



BULLETIN



CANADIAN GENETIC DISEASES NETWORK

BOARD APPOINTS RON WOZNOW AS CEO - TO MANAGE COMMERCIAL INTERESTS OF NEWLY INCORPORATED NETWORK

Vancouver - June 1: 1998: The Board of Directors of the Canadian Genetic Diseases Network (CGDN) today announced the appointment of Dr. Ron Woznow as Chief Executive Officer and Commercial Director. Dr. Woznow will be based at the Vancouver headquarters of CGDN at the University of British Columbia.

Dr. Woznow's appointment follows the launch of the Network's new not-for-profit corporation, CGDN (Inc.) and is the first step in a new seven-year strategic plan aimed at sustained development of core support for genetic disease research in Canada.

As past CEO and co-founder of Toi Kinnoir, a medical knowledgeware company based in Ottawa, Dr. Woznow brings CGDN a strong background in technology commercialization, development of strategic alliances, and equity financing. His experience includes senior executive positions in corporate planning and negotiations, most recently as CEO of Shengfab Investments (China), and previously with Coopers and Lybrand, Fletcher Challenge, and Imperial Oil. Dr. Woznow holds a doctorate degree in Chemistry from the University of New Brunswick and an honors Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Alberta.

CGDN Board Chairman, Mr. Graham Strachan, President and CEO of Allelix Biopharmaceuticals Inc., said "This is a crucial time in the continuing development of the Canadian Genetic Diseases Network and I am extremely pleased to welcome Dr. Woznow. I know I speak for my colleagues on the Board in saying he is an important

addition to the Network team in accelerating the Network's commercialization activities.”

Dr. Michael Hayden, Scientific Director of CGDN, said that Dr. Woznow's appointment and the incorporation of the Network are strategic developments as CGDN moves into a new century. He explained “Our scientific advances have considerable potential for translation into new therapies and diagnostics, which means improved healthcare for Canadians and economic advantages for genetic disease research.” He added “Based on our strong scientific program and leadership, we expect CGDN to increase development of technologies and spin-off ventures over the next seven years which will assist in building an ongoing funding base for CGDN research.”

Since 1990, the Canadian Genetic Diseases Network has been committed to leading-edge research in human genetic disease and to creating strategic partnerships to commercialize discoveries. Fifty scientists and their teams, based in 18 universities, hospitals, and research centres across Canada, focus on the molecular and cellular causes of inherited disease. In 1997, CGDN was awarded a further seven years' core funding by the federal Networks of Centres of Excellence Program via the Medical Research Council of Canada, to conduct an expanded research program “From Genes to Therapies.”

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