





News from Saskatchewan's Life Science Sector

## **Latest News Releases**

November 18, 2010

## Ag-West Bio signs MOU with Japanese biotech organization

Ag-West Bio Inc, one of Saskatchewan's leaders in promoting the growth of the agricultural biotechnology sector, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Japan-based NPO Kinki Bio-industry Development Organization (Kinki).

The MOU, which focuses on plant and microbial biotechnology, was initiated and facilitated by Enterprise Saskatchewan. It encourages co-operative efforts in this field, to the benefit of both jurisdictions.

"Enterprise Saskatchewan is very pleased to have played a role in brokering this deal producing this MOU," Minister of Enterprise Jeremy Harrison said. "Ag-West Bio is a key part of this government's innovation priorities. We welcome international collaborations and the potential for the kind of investment which not only takes advantage of Saskatchewan's opportunity-rich economy, but also adds to it."

Wilf Keller, President and CEO of Ag-West Bio, says this memorandum paves the way for collaborative initiatives in research and development, as well as joint commercial ventures.

"Growth in the sector comes from adding new concepts to a strong research foundation. Establishing this relationship brings a valuable resource to our own researchers in their endeavours; as well, we are pleased to offer the knowledge and expertise we have available to our new partners at Kinki."

The MOU enables several key actions, including the establishment of collaborative research and development projects, company to company business relationships, support for government to government relationships in areas such as continuous networking and best practices in public policy, and encouraging reciprocal visits and organization of workshops.

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