



Building skills for Canada's bio-economy
Un monde de ressources pour la bioéconomie canadienne

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ag-West Bio Partners with BioTalent Canada

OTTAWA, Canada – October 30, 2012 -- Ag-West Bio and BioTalent Canada today announced the creation of a new partnership providing access to new and valuable services for bioscience-based businesses throughout Saskatchewan.

The new alliance allows Ag-West Bio members to access BioTalent Canada's many products and services, in particular, the country's only national, bilingual biotechnology job board, "The PetriDish™."

"There is an undeniable link between funding and capital and human resources," says Rob Henderson, Executive Director of BioTalent Canada. "Small businesses, the growth engine of the Saskatchewan bioscience sector, are telling us they need access to the right HR tools and services in order to attract the talent they need. This partnership gives them that, and we hope it will support the continued growth in Saskatchewan's vibrant bio-economy."

Ag-West Bio sees great advantages in the partnership. "When moving research to market, it is essential that our members not only have the right product, but the right staff," says Wilf Keller, President & CEO of Ag-West Bio. "Offering easy access to BioTalent Canada's HR tools and services will help our members attract and retain the right talent, ensuring that Saskatchewan can be a key player in the development of Canada's bio-economy."

The partnership coincides with the launch of BioTalent Canada's new website www.biotalent.ca. With over 250,000 downloads of products and services annually, the website provides critical HR tools to biotech companies, small and medium-sized enterprises in particular, strengthening Canada as bio-economy leader.

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About Ag-West Bio

Ag-West Bio is Saskatchewan's bio-economy catalyst, a non-profit organization funded by Saskatchewan's Ministry of Agriculture and Growing Forward. For 22 years, its mandate has been to help grow the province's life science sector through business support, communication and regulatory and policy expertise.

About BioTalent Canada

BioTalent Canada is the HR hub of Canada's bio-economy. A national non-profit organization, BioTalent Canada connects employers with job seekers, delivers human resource information and skills development tools to the bio-economy to ensure the industry has access to job-ready people.

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