

## NEWS RELEASE

### PEI bioscience company named one of Canada's Top 100 Employers

*recognition awards and high-level industry certification positions Sekisui Diagnostics to attract more business and new employees*

**November 28, 2017, Charlottetown, PEI** -- Sekisui Diagnostics PEI has achieved several key milestones recently - and being named one of *Canada's Top 100 Employers* is certainly one of them.

The company, which provides in-vitro diagnostic kits and supporting chemicals for hospitals and clinics worldwide made the Top 100 List published this month by Mediacorp Canada Inc. in the *Globe and Mail* and was selected from 7,500 employers from across the country. Sekisui was one of only five companies from Atlantic Canada recognized, "which is a great honour and shows the strength of our management team and employees here in PEI," says Plant Manager and Director of Manufacturing, Brian Stewart.

Last year, Sekisui was name one of *Atlantic Canada's Top Employers*. This year, the company was also recognized as one of the top companies in the country for hiring recent graduates - "a testament to Sekisui PEI's commitment to developing the next generation of workers," says Stewart.

"Great leadership has been a key factor in Sekisui PEI's growth and success," says Rory Francis, Executive Director of the Prince Edward Island BioAlliance. "Brian is an enthusiastic leader, with a vision for thoughtful innovation in moving the company forward."

To help keep up with growing manufacturing demands, Sekisui completed a multi-million-dollar expansion in the summer of 2017 at their West Royalty Industrial Park facilities in Charlottetown - which included two new automated packaging lines, a cold storage building and a retrofit of their manufacturing and office areas. And the company was recently certified in ISO Environmental Management - one of only a few manufacturers in Atlantic Canada to achieve this. ISO certification is a collection of guidelines to help companies establish, maintain, and improve standardized quality assurance. "Having this certification will help attract new business, new employees and will differentiate us from our competitors," says Stewart.

Some of the reasons why **Sekisui Diagnostics PEI Ltd.** was selected as one of *Canada's Top 100 Employers (2018)* and *Atlantic Canada's Top Employers (2017)*:

- The company provides maternity and parental leave top-up payments for new mothers and fathers, including adoptive parents (to 100% of salary for up to 8 weeks)

- The company offers a number of financial benefits including signing bonuses for some employees, referral bonuses of up to \$1,500 and matching RSP contributions
- The company invests in ongoing employee development with tuition subsidies for job-related courses (up to \$4,000 per year), subsidies for professional accreditation and a variety of in-house and online training programs

Sekisui Diagnostics PEI is one of 53 bioscience-based companies, eight research institutions, and more than 1,500 employees that make up the Prince Edward Island Bioscience Cluster.

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