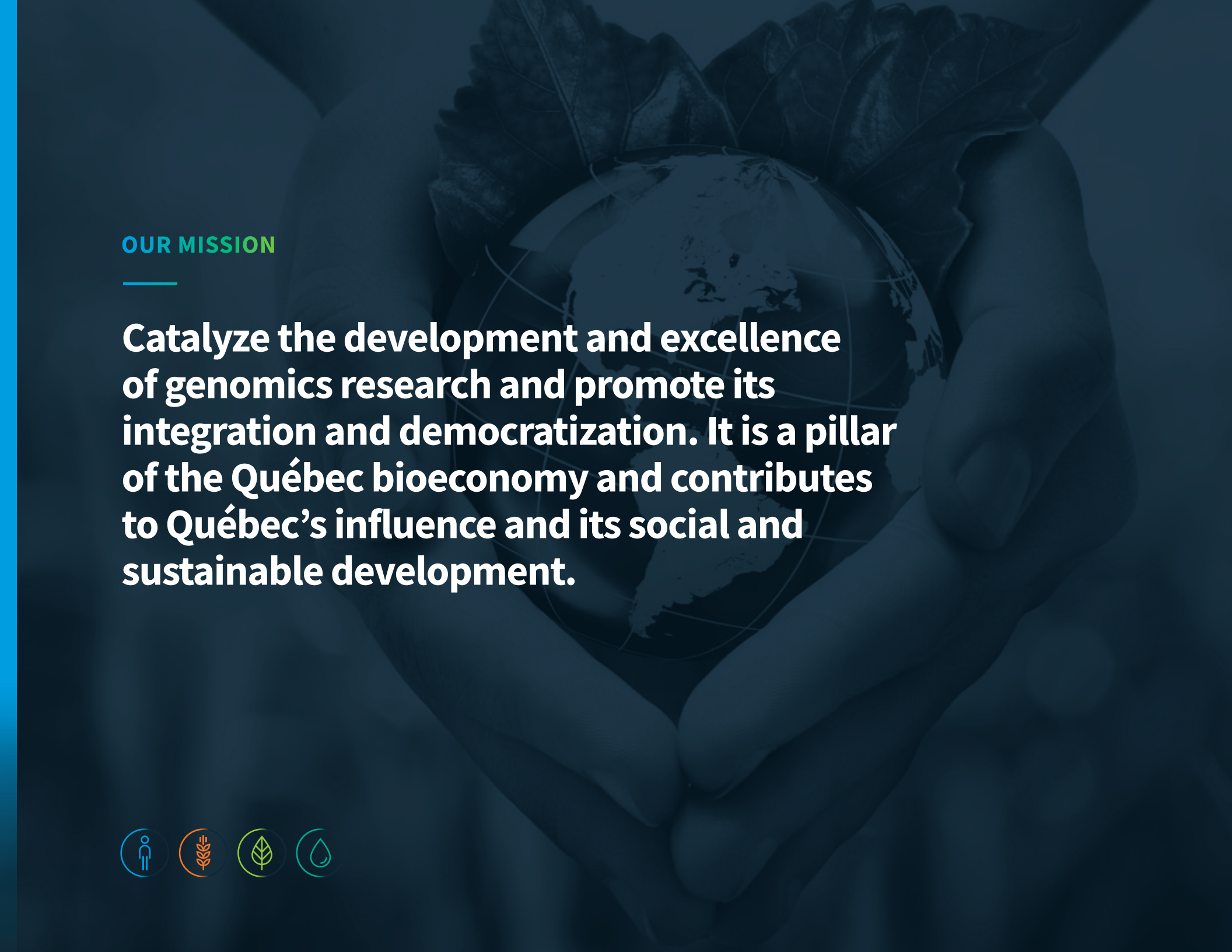
Annual Report 2019-20

GÉNOME QUÉBEC IS 20 YEARS OLD!

GenomeQuébec

TABLE OF CONTENT



OUR MISSION

Catalyze the development and excellence of genomics research and promote its integration and democratization. It is a pillar of the Québec bioeconomy and contributes to Québec's influence and its social and sustainable development.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

"While a challenge for us all, the COVID-19 crisis has been a critical moment for science."

Research: is it an expense or an investment? The issue has been widely debated for the past twenty years, if not longer. For some, the answer was far from clear. But this was before 2020, the year that changed everything. If the global pandemic has taught us anything, it is that research is an essential investment for any society that prides itself on having a modern and ambitious vision focused on the wellness of its citizens.

While a challenge for us all, the COVID-19 crisis has been a critical moment for science. During this time, all eyes have looked to scientific expertise for answers, knowing that this will be where the solution lies. But if science can now offer us hope for treatments, vaccines and therapeutics, it is because many years ago, certain countries decided to take a calculated risk by trusting scientists and investing in basic research. This is what happened here at home, in 2000, when we established Génome Québec and Genome Canada.

Today, this risk has paid off. In the past two decades, over one billion dollars have been invested in genomics in Québec. So to the age-old question: "what did we gain?" we can say, with confidence, that we now have access to a pool of expertise and infrastructure that ranks among the best in the world and world-leading researchers, who are actively involved in the race for new discoveries. Some may even be part of the solution we need right now.

