

Génomique Québec applaudit la décision du gouvernement de placer la médecine de précision et l'exploration de Big Data au premier plan de sa stratégie des sciences de la vie

Montréal, May 5, 2017 — Génomique Québec warmly welcomes the Québec Life Sciences Strategy presented today by Dominique Anglade, Minister of Economy, Science and Innovation. The strategy has identified the two cross-cutting niches of precision medicine and Big Data mining in health care as formidable pillars of innovation and economic development for Québec.

The initiatives implemented as part of the strategy include an investment of \$75 million for the creation of an acceleration fund on health collaboration, which will directly finance capacity-building initiatives and collaborative projects carried out as public-private partnerships, for a total value of \$150 million. In addition to the two cross-cutting niches, the government will focus on projects that reflect the health care priorities identified by the ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux.

“In health care, genomics will change the way we prevent, diagnose, treat and predict the evolution of a disease. This entails a whole set of challenges, including the management, processing and mining of Big Data in health. By aligning the potential of precision medicine with Big Data analytics, we will be able to get results faster and create opportunities for Québec to become a frontrunner in the field, thus ensuring its leadership position on the world stage,” said Daniel Coderre, President and CEO of Génomique Québec.

Québec holds considerable assets in these areas, with academic research and industry professionals working together on developing cutting-edge expertise in genomics research, precision medicine, data science and artificial intelligence. The growth of these sectors represents an advantage for all flagship research areas in Québec.

The cornerstone of success and the economic impact of the sector lie in our ability to integrate Québec innovations into the health care system. In this respect, Génomique Québec welcomes the actions taken by the government to infuse innovation into the health care network. The strategy includes the creation of an innovation office, whose purpose will be to promote the integration of innovations into the health care sector, and the launch of a support fund in health and social services with an envelope of \$18 million. The fund will be implemented to assess “real-world” innovations in health care. These initiatives, we hope, will fast track access by Quebecers to promising breakthroughs and strengthen this major economic sector.

About Génomique Québec

Génomique Québec is an economic development organization that contributes to strengthening the competitiveness of the genomics innovation system in order to maximize its socioeconomic impact in Québec. It does so by funding major research initiatives in genomics and putting in place the tools necessary for scientific and strategic development in the field.

The funds invested by Génomique 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, go to www.genomequebec.com.

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