

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

2017-2018 QUÉBEC BUDGET

Montréal InVivo is pleased with the \$117.5 million injected into the Life Science Strategy

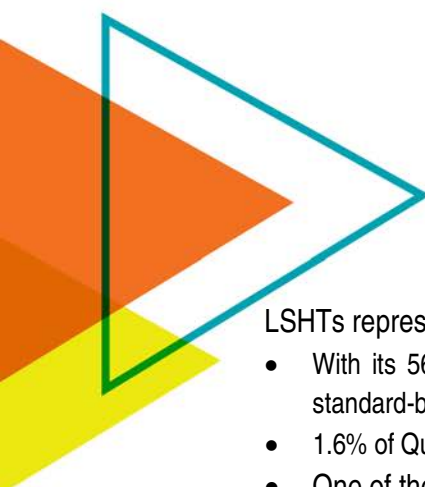
Montréal, March 28, 2017 – Montréal InVivo commends the Government of Québec for the portion of the budget granted to education, research and innovation. “The \$117.5 million of new funding demonstrates the government’s ambition for the life sciences sector and confirms its importance for the Québec economy,” said Frank Béraud, Chief Executive Officer of Montréal InVivo.

Solutions proposed by Montréal InVivo during the pre-budgetary consultations were to articulate an ambitious and sustainable government strategy dedicated to life sciences and health technologies (LSHT), that includes most notably implementation of an ongoing dialogue between the sector and the government; to create the Bureau de l’innovation en santé du Québec reporting directly to the Minister of Health; and to develop a policy of openness and governance of health databanks. “We look forward to knowing more about the Life Science Strategy and to working with the government on growing the sector,” continued Mr. Béraud.

We further emphasize that several LSHT stakeholders will benefit from the measures proposed by the government to stimulate research and innovation:

- \$180 million over five years to finance the Fonds de recherche du Québec ;
- \$305 million to encourage innovation and the next generation of scientific leaders, including \$40 million for Génome Québec for personalized health care research and \$25 million for sectoral industrial research coalitions (CQDM, MEDTEQ);
- \$100 million for the creation of an artificial intelligence super-cluster (Université de Montréal/IVADO);
- \$2 million to IRICoR (as part of the implementation of the life sciences strategy).

“Our studies have shown that Québec is among North America’s 15 leading jurisdictions in life sciences. The province has what it takes to be among the industry leaders. We hope that the upcoming strategy allows us to achieve our full potential,” concludes Mr. Béraud.

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LSHTs represent a driver of innovation and of added value for Québec's economy:

- With its 56,000 jobs, close to 80% of which are in the Montréal metropolitan area, LSHTs are a standard-bearer for Québec's knowledge industry;
- 1.6% of Québec's GDP (\$5.6 billion);
- One of the most intensive industries in R&D – in 2014, 12% of the LSHT revenues in Québec were reinvested in R&D, positioning it ahead of the IT, automotive and aerospace sectors;
- 94% of SMEs of less than 200 employees;
- An average LSHT salary is close to \$70,000.

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 600 organizations, including more than 150 research centres, 80 subsidiaries of world-class companies, and 40,000 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. Montréal InVivo is a non-profit economic development organization dedicated to the creation of wealth. Its activities are supported by funding from the Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et des Exportations (MEIE), the Secrétariat à la région métropolitaine reporting to the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Occupation du territoire, the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM), Canada Economic Development (CED) and private and institutional sectors.

Source:

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