

Harnessing Genomics to Improve Human Health and the Environment

Montréal, August 16, 2018 — The President and CEO of Génome Québec, Daniel Coderre, is proud to announce that two Québec research teams have been awarded major funding under the Genome Canada *Genomic Applications Partnership Program* (GAPP).

The goal of GAPP is to foster partnerships between academic researchers and end users in order to meet needs in key sectors (human health, agriculture, forestry, the environment). GAPP projects translate scientific innovation into action for the benefit of the Canadian population and economy.

Two projects led by Québec researchers in the areas of human health and the environment secured funding of \$5 million from a total of \$21 million available across Canada. Seven projects were selected under this ninth round of GAPP.

“The tremendous potential of genomics technology results in targeted applications in a variety of sectors ranging from the treatment of rare diseases to the protection of endangered species. With this funding, Québec researchers will be able to develop effective, real-world solutions that will save lives and support the stability of our ecosystems,” said Daniel Coderre.

[Developing a new treatment for a rare childhood disease](#)

Dr. Paul Goodyer and his team at the Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre will be collaborating with the U.S.-based Eloxx Pharmaceuticals in efforts to develop a new antibiotic for the treatment of nephropathic cystinosis, a rare genetic disorder affecting infants. Once completed, the new drug will have the potential to generate significant savings for the Canadian health-care system, in addition to paving the way for the treatment of other similar diseases.

[Genomics protecting caribou populations](#)

Claude Robert, professor and researcher at the Animal Science Department of Université Laval, and his team are working in partnership with the ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs du Québec (MFFP) on developing a DNA chip, a new genomics tool that will help wildlife conservation officers manage and protect declining caribou populations. This leading-edge technology will contribute to the sustainability of the caribou, a species whose survival is critical to the food security and economic stability in northern communities.

[To learn more about all Canadian results, click here.](#)

About Génome Québec

Génome Québec’s mission is to catalyze the development and excellence of genomics research and promote its integration and democratization. It is a pillar of the Québec bioeconomy and contributes to Québec’s influence and its social and sustainable development.

The funds invested by Génome Québec are provided by the ministère de l’Économie, de la Science et de l’Innovation du Québec (MESI), the Government of Canada, through Genome Canada, and private partners.

To learn more, visit www.genomequebec.com

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