This global pandemic will go down in history. It also represents a major step for research and innovation, an opportunity to connect with the public and a chance to explain and demonstrate the power of knowledge acquired over time. Media, governments and the public have turned to science, because during this period of uncertainty, its importance for humanity suddenly has become crystal clear.

It is a tremendous privilege to be part of this collective effort as Chair of the Génome Québec Board of Directors. I think I can say the same for all my board colleagues. We are supporting a team of dedicated professionals, many of them highly qualified, who did not hesitate for an instant to put their expertise to work for the Québec government and join in the national fight against the pandemic.

A HISTORIC TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

The year 2020 marks Génome Québec's twentieth anniversary. This year will long be remembered, but for other reasons, of course. I nonetheless hope that the research and innovation sector will seize this opportunity to connect with the public, build bridges and capitalize on people's growing interest to promote Québec's potential, the major discoveries we made and those to come. Quebecers can be proud of what is being accomplished right here at home, and they need to know it.

We are starting our twenty-first year looking forward. What can we expect from the introduction of genomics into various sectors, the convergence of genomics and artificial intelligence or the power of international collaborations? Nothing short of a revolution – one that will transform our ways of doing on many fronts, as we stand poised and ready to play a key role in this long-awaited shift. I would like to reiterate, however, the great importance of involving the public in this major change by preparing them, informing them and reassuring them regarding the various aspects of the new era that has already begun. Having them on board is essential if this major shift is to be a success. As those who know me can attest, I am a firm believer in communication, which, in my view, has become more important than ever for society.

In closing, I wish to thank my board colleagues for their extraordinary contribution, along with Daniel Coderre, our President and CEO, and his management team for their vision and professionalism.

ANIE PERRAULT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO

The year 2019-2020 was marked by major achievements, unprecedented in the history of Génome Québec. Whether by securing nearly $50 million from the Québec government in support of our activities, reorganizing the administrative centre and moving the Centre d'expertise et de services (CES) to CHU Sainte-Justine or the collaborative agreement with the ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS), Génome Québec has performed exceptionally well. In addition, its involvement in the fight against COVID-19 at the end of the fiscal year, was unique.

Three funding agreements were signed with the Québec government, two of which guarantee the operations of Génome Québec, and many of its projects, for the next three years (2020-2023). This is a first in many years now.

Change seems to have been the dominant theme this year, both for the administrative centre and the CES. For one, the offices located at 630 René-Lévesque Blvd West were completed renovated. Additionally, the technology platforms were relocated to the CHU Sainte-Justine. The move was the culmination of a complex project that started in 2018. Worthy of note is the fact that all technological services went uninterrupted and the quality of Génome Québec services was in no way compromised during these transitions – representing a major challenge in and of itself. With the move, Génome Québec has brought its research support services closer to the clinical genomics activities already taking place at CHU Sainte-Justine, thereby paving the way for a close collaboration with the MSSS.

In the area of scientific affairs, the number of initiatives was increased to diversify partnerships and programs. This led to agreements with partners such as Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, IVADO and Oncopole. Génome Québec has also been very active at the international level.

Moreover, major breakthroughs were made in education and social acceptance. After many consultations with citizens and experts, the education plan was submitted and its funding secured. The launch of *Mission ADN-eau*, with its tremendous success among young people, is another noteworthy achievement of 2019-2020.

The fiscal year ended with the arrival of COVID-19 in Québec and the many ensuing public health measures implemented in response. Génome Québec acted swiftly by prioritizing the safety of its employees. No layoffs were carried out and all administrative operations continued at full capacity, through teleworking. The CES was, however, closed temporarily.

