



Genome Québec
The Future has Begun



Fonds de recherche en santé
Fonds de recherche sur la nature et les technologies

SPECIAL PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release

GÉNOME QUÉBEC, THE FRSQ AND THE FQRNT SIGN A PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

On June 13, 2006, **Génome Québec**, the **Fonds de la recherche en santé du Québec (FRSQ)** and the **Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la nature et les technologies (FQRNT)** signed a partnership agreement. This groundbreaking agreement demonstrates the shared desire of all three organizations to work synergistically to enhance Quebec's competitiveness in the field of genomics/proteomics. The partnership is underpinned by three priorities:

1. strategic action partnerships;
2. development of strategic sectors;
3. inventory and analysis of genomics expertise.

In particular, this innovative agreement stipulates that in future:

- Major genomics research projects will be collectively assessed by the three organizations, independently of the final funding source.
- The three organizations will collectively make available their expertise and tools in order to maximize the leverage effect for funding of strategic genomics projects.
- The three organizations will work together to develop tools for collecting, processing and analyzing structured data relevant to the needs of Quebec genomics researchers. In particular, this monitoring process will allow the parties involved to organize bi-annual reviews of the overall state of genomics in Quebec.

Presided over by Génome Québec's Scientific Affairs department, a steering committee composed of the scientific directors of the parties involved will be established to ensure the smooth functioning of the partnership agreement, as well as the development of an action plan for advancing Quebec research.

With other provinces stepping up investment in the life sciences sector, Quebec must continue to take the initiative in order to maintain its leadership role in this sector. This agreement enters into this process. Co-signed by the presidents of Génome Québec and the two research funds, this agreement concretely demonstrates the desire of Quebec research organizations to work together to put in place the mechanisms needed to enhance Quebec's competitiveness in the field of genomics/proteomics.



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