



## News Release

For Immediate Release

### The Government of Canada Invests in Advancing Genomics Technologies

July 13, 2015 – Saskatoon, Saskatchewan – Western Economic Diversification Canada

Industries such as mining, energy, and agriculture will soon see the potential benefits of innovative genomics technologies thanks to a \$600,000 investment announced today by the Honourable Michelle Rempel, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification.

Research in genomics technologies is advancing rapidly and the challenge is linking primary sector industry partners capable of adopting and applying these technologies with the research teams. This investment will give Genome Prairie the ability to proactively engage companies and organizations in key economic sectors to adopt genomics technologies to address issues such as productivity, management and mitigation of risk, product diversification, and environmental management.

Genome Prairie will develop new partnerships to exploit genomics-based technologies in new areas such as bioleaching in cold climates, hydrocarbon remediation, increasing pork quality and traceability, and northern quinoa. These projects will stimulate the technology transfer and commercialization pipeline in Saskatchewan for genomics based discoveries, stimulate innovation, and enable the deployment of new products, processes and services.

#### Quick Facts

- To date, Genome Prairie has supported over \$260 million of research activity across Manitoba and Saskatchewan.
- Genomics technologies present practical innovation that can replace or augment many technologies used by industry today.

#### Quotes

“Our Government is proud to support Genome Prairie in their efforts to advance genomics technologies within industry. This partnership will improve the commercialization of western Canadian products, processes and services while developing, attracting and retaining highly qualified personnel.”

- *The Honourable Michelle Rempel, Minister of State for Western Economic Diversification*

“At Genome Prairie we work with our industry and academia partners to turn good ideas into practical solutions, products and services. With this support from the Government of Canada and Western Economic Diversification we can proactively engage with new and established companies to demonstrate tangible economic benefits that improve the quality of life for all Canadians.”

- *Dr. Reno Pontarollo, President & CEO Genome Prairie*

#### Additional Links

- Genome Prairie: <http://www.genomeprairie.ca/>

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