



Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Dr. Mona Nemer
Chief Science Advisor
C.D. Howe Building
235 Queen Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H54

Dear Dr. Nemer,

On behalf of Research Canada: An Alliance for Health Discovery, we would like to congratulate you on your appointment as an ex-officio member of Canada's Industry Strategy Council. We were heartened by the Government of Canada's recognition of the need for continued collaboration between the public and private sectors to ensure a smooth economic recovery in the wake of COVID-19.

As a national alliance comprised of private, public and voluntary stakeholders, each dedicated to advancing Canadian health research and health innovation, we recognize the important role that the health and biosciences sector plays in our health innovation ecosystem and in responding to pandemics and public health crises like COVID-19. Health and biosciences companies, which support clinical research and trials that bring life-saving medicines and technologies to Canadian patients, are essential partners to research hospitals and university-based health research institutes. These companies have been central to Canada's response to COVID-19 through their critical contributions to vaccine, treatment and diagnostic research and development and through their aid in supplying front line workers with the medical and personal protective equipment they need to help and treat those in their communities. COVID-19 has clearly shown us that Canada needs to have a strong, well-resourced biomedical science community—to which the health and biosciences sector is central—that can mobilize rapidly to deal with health crises.

The Industry Strategy Council offers an important opportunity to engage with the health and biosciences sector, both as a key stakeholder in Canada's health innovation ecosystem and as an economic driver for the country. The 900 firms in this sector—including homegrown and

large multinational companies—advance innovative technologies; attract and retain capital, skills and talent; and ensure a vibrant health ecosystem that will lead to improved health outcomes and economic prosperity. The success of Canadian health and biosciences companies is inextricably linked to the success of the larger health research and innovation ecosystem. Consequently, we do hope the Council will adopt and build upon the excellent recommendations put forward by the Report from the Health and Biosciences Economic Strategy Table. These recommendations capture the importance of accelerating innovation adoption, designing agile regulations, harnessing digital technology and developing and attracting talent, as well as scaling up high-potential firms and broadening tax incentives for research and development.

We encourage you, in your role as Chief Science Advisor and ex-officio member of the Council, to reinforce this sector's perspective as a critical stakeholder that is central to Canada's future health and economic security, to ensure that the health and biosciences sector is able to continue to be a collaborative partner and serve the vital and interrelated role that it plays within the health innovation ecosystem. If there is anything that Research Canada can do to assist you and the Council in bringing forward this important perspective, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Let us take this opportunity, once again, to congratulate you on your appointment. We look forward to continuing to working with you and your colleagues to aid in Canada's recovery.

Sincerely,



Rose Goldstein, MD, FRCPC
Chair



Ryan Wiley, PhD
Policy Advisor to the Board



Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety
President and CEO



Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Karimah Es Sabar
Chief Executive Officer & Partner
Quark Venture LP
#2500-1075 West Georgia St.
Vancouver, BC V6E 3C9

Dear Ms. Sabar,

On behalf of Research Canada: An Alliance for Health Discovery, we would like to congratulate you on your recent appointment as a member of Canada's Industry Strategy Council, representing the health and biosciences sector. We were heartened by the Government of Canada's recognition of the need for continued collaboration between the public and private sectors to ensure a smooth economic recovery in the wake of COVID-19.

As a national alliance comprised of private, public and voluntary stakeholders, each dedicated to advancing Canadian health research and health innovation, we recognize the important role that the health and biosciences sector plays in our health innovation ecosystem and in responding to pandemics and public health crises like COVID-19. Health and biosciences companies, which support clinical research and trials that bring life-saving medicines and technologies to Canadian patients, are essential partners to research hospitals and university-based health research institutes. These companies have been central to Canada's response to COVID-19 through their critical contributions to vaccine, treatment and diagnostic research and development and through their aid in supplying front line workers with the medical and personal protective equipment they need to help and treat those in their communities. COVID-19 has clearly shown us that Canada needs to have a strong, well-resourced biomedical science community—to which the health and biosciences sector is central—that can mobilize rapidly to deal with health crises.

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We encourage you, in your role as a representative of the health and biosciences sector on the Council, to reinforce this sector’s perspective as a critical stakeholder that is central to Canada’s future health and economic security, to ensure that the health and biosciences sector is able to continue to be a collaborative partner and serve the vital and interrelated role that it plays within the health innovation ecosystem. If there is anything that Research Canada can do to assist you and the Council in bringing forward this important perspective, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Let us take this opportunity, once again, to congratulate you on your appointment. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to aid in Canada’s recovery.

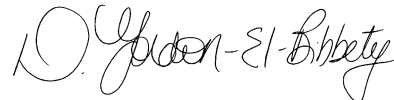
Sincerely,



Rose Goldstein, MD, FRCPC
Chair



Ryan Wiley, PhD
Policy Advisor to the Board



Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety
President and CEO