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PRESS RELEASE

2008 ALBERTA BIOINDUSTRY AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED Leaders in the Biotech Sector Recognized

Calgary, Alberta – Today BioAlberta announced the winners of the 2008 BioAlberta Achievement Awards at its 9th Annual General Meeting and Awards Gala. The winners are:

Scientific Achievement & Innovation

Dr. Gary Lopaschuk, Scientific Director, Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute

Emerging Company of the Year

Picomole Instruments Inc. (Edmonton)

Company of the Year

BioMS Medical Corp. (Edmonton)

“We are delighted to shine some light on the great talent and accomplishments within the Alberta’s life sciences” said Ryan Radke, President of BioAlberta. “Although it is still an emerging sector in the province, it has yielded notable achievements. It is due to the vision, commitment and hard work of these award winners that we can compete in the global arena. Their success is an indication of the excellence and potential of the life science industry in Alberta”.

Alberta Bioindustry Hall of Fame

BioAlberta proudly established the Alberta Bioindustry Hall of Fame in 2006 to recognize people who have demonstrated leadership in the industry and made extensive and tangible contributions to the Alberta and Canadian life science industries.

This year, the distinguished **Dr. William A. Cochrane** OC, MD, FRCPC, FACP, DABP, D.Sc. (hon), LLD (hon) was honoured as an individual who has significantly contributed to Alberta’s success in the life science industry, and had many significant achievements in science and research, industry development, public policy, ambassadorship, and education.

The awards were presented at the gala ceremony November 25th, 2008 in front of an audience of about 150 life science and related industry leaders, and government dignitaries.

About BioAlberta

BioAlberta is a private, not-for-profit industry association that represents more than 85% of Alberta's steadily increasing life science companies and organizations. Alberta's life science industry is a broad field of endeavour encompassing biotechnology, environmental science, medical devices and applications, industrial bioproducts, agriculture biotechnology, bio-informatics and natural health products. Alberta's life science industry offers exceptional prospects for both economic growth and improved quality of life for Albertans, and our companies and researchers are meeting the challenges of this globally competitive industry.

There are presently more than 130 BioAlberta members and BioAlberta is the central voice and the organizational hub for life science industries in the province.

BioAlberta's activities focus on four strategic areas: Government Advocacy, Promotion & Marketing, Industry Development, and Networking.

The Association provides attentive, proactive and timely services and programs. Whether it is cost savings of a purchasing program, a marketing campaign, a publication, an educational session, or an advocacy project, BioAlberta expands member companies' dollars and reach.

For more information, contact:

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See attachments below: Award Winners' Biographies

Dr. Gary Lopaschuk

Scientific Director
Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute
8440 - 112 Street
Edmonton, Alberta



Dr. Lopaschuk, an AHFMR Scientist, is the Scientific Director of the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute and Professor of Pediatrics and Pharmacology at the University of Alberta. His pioneering work in cardiovascular research has identified, at a molecular level, the role and mechanisms of a number of key enzymes that are important in how fatty acids are metabolized in the heart. These findings have greatly improved our understanding of how heart disease may be caused and potentially prevented. As a result, his work has led to applications in the treatment of heart disease that have changed the field of cardiovascular medicine and benefitted the care of patients suffering from heart disease.

Dr. Lopaschuk has a long and distinguished career as one of Canada's top cardiovascular scientists and in 2007, was awarded the Life Long Research Achievement Award of the Canadian Cardiovascular Society. Not only is he active on various boards and foundations, but is also the President and CEO of the biotechnology company, Metabolic Modulators Research Ltd. Boasting over 180 publications, Dr. Lopaschuk is truly deserving of this year's Award for Scientific Achievement and Innovation.

Picomole Instruments Inc.

Suite 4-034, NINT Innovation Centre
11421 Saskatchewan Drive
Edmonton Alberta T6G 2M9

Sector: Medical devices & Equipment
<http://www.picomole.com/>



Picomole Instruments Inc. is an Edmonton based, private corporation and 2007 grand prize winner of the Venture Prize Business Plan Competition. Its flagship product, LifeSens™, is designed to offer convenient point-of-care test solutions for the screening, diagnosis, and management of cancer and other diseases through the quantification of multiple exhaled breath biomarkers in a user-friendly, cost-effective format. In addition to performing actual breath analysis with the technology, the company has recently completed the development of its portable prototype, both ahead of schedule and under budget.

The many benefits of this technology will broaden the market opportunities to include human health, veterinary health, drug screening, personalized medicine, border security, port-of-entry security, etc. The company thus has the potential to secure licensing agreements for the additional applications and is in the process of doing so.

It is with Dr. Cormier's entrepreneurial mindset, leadership capabilities, and internal drive that Picomole has developed LifeSens™ technology and the team required to aggressively move this product into the market in a strategic and efficient manner.

BioMS Medical Corp.

6030-88 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6E 6G4

Sectors: Health - BioPharma
<http://www.biomsmedical.com/>



BioMS Medical Corp. is a Canadian based biotechnology company engaged in the development and commercialization of novel therapeutic technologies. Their lead technology, dirucotide (MBP8298), is for the treatment of multiple sclerosis (MS) and is being evaluated in two pivotal phase III clinical trials in secondary progressive MS and a phase II clinical trial in relapsing-remitting MS.

In December 2007, Eli Lilly and Company and BioMS Medical entered into a licensing and development agreement granting Lilly exclusive, worldwide rights to dirucotide. This alliance was one of the largest drug licensing deals in Canadian history.

BioMS Medical was founded with the mission to deliver an effective and safe treatment to people with multiple sclerosis. With the tremendous accomplishments that they have achieved to date, the company is closer than ever to fulfilling that commitment.

Dr. William A. Cochrane

OC, MD, FRCPC, FACP, DABP, D.Sc. (hon), LLD (hon)



Building a medical school from the ground up, Dr. Cochrane was the founding Dean of Medicine for the University of Calgary and in 1978 became Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Connaught Laboratories. He has shared his leadership with a range of organizations, from the National Biotechnology Advisory Committee and the Alberta Research Council to private sector ventures and non-profit organizations. In addition to being named Officer of the Order of Canada, Dr. Cochrane holds many other honors, including a National Merit Award and was recognized as one of Alberta's "Physicians of the Century" by the Alberta Medical Association in 2005. Dr. Cochrane currently serves as a board member of a number of Alberta life science companies including ResVerlogix Corp. and Oncolytics Biotech Inc.