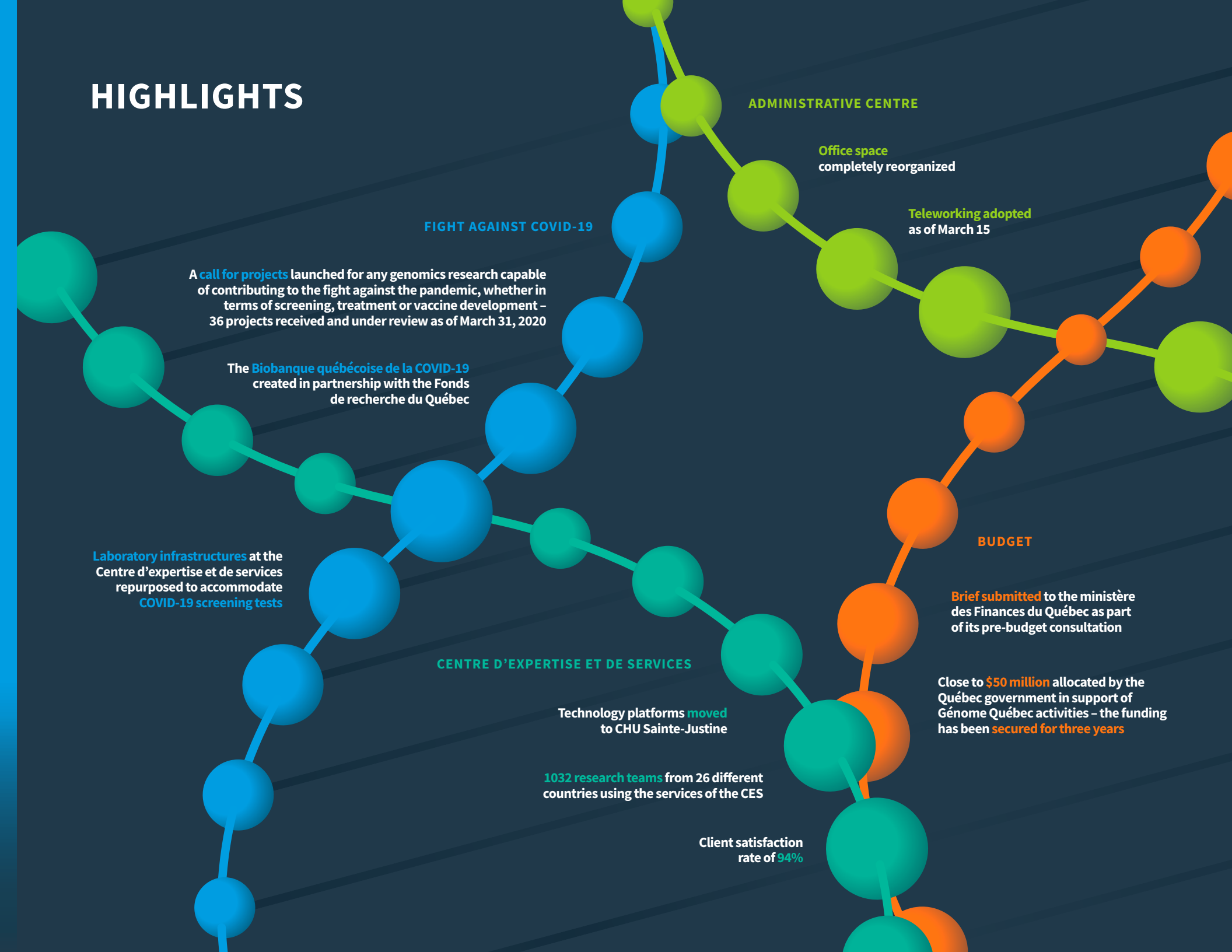
This year, which marks the twentieth anniversary of our organization, has been unusual so far, to say the least. The special circumstances in which we find ourselves are generating their share of challenges but also many opportunities for genomics research. Already, Génome Québec has seized the opportunity to position itself front and centre in the current ecosystem as a key partner in a variety of initiatives, thus setting the tone for 2020-2021.

"Génome Québec has seized the opportunity to position itself front and centre in the current ecosystem as a key partner in a variety of initiatives."

Lastly, I would like to commend our employees for their professionalism and dedication, not to mention their resilience in adapting to the sudden changes brought about by the COVID-19 crisis. Despite the context, all our corporate objectives have been reached, an accomplishment that reflects their expertise and commitment. I would also like to thank our Board of Directors for their support and valuable contribution to the development of genomics in Québec.

DANIEL CODERRE

HIGHLIGHTS



ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE

Office space completely reorganized

Teleworking adopted as of March 15

FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

A **call for projects** launched for any genomics research capable of contributing to the fight against the pandemic, whether in terms of screening, treatment or vaccine development – 36 projects received and under review as of March 31, 2020

The **Biobanque québécoise de la COVID-19** created in partnership with the Fonds de recherche du Québec

Laboratory infrastructures at the Centre d'expertise et de services repurposed to accommodate **COVID-19 screening tests**

BUDGET

Brief submitted to the ministère des Finances du Québec as part of its pre-budget consultation

Close to **$50 million** allocated by the Québec government in support of Génome Québec activities – the funding has been **secured for three years**

CENTRE D'EXPERTISE ET DE SERVICES

Technology platforms **moved** to CHU Sainte-Justine

1032 research teams from 26 different countries using the services of the CES

Client satisfaction rate of **94%**

EDUCATION AND SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE

New education and social acceptance plan submitted

Digital resources from our education platform posted on L'école ouverte portal of the ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur

More than 500 students participated in *Mission ADN-eau*, a new citizen science project on the environment

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

New partnerships established with the ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs and the ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques

National announcement organized, in partnership with Genome Canada, on funding of close to $15 million for genomics research, including an envelope of $6 million for the Québec project *DOvEEgene* by Dr. Lucy Gilbert

Over $6 million in funding allocated to Dr. Jacques L. Michaud from CHU Sainte-Justine for his project that brings hope in the fight against rare genetic diseases in newborns

Number of subscribers across all our social media platforms increased by nearly 25%

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

New partnerships established with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, IVADO and Oncopole

Portfolio of 95 projects being managed, 26 of which have been initiated this year

New research synergies developed between genomics and artificial intelligence

OUR VISION

Genomics-driven innovations improve health care service delivery, support agrifood, environmental and forest management practices and enhance public policies.

SCIENTIFIC OUTREACH

The year 2019-2020 was another busy one for the Scientific Affairs team, starting with the creation of a new business development role. The move soon paid off with an increase in the number of opportunities for cooperation between researchers and partners. The end goal with this new position is to fast-track the commercialization and implementation of discoveries in genomics.

