



Press release

## For immediate release

# Montréal InVivo and the Quebec Network for Personalized Health Care welcome the establishment of the Personalized Medicine Partnership in Cancer

More than \$21 million invested in the development of new approaches that will benefit Quebec's population and health care system

**Montreal, Quebec, February 15, 2013**. Montréal InVivo, the life sciences and health technologies (LSHT) cluster of the Montréal metropolitan area and the Quebec Network for Personalized Health Care (QNPHC) welcome the creation and \$21.1-million financing of the Personalized Medicine Partnership in Cancer (PMPC).

"Not only does this initiative serve as a catalyst, it is highly critical for our sector," commented Riad Sherif B., Chairman of the Board of Montréal InVivo. "One of the major strengths we have in Québec is the fact that very different organizations, such as biotech SMEs, large pharmaceutical companies, a public clinical research network and a major telecommunications player, are able to join forces with their government partner with the goal of working together on projects whose spinoffs will benefit the entire community. From what I have observed elsewhere in the world, such a degree of collaboration is rare," he added.

"The Quebec Network for Personalized Health Care is pleased with this major support from the Québec government and the private partners who will enable the Personalized Medicine Partnership in Cancer to take off," said David Levine, Chairman of the Board of the QNPHC. "Such projects are truly instrumental in translating ideas into reality, and in demonstrating the viability and benefits of personalized health care for Quebecers, the health system and the sector's economy."

Nathalie Ouimet, Interim Chief Executive Officer of Montréal InVivo, said: "This announcement very favorably positions Quebec's priority niche of excellence in personalized health care. This is the first step in a long-term strategy for Quebec. I am proud of the role Montréal InVivo has played in initiating this strategy. Remember that Montréal InVivo carried out a broad

consultation in 2010, under the leadership of Professor Howard Bergman, then Vice-President, Scientific Affairs, Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé, to develop this initiative in Quebec. We are pleased to be celebrating today the impressive mobilization of the community, the determination of the promoters of the PMPC, and the commitment of our government partners."

#### About Montréal InVivo

Montréal InVivo is the brand name for the life sciences and health technologies (LSHT) cluster of the Montréal metropolitan area. The cluster comprises almost 620 organizations, including more than 150 research centres, 80 subsidiaries of world-class companies, and 41,000 people employed in the sector. A wellspring of great ideas, the cluster includes four universities and ranks first in Canada for the number of research centres.

The secretariat of Montréal InVivo is a non-profit economic development organization dedicated to the creation of wealth. By mobilizing the relevant actors in order to meet crucial challenges such as innovation, and through the actions it undertakes and the implementation of its strategic plan, Montréal InVivo aims to ensure the sustainable development, long-term survival and international renown of the LSHT sector in Greater Montréal.

Its activities are supported by funding from the MFE, MAMROT, CMM, DEC and private and institutional sectors.

### About the Quebec Network for Personalized Health Care

The Quebec Network for Personalized Health Care (QNPHC) is a non-profit organization established in 2011 with the goal of developing and deploying personalized health care in Quebec by bringing together expertise and experience and facilitating the collaboration of key players from academic, clinical, public and private communities on critical projects, to benefit Quebecers' health, make the health care system more efficient, contribute to the sector's economic wealth and drive excellence in research. Currently, approximately 40 public and private organizations, researchers and opinion leaders in Quebec are involved in the QNPHC.

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