

OCRI announces Canada's Top 10™ Competition Winners for 2008-2009

Ottawa, ON, September 29, 2008. The 2008-2009 winners of the annual Canada's Top 10 Competition have been selected (www.topcanadiancompanies.ca). Organized by OCRI and presented by Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, the winners include a wide variety of companies from the life science, cleantech and technology sectors. Winners will gather on October 7th at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa to hone their presentation skills, meet local and regional investors, and prepare themselves for the first leg of the 2009 Investment Forum series which for some begins with an appearance at the Ottawa Venture and Technology Summit on October 8th (www.ottawavts.com).

Winners were chosen by an independent expert panel of Canadian and U.S. venture capitalists. Originally developed to promote the 10 most promising life science companies from across Canada to Canadian and international investors and partners, the competition now showcases Canada's life sciences, cleantech and technology sectors. Working in partnership with Canadian Consulates in Boston, New York City, San Diego and San Francisco, winning companies will participate in targeted investment forums in each city, providing them with an opportunity to meet with Venture Capital investors who have expressed an active interest in financing these companies. Since its inception in 1999, competition alumni have secured more than \$522M in venture capital financing.

"BLG is very proud to present this national competition which brings top investment opportunities to centre stage." says Marc Babinski, the national leader of Borden Ladner Gervais' innovation sector focus group. "Canada's Top 10 consistently identifies companies with a high potential for success across life sciences, cleantech and ICT. It is our hope that these companies will continue to grow and become globally competitive in their areas of expertise and help position Canada as a country of innovative business leaders."

Of the 30 winning companies, fourteen are from Ontario, three from Manitoba, five from British Columbia, five from Quebec, two from Alberta and one from Nova Scotia. For more information about the Canada's Top 10? Competition visit www.topcanadiancompanies.ca.

2009 Canada's Top 10™ Companies:

Life Science

Profound Medical Inc. (Toronto, Ontario)

Axela Inc. (Toronto, Ontario)
DiaMedica Inc. (Winnipeg, Manitoba)
iCo Therapeutics Inc. (Vancouver, British Columbia)
ImmunoVaccine Technologies Inc. (Halifax, Nova Scotia)
Indel Therapeutics Inc. (Vancouver, British Columbia)
Kane Biotech Inc. (Winnipeg, Manitoba)
PlantForm Corporation (Guelph, Ontario)
Sanomune Inc. (Winnipeg, Manitoba)
Viron Therapeutics Inc. (London, Ontario)

About OCRI:

OCRI (Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation), the city's economic development corporation, is leading the way for Ottawa. OCRI is the rallying point to bring business, education, research and talent together to create the winning economic conditions that allow Ottawa's technology companies to thrive locally and compete globally. At OCRI we promote sustainable economic development to maintain our high quality of life. For more information on OCRI visit our website at www.ocri.ca and for more information on the Ottawa Region please visit www.ottawaregion.com.

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