The environment and agrifood sectors yielded particularly good results, as well, this year. After several months of preparation and various events designed to stimulate collaborations, we launched, in June, the projects from the competition *Genomics Solutions for Agriculture, Agri-Food, Fisheries and Aquaculture*. This Genome Canada competition aims to stimulate the discovery of concrete genomics solutions to ensure the sustainability of these economic sectors and bring to reality a long-awaited partnership with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC). In addition, and again in partnership with AAFC, we were able to launch independent funding for four other projects in Québec.

In October, we organized the Québec-France days of discussion on environmental genomics, jointly with researchers from the Centre national de la recherche scientifique and the Institut national de la recherche agronomique in France. Outcomes from the discussions provide hope for the future of these bustling areas of activity.

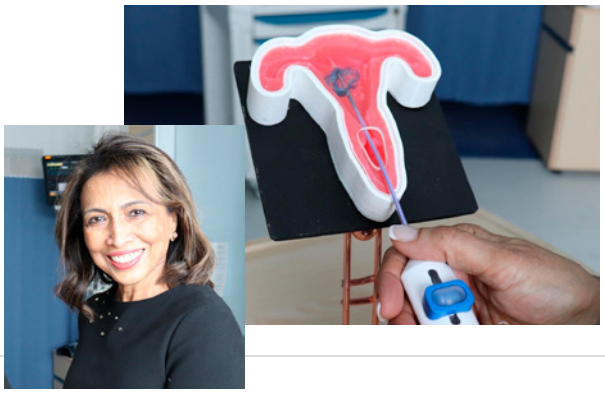
HIGHLIGHTS OF LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS

Our team also managed a portfolio of 95 projects funded by Génome Québec. From the 26 projects that were launched this year, we wish to highlight the following:

- The ***DOvEEgene*** project (Detecting Ovarian and Endometrial cancers Early using genomics), spearheaded by Dr. Lucy Gilbert [1]
- The ***Rapid Whole-Genome Sequencing in Acute Care Neonates and Infants*** project, led by Dr. Jacques L. Michaud [2]
- The ***FISHES*** project (Fostering Indigenous Small-scale fisheries for Health, Economy, and Food Security), led by Prof. Louis Bernatchez [3]
- The ***Crowdsourcing sequence alignments in an AAA game for microbiome research*** project, headed by Prof. Jérôme Waldispühl [4]

[1]

Spearheaded by **Dr. Lucy Gilbert**, the ***DOvEEgene*** project (Detecting Ovarian and Endometrial cancers Early using genomics), secured over $6 million in funding to complete the development of an ovarian cancer screening test. Faster than existing tests, it could save thousands of lives each year in Canada and around the world.



SCIENTIFIC OUTREACH (CONT'D)

[2]

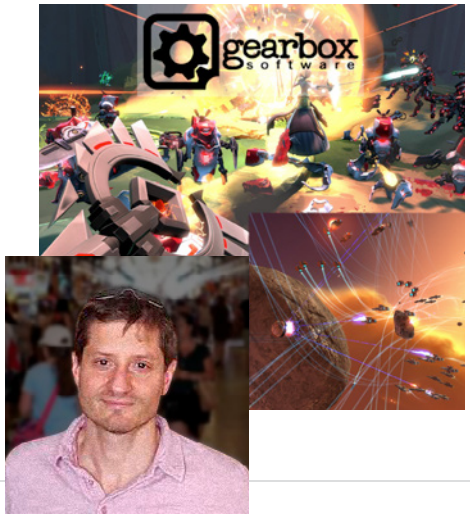
The project by **Dr. Jacques L. Michaud**, ***Rapid Whole-Genome Sequencing in Acute Care Neonates and Infants***, obtained funding of more than $6 million. The project delivers a great deal of hope in the fight against rare genetic diseases through the early, more systematic diagnosis of rare diseases in newborns.

[3]

FISHES (Fostering Indigenous Small-scale fisheries for Health, Economy, and Food Security), a project led by **Prof. Louis Bernatchez**, secured more than $14 million in funding. Its aim is to generate genomics knowledge of certain fish species in support of fishers from Indigenous communities in Northern Québec to foster the development of sustainable fishing and, thus, improve food security in these communities.

[4]

The innovative project, ***Crowdsourcing sequence alignments in an AAA game for microbiome research***, headed by **Prof. Jérôme Waldispühl**, obtained nearly $3 million in funding. The initiative consists in using crowdsourcing and videogames to fast-track microbiome research by producing multiple, high-quality sequence alignments for very large data sets.



