



Dear Members of Parliament,

As President and CEO of STEMCELL Technologies, I welcome you to the 43rd Parliament. As Canada's largest biotech company, and one that is deeply embedded in the healthcare innovation space, we are pleased to be the Platinum Sponsor for Research Canada's virtual welcome.

In these troubling times, STEMCELL is proud of its role as a key enabler in the global fight against COVID 19. Our scientific tools were central to the work of the teams at the Chinese Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention who first propagated the SARS-CoV-2 virus and obtained its gene sequence. The tools used by the Chinese CDC were only a few of the more than 2,500 specialized products we produce for leading research labs around the world. Over 97% of our sales are from exports outside of Canada.

Our company has not been immune to the global economic downturn caused by COVID 19. Despite this, we are confident in our future. Accordingly, we are in the midst of building a new STEMCELL campus in Burnaby, B.C., which is being made possible in part by a funding partnership between the governments of Canada and British Columbia. These strategic government investments will allow us to grow our business in Canada, avoid outsourcing to the United States, and result in more cutting-edge, high-quality, biopharma jobs. In fact, we plan to bring 3,000 additional, knowledge-based jobs to Canada over the next 10 years.

As a proudly Canadian-owned and operated company, we are committed to ensuring that the future of global regenerative medicine is grounded in Canadian innovation.

Canadians are strong innovators – so strong that our homegrown talent is often recruited abroad, and the ideas that are developed here in Canada are often acquired and grown elsewhere. With the right policies and programs, Canada can retain our ideas, our talent, and – most importantly – our research-based strategic advantage, here at home.

STEMCELL's own success story is a shining example of what can come out of a strategic, meaningful collaboration between government and the private sector. With frameworks conducive to job creation, scaling up of commercial successes, and investing in R&D, we all win. Accordingly, we hope that, as government turns its policy attention from dealing with the pandemic to dealing with economic recovery, officials can think of the sort of advanced biopharmaceutical infrastructure required to ensure Canadians are able to deal with the next pandemic. If the last few months has taught us anything -- and they have taught us a lot -- it is that domestic biomanufacturing capacity has to be considered an essential part of any new economic plan.

As a proud Canadian biopharma anchor company, STEMCELL is excited to engage in thoughtful discussion with you and other decision makers about the future of Canada's biomanufacturing sector. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues not only to make sure Canadians are safe and healthy, but also that the Canadian economy is prepared to climb out of the current crisis with stable, high-paying jobs for our best and brightest.

My very best,

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Allen Eaves OBC, MD, PhD, FRCPC President and CEO; STEMCELL Technologies