



Atlantic Canada's BioIndustry attends North America's largest biotechnology conference

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island (June 8, 2018) – Over twenty-five biotechnology companies and research organizations from Atlantic Canada attended the 2018 BIO International Convention and Trade Show in Boston, Massachusetts June 4 – 7th. The annual event brings together biotechnology industry leaders, researchers, and representatives from biotechnology and life science organizations from around the world. Canadians make up the largest international presence, with a record number of over 1000 delegates in attendance this year. The BIO International Convention is the single most targeted event to showcase Canadian biotechnology innovation to the world.

Funding support for the mission was provided by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) and the four Atlantic provincial governments through the Atlantic Trade and Investment Growth Strategy (ATIGS). The Atlantic Canadian mission was coordinated by the PEI BioAlliance under the umbrella of the Atlantic Canada Bio-Industries Alliance.

Present at the official opening of the Canada Pavilion on June 5th was the Honourable David Alward Consul General of Canada to Boston, Deputy Minister of Industry, Science, and Economic Development John Knuble, Nova Scotia Minister of Health and Wellness Honourable Randy Delorey, and Honourable Brian Kenny, New Brunswick Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development.

The Honourable Scott Brison President of the Treasury Board of Canada, MP for Kings-Hants, Nova Scotia hosted a business roundtable with Atlantic Canada delegate CEO's. Minister Brison also welcomed International delegates to the Atlantic Canada signature networking event held in Boston.

The Atlantic Canada mission provided a coordinated regional presence at one of the world's largest and most significant annual meetings for life sciences and biotechnology. Atlantic delegates met with other international companies to focus on new product development, investment opportunities, export opportunities, talent recruitment, and collaboration on research and development.

"Having a coordinated presence at this world-stage event for biotechnology is essential to showcase our regional assets and provide companies and research organizations the opportunity to meet key international industry contacts," said Rory Francis, Executive Director of the PEI BioAlliance.

This was the first BIO Convention for PEI-based Somru BioScience Inc., an emerging biotechnology company dedicated to developing breakthrough antibody technology and immunoassay solutions to accelerate biologic and biosimilar drug development. applications.

"The BIO International Convention is one of the best networking and partnering conferences for biotechnology companies. It allowed us to engage with some of the best biotech companies from around the world," said Mohammed Moin, Vice President of Strategic Partnership & Business Development at Somru BioScience Inc. .

Michael Phillips, Chief Scientific Officer for Sequence Bio based in Newfoundland and Labrador, said this year's event has been a key one for his company.

"Our attendance at BIO 2018 and our participation in the Atlantic Canadian delegation to BIO 2018 has created new opportunities in other provinces for our company. We are very excited about what lies ahead for us as a result of our meetings this week."

The bioscience sector in Atlantic Canada is composed of over 200 companies and more than 50 research organizations. Target market segments include pharmaceuticals (including vaccines), diagnostics, natural health products, medical devices, health information technology, and industrial bioproducts. Atlantic Canada's bioscience sector has grown exponentially over the last ten years and now employs over 3,000 workers and represents \$655 million in revenue.

Atlantic Canada Mission Participants at the 2018 BIO International Convention & Trade Show:

Atlantic Cancer Research Institute
BioMedica Diagnostics
BIONB
BioNova
BioVectra
Cape Breton University
Centre for Aquaculture Technologies Canada (CATC)
Genome Atlantic
Horizon Health Network
NATI
NB BioMatrix
New Brunswick Institute for Research, Data and Training (NB-IRDT)
New Brunswick Community College
New Brunswick Health Research Foundation
New Lab Clinical Research
Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation
Neurodyn Cognition
PDA Inc.
PEI BioAlliance
PhotoDynamic Inc.
Sequence Bio
Solid State Pharma
Somru BioSciences Inc.
Synapse
Université de Moncton
UNB
Vitalité Health Network

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