



Genome Québec
relier la science à la vie



PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

GÉNOME QUÉBEC GET BOOSTED BY A \$26 MILLION VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

AFTER 10 YEARS, MOMENTUM IS HIGH

Montréal, May 12, 2011 - Génome Québec President and CEO Jean-Marc Proulx, during the 10-year anniversary celebration of the organization, conveyed a message of confidence to the 200 guests present at the Montréal Science Centre with respect to the future of genomics in Québec and by extension, that of Génome Québec.

A number of VIPs who contributed to Génome Québec's creation were on hand for the evening, the theme of which was "Celebrate 10 years for life!". Also present were several genomics pioneers, among them former minister Jean Rochon, Bartha Maria Knoppers and Claude Laberge. Others, such as Thomas Hudson and Québec Premier Jean Charest, voiced their pride in the organization's success by means of a video. All of the Presidents of Canada's various genomics centres travelled to Montréal to commemorate Génome Québec's anniversary.

Clément Gignac, Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade, took advantage of this impressive gathering to announce the Government of Québec's decision to grant \$26 million to Génome Québec in support of ongoing genomics research. This major investment from the Government was met with excitement, as everyone rejoiced in this expression of confidence in Génome Québec and its leadership position at the helm of genomics development in Québec over the past decade.

Since 2000, Québec researchers and Génome Québec personnel have created tangible assets. Notably, their achievements include the build-up of essential expertise, the establishment of the internationally renowned McGill University and Génome Québec Innovation Centre, and the creation of CARTaGENE.

Over the next five years, Génome Québec will focus its efforts on three main areas: competitiveness, development and mobilization.

"Because we're a society that believes in science and its ability to drive socioeconomic development, we must, in spite of our relative means, continue to make the right choices and do the right thing. That's what 'made in Québec' leadership is all about," stated Jean-Marc Proulx.

Pierre Meulien, President and CEO of Genome Canada, added: *"Significant progress has been made in the genomics sector in Canada over the last 10 years, and Génome Québec has had a pivotal role in this regard."* Mr. Meulien then went on to further explain, *"What I've heard this evening about the priorities for the next five years is a clear indication that no one will be resting on their laurels. Rather, there seems to be a real desire to speed up the pace."*

About Génome Québec

Génome Québec is a not-for-profit organization with the mission of supporting and spurring on genomics research through the funding of structuring research initiatives and the implementation of programs designed to integrate research results into the health and natural resource sectors. For more information about Génome Québec, please go to www.genomequebec.com.

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