Atlantic University Researchers to Receive $300,000 in Funding

Springboard promotes promising Atlantic Canadian innovations at international biotech conference

May 9, 2007, Halifax, Nova Scotia – Springboard Atlantic Inc. has selected its 2007 award-winning technologies, many of which are being promoted at an international biotechnology conference – BIO2007 – currently underway in Boston.

The innovations funded this year are diverse, ranging from a new vaccine to protect salmon from the deadly Microsporidial Gill Disease to better protection for consumers through secure contactless credit cards to a new emulsion that provides complete nourishment to patients being fed through IV bags.

"These awards provide academic scientists with critical seed money to develop their research," said Sara Jane Snook, Executive Director, Springboard Atlantic Inc. "This type of support is especially important in Atlantic Canada where 63 per cent of all the region's research and development takes place on the campuses of just 14 universities."

Each year, Springboard provides $20,000 for promising early stage inventions through its **Proof-of-Concept Program** and $10,000 for investment-ready technologies through its **Patent and Legal Fund.** Up to $300,000 is awarded each year through the two programs, which are funded by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) through the Atlantic Innovation Fund.

"Canada's New Government is proud to support Springboard, which is building a vital link between universities and the private sector in Atlantic Canada," said the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of ACOA. "We support Atlantic Canadian universities in their efforts to transfer knowledge and great ideas into commercialized goods and services."

Springboard is part of the Atlantic Canada contingent that is representing the region at BIO 2007, a four-day biotechnology showcase that attracts about 20,000 attendees each year. "We will be looking for partners and collaborators for Springboard technologies," said Snook. "This type of networking opportunity provides an excellent forum to tell the world about the research investment prospects we have in Atlantic Canada."

The winning innovations were selected by an independent review panel and approved by Springboard's Advisory Board. A complete description of the winners can be found on Springboard's website: www.springboardatlantic.ca

Springboard Atlantic Inc. works to bring vital research out of the university labs into the private sector. The Springboard network is made up of 14 universities across Atlantic Canada who work collaboratively to advance the commercialization of academic research. The university technology transfer staff works collaboratively with the researchers to ensure that ideas are protected and developed during the commercialization process.

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Springboard 2007 Proof of Concept Fund Winners

Institution	Researcher	Title of Project	Amount Requested
Dalhousie University	Josef Zwanziger	Predictors and Compositions of Environmentally Safe Glass	$20,000
Dalhousie University	Mark Stradiotto	New Catalysts for Industrially Significant Chemical Transformations	$20,000
Dalhousie University	Theresa C. Peterson	A Non-Invasive Fibrosis Test for Screening Novel Antifibrotic Drugs	$20,000
Memorial University of Newfoundland	Kenneth Kao	The Pygopus Protein, a Molecular Bio-marker for Cervical Cancer Screening	$20,000
Nova Scotia Agricultural College	Bernhard Benkel	DNA Markers for Reproductive Lifespan	$20,000
Nova Scotia Agricultural College	Balakrishnan Prithiviraj	Seaweed-based Product for Alleviation of Salt Stress In Plants	$19,924
St. Francis Xavier University	Dave Risk	A new non-invasive method to detect subsurface hydrocarbon contaminants	$20,000
University of New Brunswick	Bruce J. Balcom	Software for Determination of Relative Permeability of an Oil Industry Rock Core Sample	$20,000
University of New Brunswick - Saint John	Janet Light	Agent-based Mobile Middleware Architecture (AMMA) for Medical Data Transmission Over Cellular Network	$20,000
University of Prince Edward Island	David Speare	Spore-based vaccine against Microsporidial Gill Disease	$20,000

Springboard 2007 Patent and Legal Fund Winners

Institution	Researcher	Title of Project	Amount Requested
Acadia University	Stephane Lemieux	System and Method for Encryption and Authentication	$10,000
Dalhousie University	Geoffrey N. Maksym	Oscillation Spirometer	$10,000
Dalhousie University	Josef Zwanziger	Predictors and Compositions of Environmentally Safe Glass	$10,000
Dalhousie University	Theresa C. Peterson	A Non-Invasive Fibrosis for Screening Novel Antifibrotic Drugs	$10,000
Memorial University of Newfoundland	Hu Liu	Pharmaceutical Grade Lipid Emulsion for Use in Human Intravenous Feeding	$10,000
Nova Scotia Agricultural College	Balakrishnan Prithiviraj	Seaweed-based Product for Alleviation of Salt Stress in Plants	$10,000
Saint Mary's University	Robert Singer	Ionic Liquid Compound for use as alternative Solvents for the reduction of metals	$10,000
Université de Moncton	Alain Haché	Single Laser Beam Instrument to Measure Thermal Conductivity of Solids and Liquids	$10,000
University of New Brunswick	Bruce J. Balcom	Method of Determination of Relative Permeability from a Rock Core Sample	$10,000
University of New Brunswick - Saint John	James Christie	Linehaul Trucking Software (Modifying a Linehaul Optimization Model To Make It Easily Adaptable to Various Transport Companies' Operations)	$10,000