GÉNOME QUÉBEC, A CANADIAN LEADER IN TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS

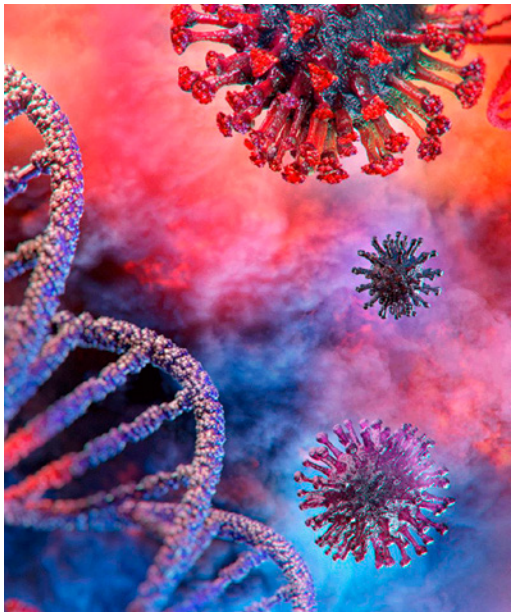
Six of the ten technology platforms currently funded by Genome Canada are located in Québec. Through our dedicated program, these platforms provide cutting-edge services in genomics to researchers and industry alike. They also work on advancing technological development. Québec's reputation in the field is growing in Canada and internationally.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) WORKING FOR GENOMICS

The integration of AI and genomics has marked, this year more than ever before, the evolution of our discipline. Opportunities for joint projects are increasingly common and help to significantly accelerate the development of research and our knowledge in genomics. AI was the topic of many conferences in which we participated, including the Entretiens Jacques Cartier 2019, the Forum pour l'avancement de la pratique pharmaceutique and the Forum d'affaires Canada-Italie sur l'intelligence artificielle, last fall. The new competition, *Omics Data Against Cancer*, involving the joint effort of Génome Québec, Oncopole and IVADO, is another

SCIENTIFIC OUTREACH (CONT'D)

Dr. Vincent Mooser from McGill University, responsible for the creation of the Biobanque québécoise de la COVID-19



great example in this respect. It will fund projects that will use AI to leverage cancer datasets with the aim of improving the well-being of patients living with the disease.

Digital health is in full growth mode right now. Génome Québec was given funding for the next three years in support of initiatives in this field.

COVID-19 SOLUTIONS: THE RACE IS ON

I cannot conclude this year's report without mentioning the significant impact that the COVID-19 pandemic had on our team and on our activities near the end of our fiscal period. Very soon after the crisis began, upon request by the ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation du Québec, we launched a call for projects involving any research capable of contributing to the discovery of solutions, whether in the area of screening, therapeutics or vaccine development. I am proud of the way in which we so quickly responded to this call, in the midst of the most restrictive period of the lockdown. In a few weeks, we had received and reviewed dozens of projects. At the time of finalizing this report, it is still too soon to evaluate the impact of this effort, but we can certainly be pleased with the massive mobilization demonstrated by our very own scientific community in the search for solutions.

Simultaneously, in partnership with the Fonds de recherche du Québec, we tasked a team of researchers led by Dr. Vincent Mooser from McGill University with the creation of the Biobanque québécoise de la COVID-19. The project was developed to ensure the collection, storage and analysis of data related to the pandemic. Our Centre d'expertise et de services also joined in the effort, thus providing a fine display of cooperation among researchers and a demonstration of the proactive approach to the crisis on the part of the Québec research community.

This year, our expertise in genomics has been more influential than ever. The efforts we have put forth in the last 20 years are all the more meaningful and it is safe to assume that this trend will continue in coming years.

SERGE MARCHAND
Vice President, Scientific Affairs

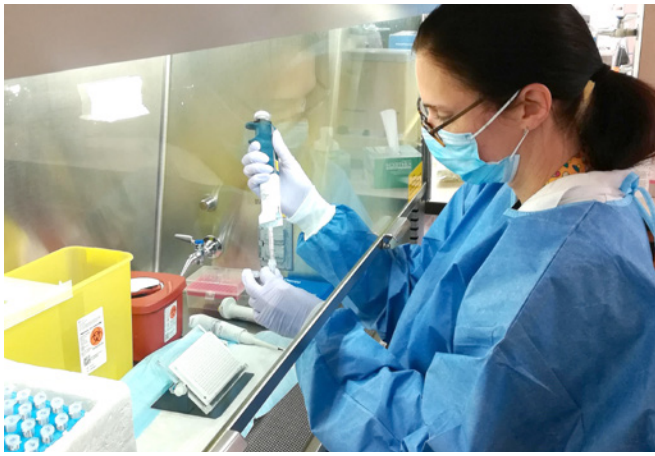
TECHNOLOGICAL OUTREACH

Our technology centres are an essential link in the Québec genomics research chain. The outstanding performance of our infrastructures and the exceptional talent of our teams enable us to meet the most advanced, most complex needs in our field.

As was the case for other Génome Québec sectors, the end of the fiscal year of the Centre d'expertise et de services (CES) was dominated by the aftermath of COVID-19. At the first signs of the pandemic in Québec, as research had to be suspended, we made our laboratories available to the ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux du Québec.

At the time of writing this report, we have just rebooted our operations and redeployed our infrastructures for the fight against the pandemic in two ways. First, we are resuming our usual activities for all projects involving research into COVID-19. Second, we are using our facilities for the screening of tests conducted at CHU Sainte-Justine.

We are proud to contribute to the monumental task of large-scale testing for the coronavirus. We plan on having the capacity to analyze a few hundred samples per day. A half-dozen CES employees have volunteered to join this effort and we are ready to begin these analyses, while complying with the strictest standards to guarantee the safety of our personnel.



