

# OVER \$5.1 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR GENOMIC SOLUTIONS IN HEALTH

**Montréal, May 27, 2024** – Génome Québec is proud to announce its support for 13 genomics research projects through the *Genomics Integration Program - Human Health*. These projects, presented by six academic institutions in Québec, aim to promote the use of genomics to create innovative solutions and tools to meet complex healthcare challenges. Total investment, including that of public and private partners, represents more than \$5.1 million for the third cycle of this program.

#### Quotes

"This collaboration between researchers and the public-private sector answer the urgent need for innovative genomics solutions in new treatments and drugs discovery, and to accelerate the implementation of genomics in clinical care. The various award-winning projects represent Québec's strengths in this field and propose concrete solutions in oncology, antimicrobial resistance, rare diseases, metagenomic data analysis and infectiology."

Stéphanie Lord-Fontaine, Vice-President, Scientific Affairs at Génome Québec

"Our government is proud to support an organization like Génome Québec, which enables innovative projects to be carried out in a sector where we need to perform better. I would like to highlight its contribution to a niche as strategic as the life sciences."

**Pierre Fitzgibbon**, Minister of Economy, Innovation and Energy, Minister Responsible for Regional Economic Development and Minister Responsible for the Metropolis and the Montréal Region

"Innovation is the key to offering even more effective remedies to Quebec patients. Now, more than ever, we must turn to precision medicine and genomics. This is one of the pillars of our Health Plan."

Christian Dubé, Minister of Health

### Congratulations to the recipients

- Sherif Abou Elela from Université Sherbrooke in partnership with the CIUSSS de l'Estrie CHUS <u>DNA</u> sequencing for Bacterial and Antimicrobial Resistance Genes Identification
- Emilie Bédard from Polytechnique Montréal and Philippe Constant from the Institut national de la recherche scientifique in partnership with the CHU Sainte-Justine - <u>A Tool to Optimize the Disinfection of Hospital Sink</u> <u>Drains</u>
- Elie Haddad from Université de Montréal in partnership with Immugenia <u>Synthetic Specific Promoters as</u> Enabler Tools for Cell, Gene and Tissue Therapy and Regenerative Medicine
- Aline Hajj from Université Laval in partnership with CHU de Québec <u>A Risk Prediction Tool for Chemotherapy-</u> Induced Painful Peripheral Neuropathy
- El Bachir Affar from Université de Montréal in partnership with the CIUSSS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal <u>New</u>
  <u>Gene Targets for Personalized Medicine in Sarcoma</u>
- Vincent-Philippe Lavallée from Université de Montréal in partnership with OPTILAB CHU Sainte-Justine -Sensitive and Non-Invasive Approaches for Precision Diagnosis in Pediatric Oncology
- Roger C. Levesque from Université Laval in partnership with the Laboratoire de santé publique du Québec INRS – <u>A Tool to Monitor and Identify Pathogens in Ticks</u>
- Hermann Nabi from Université Laval in partnership with the CHU de Québec <u>Chemotherapy or No</u> <u>Chemotherapy after Breast Surgery?</u>

- John David Rioux from Université de Montréal in partnership with Crohn's and Colitis Canada <u>A Blood Test</u> for Individualized Treatments for Crohn's Disease and Ulcerative Colitis
- François Rousseau from Université Laval in partnership with Illumina Canada <u>Non-Invasive Early Prenatal</u> <u>Screening for Fetal Aneuploidy</u>
- Rafik Tadros, Guillaume Lettre and Sarah Gagliano from Université de Montréal in partnership with the Montreal Heart Institute <u>Integrating Polygenic Scores in Clinical Cardiogenetic</u>
- Karine Tremblay from Université de Sherbrooke in partnership with the CIUSSS du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean
  <u>Personalization of Treatment for Inflammatory Bowel Diseases</u>
- Jérôme Waldispühl from McGill University in partnership with Gearbox Studio Québec <u>Citizen Science to</u> <u>Accelerate Metagenomic Data Curation in AAA Video Games</u>

## What is the Genomics Integration Program – Agriculture and Biofood, Forestry and Environment?

This program provides funding for projects ranging from \$100,000 to \$400,000, covering half of the cost of partnerships between academic researchers and user partners who can implement or commercialize research results. The funds invested will be used to establish a proof-of-concept that could be used to obtain subsequent funding, or to integrate the results of the proof-of-concept by the user partner at the end of the project. Finally, projects must be related to human health and include an aspect of omics technology, for example, the development of new omics technologies, the exploitation of omics data by artificial intelligence, genetic engineering, synthetic biology, the validation of therapeutic targets or biomarkers identified through genomics, etc.

### About Génome Québec

Génome Québec's mission is to 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. The funds invested by Génome Québec are provided by the ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Énergie du Québec (MEIE), the government of Canada, through Genome Canada, and private partners. To learn more, visit <u>www.genomequebec.com</u>.

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