial services platform which targets North America's 50 million freelancers and self employed contractors.

Looking to build fast traction in her new fintech-business-venture, in her innovative way of thinking she struck a deal with Uber.

With immediate access to a significant market, which in 2016 was in excess of one million drivers, this gave her the *fast-track-start-up* she wanted.

'Part of being an entrepreneur is believing if you keep asking questions, you can figure out.' *Michele Romanow*.

Related Article Link: Most important characteristics of an entrepreneur

In an article in the <u>Financial Post</u>, she is quoted as saying that they'd advance \$5 million so far, which was growing at a rate of 15% per week.

## A few Michele Romanow quotes...

Michele Romanow quote 'Value-based prioritization is key. You can really only do 3 big things a day.'

A second quote from Michele Romanow – "As an Entrepreneur you learn by doing"...

Another quote from Michele Romanow – "Successful people do what unsuccessful people are not willing to do."

# An entrepreneur, but a woman at heart, looking for 'outfit-advice' from her Instagram followers...

Women in business are different to men in business. So although Michele Romanow is a business women, she is all woman at heart. What makes her different to men, is her looking for guidance on her CBC Dragons' Den outfit on Instagram.

Women in business have a different approach to entrepreneurship than men.

Related Article Link: Indra Nooyi Leadership Style – The Five C's of #Leadership

This is something that a business-man would likely not do, and sets women apart from men. This different approach to business and investing is what sets women apart. A collaborative approach is a great leadership style to possess, and is akin to <a href="Indra Nooyi's female approach">Indra Nooyi's female approach</a> at Pepsico.

# Romanow – one of the 100 most powerful women in Canada...

In 2014 Romanow was in the top 100 award winners at the WXN network. This is the Top 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada.

These awards celebrate the legacy of female leaders who define what is possible. A list of great *Canadian women*, and the list includes some of the boldest female leaders, who are prepared to push the boundaries.

Romanow is amongst the top Canadian entrepreneurs. She has become the youngest Dragons Den

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investor on the show too, which is just one more boundary she has pushed. This is a true reflection of her success in business.

# And finally, Michele Romanow dancing on a table with Sir Richard Branson...

I think you can claim to have made it as an entrepreneur when you get to dance on a table with Sir Richard Branson. I guess this is not something a male-entrepreneur would get to do though.

To see this click on this link and scroll to the bottom of the article: <a href="https://in-business.org.uk/michele-romanow-net-worth/">https://in-business.org.uk/michele-romanow-net-worth/</a>

Entrepreneurs around the world aspire to meet the *king of entrepreneurship* – Branson.