

About the Joint- Funded Award Opportunity

The Stem Cell Network (SCN) is excited to collaborate with CQDM in this funding competition to offer Joint-Funding Award opportunities for multi-disciplinary regenerative medicine projects. SCN's collaboration with CQDM represents a commitment to leveraging collective resources to support research that will accelerate the commercialization of research innovations in regenerative medicine, for collaborative efforts between a Quebec-based biotechnology company and Quebec/Canadian based researchers.

About CQDM:

CQDM is a non-profit biopharmaceutical research consortium whose mission is to support and facilitate multi-stakeholder collaborative R&D that accelerates translation of leading-edge discoveries into vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics addressing unmet medical needs while generating significant benefits for the Canadian economy.

Funds Available:

SCN and CQDM are each providing up to \$200,000 CAD to jointly fund regenerative medicine projects leveraging a \$100,000 contribution from a Quebec-based biotechnology company. Projects selected for joint funding will receive awards valued up to \$500,000 over two years and will be offered exclusively through SCN's Fueling Biotechnology Partnership Award program. Each project selected for joint partnered funding will be supported 40-40-20 by SCN, CQDM and the industry partner, respectively.

Joint-partnering specific eligibility and criteria:

- Scope: CQDM will support projects that focus on the commercialization of regenerative medicine discoveries.
- The eligibility and criteria described in SCN's standard Fueling Biotechnology Partnerships Award will also apply.
- At least *one* Quebec-based partner company (including the eligible SME) must contribute to the funding of the research project, in cash, for a minimum of 20% of

the eligible expenses. In-kind contributions are not eligible for the matching calculations.

- To be eligible, researchers must be working in a Quebec university or affiliated hospital that is eligible to receive Tri-agency funds and working in close collaboration with at least one eligible Quebec company.
- The Technology Readiness Level must be between 4 and 6 at the beginning of the project.
- Socio-economic benefits must be generated for Quebec and for the private partner(s) involved in the project.
- In addition to the support offered through this joint initiative, applicants should seek other eligible cash or in-kind partnering.
- All applications to this joint funding opportunity will be evaluated through SCN's two-stage peer review process.
- The CQDM budget allocation must conform with CQDM's eligible expenditures policy (see below).
- Applications that do not meet the Joint-Funding Award eligibility requirements will be considered for funding through SCN's standard Fueling Biotechnology Partnerships program.

Funding conditions:

- All awards funded through this Joint-Funding Award opportunity will be subject to separate grant agreements between the host institutions of projects selected for joint funding and SCN and CQDM.

- Information on CQDM's standard terms and conditions, including intellectual property and allowable costs, can be obtained [here](#). It is recommended that applicants seek this information prior to preparing their application and budget.
- Please note that Indirect research costs (IRCs) will be added to total project costs: a fixed rate of 27% for IRCs will be applied to eligible expenditure items associated with the funds provided by the MEIE (Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et de l'Énergie du Québec).
- In addition, a project management fee equivalent to 5% of the project cost will be added to the total project expenses. The MEIE will cover 40% of this fee, but the remaining will need to be assumed by the partner company.
- CQDM's payment schedule will be determined on a case-by-case basis and may not align with SCN's payment schedule.
- CQDM's funding contribution is contingent on approval by MEIE.
- All funded awards will be subject to SCN's continual review process.

CQDM's Eligible Expenses:

Eligible expenses incurred by Quebec research institutions include:

- Fellowships, wages and fringe benefits for research personnel assigned to the project (technicians, research assistants and associates, postdoctoral fellows, and students).
- Laboratory equipment, consumables and supplies, as well as animal housing and platform fees.

- Travel expenses (travel related to the project, collaborations, conferences) and knowledge dissemination costs.
- Intellectual property costs (patent applications, patent maintenance fees for the duration of the project).
- The rental or purchase of small equipment of a maximum value of \$25,000 and necessary for the realization of the project.
- Some subcontracting expenses to Quebec companies that are not partners in the project can be authorized when the activity is essential to the project and cannot be performed by the research institution.

Non-eligible costs:

- In-kind expenses by partner companies are eligible only in the case of projects involving only large Quebec companies.
- Lease (or purchase) of facilities and purchase of equipment valued over \$25,000
- Salary of the principal investigator (PI) and co-investigators from universities and their affiliated research centers.