University Hospital Center Sainte-Justine

BRAND NEW FACILITIES

The most significant achievement by far of the CES this year is the relocation of our activities to CHU Sainte-Justine. With the move, our research support services have been brought closer to the clinical genomics activities already located at CHU Sainte-Justine. In addition to these activities in human clinical genomics, we remain as keenly devoted as before to our offering of services and technologies to research in agri-food, forestry and the environment.

The relocation is the culmination of a complex and lengthy process launched in 2018. Our management team, directors and employees have all worked together to bring this project to fruition on time and on budget.

An investment of $6 million from the Québec government will enable us, following the move, to make significant leasehold improvements to some of the premises and purchase new equipment. The

TECHNOLOGICAL OUTREACH (CONT'D)

DANIEL TESSIER
Vice President, Technology Centres

transition to the new location was done without interrupting our services or compromising their quality, which was a sizeable challenge.

STRONG PERFORMANCE CONTINUES

In 2019-2020, in the midst of a relocation, the CES remained fully operational, serving 1032 research teams from 26 different countries. In keeping with our mission, we supported a dozen large-scale projects from Genome Canada and Génome Québec, more specifically those of the *Genomics and Precision Health* competition. We generated overall revenues of $14.2 million, 10% of which came from abroad. The quality of our services remains exemplary, as attested by the 536 respondents who filled out our annual survey and expressed a 94% satisfaction rate.

With regard to the Génome Québec and CIUSS du Saguenay–Lac-Saint-Jean Biobank, our team has been hard at work completing the DNA extraction operation from 30,000 CARTaGENE cohort participants. The exercise will enable more advanced genomic analyses and enhance the value of this cohort by making the data available to the research community.

ACCREDITATIONS THAT SPEAK TO EXCELLENCE

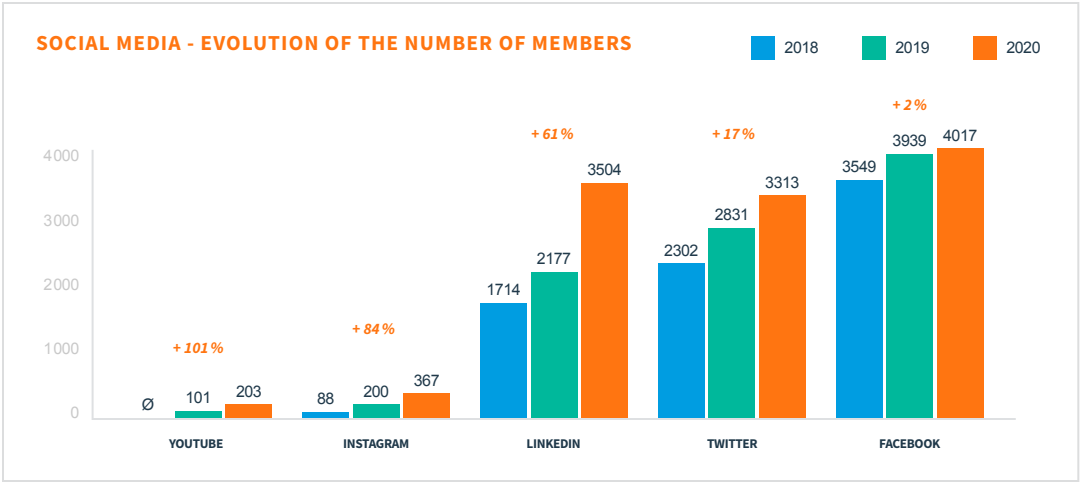
This year, we have also worked towards obtaining the ISO-15189 international standard, which sets out the requirements for quality and competence particular to biomedical laboratories. Becoming an ISO-15189 accredited lab, which we hope to achieve in 2020-2021, will help us maintain and expand our reputation for excellence around the world.

Another project underway is the implementation of an accreditation that will allow the Centre québécois de génomique clinique to receive and process samples for the sequencing of genomes and exomes, which will be reimbursed by Québec health insurance plan. We are pleased with this initiative as it represents another important step towards the democratization of genomics services.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Matters related to public affairs, education and social acceptance all play an increasingly prominent role as we move forward. To achieve our ambitions, we must act on several fronts and strengthen our position within the ecosystem in which we engage.

Génome Québec is celebrating its twentieth anniversary this year. While the pandemic has led us to suspend for now the celebrations we had planned, it has given us other opportunities to promote both our organization and genomics technology. The initiatives Génome Québec has taken up to contribute to the fight against COVID-19 have provided an unprecedented platform to showcase our expertise and excellence to a highly diversified audience. The creation of the Biobanque québécoise de la COVID-19, the mobilization of the Centre d'expertise et de services and the call for projects which the ministère de l'Économie et de l'Innovation asked us to launch were opportunities to be leveraged to increase our visibility with the media and the general public, not to mention strengthening our position among key decision makers and the scientific community. Along with these announcements, we initiated various actions to maintain the tremendous interest of the general public for research and scientific topics. For instance, we disseminated press releases, proposed to the media an article on laboratory technicians, organized a social media campaign for our *Mission ADN-eau* videoconference and contributed to the COVID-19 portfolio on La Presse+. In other words, we capitalized on all these instances and will continue to do so in coming months.



