



PRESS RELEASE

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**Dr. ANNE-MARIE MES-MASSON:
CHAMPION OF THE AMORCHEM KNOCK OUT AND WINNER OF \$500,000!**

Montreal, June 10th, 2016. The five Contenders of the third AmorChem KNOCK OUT™ Event valiantly climbed into the ring June 2nd at the Lumira-AmorChem Event to duke it out against a panel of Heavyweight Champions for a chance to win a coveted \$500,000 financing from AmorChem. Earlier in the year, AmorChem, the innovative Quebec-based venture capital seed fund, launched Canada-wide call for proposals to participate in its KNOCK OUT Event.

All the Contenders displayed remarkable courage and agility in the ring, yet only one could stand victorious.

It is with great pleasure that AmorChem announces the winner of the 2016 KNOCK OUT Event:

Dr. Anne-Marie Mes-Masson
Development of small molecule inhibitors of the Ran GTPase
Theme Leader, Cancer, CRCHUM
Scientific Director
Institut du cancer de Montréal

“The 3rd Edition of AmorChem’s KNOCK OUT was a great success,” says Elizabeth Douville, General Partner at AmorChem. “We created this Event to increase the Quebec and Canadian research communities’ awareness of AmorChem and reach out to researchers who may not have been aware of the possibility of commercialising aspects of their work. This Event definitely reached those goals.”

“The Heavyweights had a tough job and we are very enthusiastic about their selection,” comments Inès Holzbaour, General Partner at AmorChem. “We would like to thank the Contenders for rolling with the punches, our Heavyweights for bringing their individual expertise into the ring and Christopher Hall for successfully keeping everyone battling within the rules.”

The final bell has rung; AmorChem now looks forward to working with Dr. Mes-Masson.

This KNOCK OUT was held on June 2nd 2016 as part of the Lumira-AmorChem Event, a conference highlighting the respective roles of the two venture capital groups in the financing of the life sciences sector.

The Lumira-AmorChem Event

For the second year in a row, Lumira Capital and AmorChem teamed up to host a half-day conference to showcase their respective contributions to the financing of the life science sector. Under the theme “From bench to bedside: financing theory to clinical practice”, this year’s event included, in addition to the KNOCK OUT, presentations from Lumira Capital portfolio companies and from AmorChem’s first spin-off company, Mperia.

AmorChem and Lumira Capital thank their sponsors:

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ABOUT AMORCHEM

AmorChem L.P. (www.amorchem.com) is a venture capital fund located in Montreal focused on investing in promising life science projects originating from Quebec-based universities and research centres. The principal limited partners of this fund are Investissement-Québec, FIER Partenaires, Fonds de solidarité FTQ and Merck & Co. This fund is the latest addition to the GeneChem portfolio of funds, a fund manager in existence since 1997. AmorChem's innovative business model involves financing research-stage projects to enable them to reach pre-clinical proof-of-concept ("POC") in a semi-virtual mode within 18-24 months. The fund seeks to generate returns through a two-pronged exit strategy: sell projects having reached POC to large biotechnology or pharmaceutical companies; or bundle them into new spin-out companies. AmorChem using external resources will manage the projects. In addition, to enabling projects requiring small molecules as tools or drug leads, AmorChem has founded NuChem Therapeutics Inc., a medicinal chemistry contract-research company.

ABOUT LUMIRA CAPITAL

Lumira Capital is a leading North American healthcare and life sciences venture capital firm. Lumira Capital is currently actively investing from two funds: **Lumira Capital II** invests primarily in North American, clinical-stage biopharmaceutical, medical device, and healthcare IT companies. **Merck Lumira Biosciences Fund** is targeted to earlier stage investments in biopharmaceutical companies located in Quebec. Successful investments from our previous fund include: KAI Pharmaceuticals (acquired by Amgen), Ception Therapeutics (acquired by Cephalon), Morphotek, (acquired by Eisai Co.), Argos Therapeutics (IPO), Guava (acquired by Millipore), Corus Pharma (acquired by Gilead Sciences), Depomed (public exit following PIPE), Ista (public exit following PIPE), Pharmasset (acquired by Gilead Sciences following IPO) and MAKO Surgical (acquired by Stryker following IPO). Lumira Capital's portfolio companies are located throughout North America and we have partners in our offices in Toronto, Montreal and Boston. For more information visit the Lumira Capital website at www.lumiracapital.com.