



BULLETIN



CANADIAN GENETIC DISEASES NETWORK

Monday, December 4, 1995

NETWORK PARTNERSHIP CREATES *APOPTOGEN INC.*, A NEW COMMERCIAL VENTURE IN OTTAWA

The Canadian Genetic Diseases Network is pleased to announce the formation of *APOPTOGEN INC.*, a new commercial venture based on partnerships with the Canadian Medical Discoveries Fund (CMDf), the University of Ottawa, and the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO).

APOPTOGEN INC. is based on research supported by the Network and the Medical Research Council of Canada in Apoptosis, a natural biological function which regulates cell death and is implicated in a wide range of disorders including cancer, AIDS, and brain disease. The research is being led by University of Ottawa scientists, Drs. Robert Korneluk and Alex MacKenzie at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario.

Dr. Michael Hayden, Scientific Director of the Canadian Genetic Diseases Network commented from Network headquarters in Vancouver, "The formation of new companies is an important part of the Network's NCE mandate. The Network is delighted to collaborate with partners in both the private and public sector in launching *Apoptogen Inc.*".

Margaret Moore, Network Commercial Director, added "The formation of this new company provides a mechanism for creating value from the strong science base of the Network's Ottawa team. The Network's contribution to management and intellectual property in the formative stage of this new venture was critical to the launch of *Apoptogen Inc.* "

The partnership will provide *APOPTOGEN INC.* with support for research and development as well as investments valued at a total of \$1.7 million.

The Canadian Genetic Diseases Network is a consortium of 38 of Canada's leading geneticists who are linked with twelve universities and hospitals across Canada, 13 core facilities, and 8 industrial partners to form an "institute without walls". The Network carries a mandate under the federal government's Networks of Centres of Excellence Program to perform leading-edge research and to create new commercial opportunities.

For further information contact:
Carol Smith, Network Manager
Canadian Genetic Diseases Network
Tel. 604-822-7217/7886
email csmith@ulam.genes.ca