EDUCATION MISSION

Significant headway has been made on the educational front. Our efforts with the government have paid off and enabled us to secure major funding in support of our ambitions, starting with the new education consultant position created in October. Many meaningful initiatives ensued. We upgraded our education platform, pursued the Flight450 minilab in classroom and launched our large-scale pilot phase *Mission ADN-eau*. In addition, many of the digital resources featured on our education platform are now available on the L'école ouverte portal launched by the ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION (CONT'D)

Mission ADN-eau

Mission ADN-eau is a citizen science initiative developed in partnership with the ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs, the ministère de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques and the Institut de biologie intégrative des systèmes at Université Laval. The launch was attended by the Minister of Education and Higher Education, Jean-François Roberge.

The project provided over 500 young people from 11 high schools the chance to help collect samples in various bodies of water across Québec. A team of scientific experts then proceeded to analyze the samples using genomic technologies to better understand the existing biodiversity. A pedagogical committee oversaw the various stages of the program, which was approved for the curriculum of science courses for Secondary 3, 4 and 5. Representatives from the two ministries involved also confirmed that the results obtained were meaningful and relevant to support their respective research initiatives and guide their decision making on protecting the health of our waterways.

The results of the experience were unveiled on May 1, 2020 by videoconference. Backed by a solid social media campaign, we plan on continuing to leverage the event to educate high school students and their parents and teachers. An excellent start for our first citizen science project!

Jean-François Roberge,
Minister of Education and Higher Education

Education and social acceptance plan

The successful integration of genomics, a priority for us at Génome Québec, calls for a clearer understanding of the risks it involves and the benefits it provides. As part of our five-year strategic plan adopted in 2018, we launched a new strategy to better understand how various audiences perceive genomics, on the one hand, and, on the other, to determine, with the help of experts, the best ways to reach these audiences with effective messaging that hits its mark. The exercise helped us develop a targeted strategy for three audiences: the education ecosystem, the health ecosystem and the government ecosystem. Our goal is to become a recognized source of information and an essential partner

Mission ADN-eau : Citizen science to the rescue of the environment
View the capsule >

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION (CONT'D)

for all matters related to genomics education. The communication and social acceptance plan that resulted from these efforts was submitted to the Board of Directors in January 2020.

As part of our social acceptance mission, we will also continue to produce material that presents our positions and informs our various audiences on complex issues with the potential to generate debate which may prove controversial. True to form again this year, we developed two policy briefs on applied genomics tools: one promoted the better use of pesticides in farming, the other sought a better understanding of the mechanisms involved in resistance to antibiotics, with the hope of improving their management in agriculture.

PUBLIC POLICIES

As part of the pre-budget consultations, in January 2020, we submitted to the ministère des Finances a brief with five recommendations reflecting our strategic priorities. We also increased the number of meetings with policymakers in various sectors, including the environment, agrifood and natural resources. Our efforts paid off, since the government renewed its confidence in us by announcing, in March, funding of close to $50 million.

GenomeQuébec

20TH ANNIVERSARY

With the pandemic that has swept the globe, we have had to rethink our strategy around the celebration of our 20th anniversary and postpone the festivities to a later date. In the meantime, we are already using the logo designed especially for the occasion.

The visual references the double helix found in the Génome Québec logo, which has been divided to form the number "20" in Roman numerals. It features the four colours of our areas of activity (health, agrifood, forestry and the environment), each colour gradually blending into the next to illustrate how knowledge is shared among all sectors. The use of the Roman numerals is a nod to the Latin roots of our province and to the fact that we produce scientific knowledge in French.

This logo sparks curiosity and stimulates the thirst for knowledge that is so essential to the sciences. It points to what we want in the future: to shed more light on the as yet unexplored areas of genomics.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION (CONT'D)

SCIENTIFIC OUTREACH

As part of the funding announcement associated with the *Genomic Applications Partnership Program* (Round 16), Génome Québec, in partnership with Genome Canada, organized a national announcement to showcase one of the most noteworthy research projects selected for funding in Québec. The *DOvEEgene* project led by Dr. Lucy Gilbert of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC), which aims to complete the development of a screening test for the early diagnosis of ovarian cancer, could save thousands of lives in Canada and around the world.

During a press conference at the MUHC, the Parliamentary Secretary of the minister of Innovation, Science and Industry (Science), Mr. Will Amos, announced an investment of over $6 million. The event generated a great deal of interest from the media and the scientific community.

Dr. Lucy Gilbert, Director of Gynecologic Oncology, McGill University and McGill University Health Centre (MUHC)

GÉNOME QUÉBEC: A NATURAL PART OF THE SOLUTION

- Participation in a panel on CRISPR at the *Effervescence* conference
- Scientific chairmanship of the Québec Super Expo-sciences finale
- Partnership with the Association des communicateurs scientifiques
- Partner of "The Coolest Hotspot" initiative
- Participation in the Entretiens Jacques Cartier

MARIE-KYM BRISSON
Vice President, Strategic Development and Public Affairs

Financial Activity Report

FINANCIAL ACTIVITY REPORT

Génome Québec receives most of its financial support from the Québec government and Genome Canada for the funding of research projects and the operation of its technology centres.

As of March 31, 2020, our research portfolio included 95 research projects, and three technology centres are currently in operation. Génome Québec invested $51.8 million during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. This amount, combined with the $21.1 million invested by other partners, brings our overall injection of funds to $72.9 million in these areas.

Business volume generated by research projects during the fiscal year amounted to $43.3 million. The most important activities were from the competitions *Genomics and Precision Health* and *Genomics Solutions for Natural Resources and the Environment.* Also launched this year were new projects under the *Genomics Solutions for Agriculture, Agri-Food, Fisheries and Aquaculture* competition, partnerships with Oncopole and IVADO and the development of the CARTaGENE platform. The budget for projects underway totalled $429 million, $107 million of which are still to be carried out.

For the year ending on March 31, 2020, sales from the technology centres totalled $14.8 million, an increase of 7% compared to last year. The technology centres posted an excess of revenues over expenses of $48,079 compared to $462,274 during the previous year.

Spending on strategic development reached $616,945 compared to $248,780 the previous year, a reflection of the increased effort in promoting genomics in Québec.

General and administrative expenses amounted to $2.9 million this year, up by $294,883 compared to last year. After certain adjustments, these expenses represented 4.0% of the year's overall investment. Investment and intellectual property revenues reached $1,119,081, for a return of 2.03%.

The excess of revenues over expenses totalling $531,226 is the combined effect of the surplus of $48,079 generated by the technology centres, the investment and intellectual property revenues of $1,119,081, minus activities carried out without government funding, that is, strategic development, operating expenses of the administrative centre and support to researchers for a total of $635,934. Unrestricted net assets decreased by $947,702, reaching a total of $2,021,508 on March 31, 2020. Net restricted assets dedicated to research and infrastructure projects totalled $855,408. The technology investment and contingency fund net assets totalled $1,337,092.

Finally, Génome Québec has respected the terms and conditions in compliance with the contractual agreements it has signed with its major financial partners.

DANIEL CODERRE
President and CEO
Génome Québec

MARC BERGERON
Vice President, Finance
Génome Québec

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION MARCH 31, 2020, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2019

The following Statement of Financial Position as at March 31, 2020 and 2019, and the Statement of Operations for the years ending March 31, 2020 and 2019 are provided as illustrative summaries only and are not intended to replace the full audited financial statements of Génome Québec. The full financial statements of Génome Québec were audited by KPMG LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, and reported on June 16, 2020.

ASSETS

	2020 ($)	2019 ($)
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	48,150,538	13,306,083
Short-term investments	27,317,910	29,061,925
Contributions receivable	–	3,233,115
Accounts receivable and work in progress	3,936,519	2,849,209
Advances to genomics research projects	693,777	3,599,723
Inventories	2,167,207	2,449,046
Prepaid expenses	242,403	173,538
	$82,508,354	**$54,672,639**
Long-term investments	8,860,235	8,074,488
Capital assets	5,183,856	541,520
	$96,552,445	**$63,288,647**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION MARCH 31, 2020, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2019 (CONT'D)

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

	2020 ($)	2019 ($)
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,683,801	4,317,560
Obligations from an agreement	206,517	578,169
Deferred revenues	527,172	384,197
	$3,417,490	**$5,279,926**
Deferred contributions		
Future expenses	83,576,600	52,462,415
Capital assets	3,548,481	455,811
Deferred lease inducements – leasehold improvements	434,179	–
Deferred lease inducements – other	160,491	–
	$91,137,241	**$58,198,152**
Net assets		
Unrestricted	2,021,508	2,969,210
Restricted – Invested in capital assets	1,201,196	85,707
Restricted – Technology investment and contingency funds	1,337,092	1,378,169
Restricted – Research projects	855,408	657,409
	$5,415,204	**$5,090,495**
	$96,552,445	**$63,288,647**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION MARCH 31, 2020, WITH COMPARATIVE INFORMATION FOR 2019 (CONT'D)

	2020 ($)	2019 ($)
Revenues		
Amortization of deferred contributions related to future expenses	31,388,483	30,716,411
Amortization of deferred contributions related to capital assets	573,791	156,078
Investment and intellectual property revenues	1,119,081	1,047,923
Revenues from technology centres	14,807,261	13,884,484
Other revenues	246,519	485,187
	$48,135,135	**$46,290,083**
Expenses		
Genomics research projects	20,007,128	18,379,761
Research projects, *Fonds de partenariat pour un Québec innovant et en santé*	2,268,334	5,176,229
Technology centres operational costs	21,060,519	18,707,271
General and administrative expenses	2,900,373	2,474,196
General and administrative expenses, *Fonds de partenariat pour un Québec innovant et en santé*	–	131,294
Strategic development	616,945	248,780
Depreciation of capital assets	573,791	156,078
Depreciation of restricted capital assets	176,819	16,949
	$47,603,909	**$45,290,558**
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	**$531,226**	**$999,525**

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