



APPENDIX C to the BL-NCE FUNDING AGREEMENT

**Business-Led Network of Centres of Excellence Network
Agreement**

Among

«Name of Business-Led Network»

And

Network Members

WHEREAS the Business-Led Network of Centre of Excellence Insert Name of BL-Network (“the BL-Network”) has been selected to receive funding under the Business-Led Networks of Centres of Excellence Program.

WHEREAS in discharging its obligations under its Funding Agreement with the Granting Agencies, the Business-Led Networks of Centres of Excellence will fund certain research and commercialization activities carried out by Network Members through Network Investigators.

WHEREAS the Funding Agreement obliges the Business-Led Network of Centres of Excellence to enter into an agreement with Network Members, setting out the obligations of the parties and providing for such matters as reporting requirements, use of BL-NCE funds, and ownership and exploitation of intellectual property. All signatories of this agreement will abide by the relevant terms set out in the BL-NCE Funding Agreement

NOW THEREFORE IN CONSIDERATION of the premises and of the mutual covenants contained herein, the Parties agree as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS

In this Agreement, the following terms are defined as follows:

“**Administrative Centre**” means the central administrative offices of the BL-Network.

“**Agreement**” means this BL-NCE Network Agreement including all attachments and appendices as may be amended from time to time.

“**BL-NCE Funding Agreement**” means the agreement entered into between the Granting Agencies, the Consortium and/or the BL-Network.

“**BL-NCE Funds**” or “**Grant**” means funds provided to the BL-Network by the Granting Agencies particulars of which are set out in Article 3 and 4 of the BL-NCE Funding Agreement.

“**BL-NCE Program Guide**” means the guidelines published by the NCE Secretariat in connection with the BL-NCE Program.

“**BL-Network Funds**” means all funds managed by the Network, including the Grant and non-NCE funds provided by Network Members and other sources in support of the activities of the Network. Network funds result from agreements between the Network and Network Members and/or third parties.

“**BL-Network Research**” means research projects supported by Network Funds and carried out under the supervision of Network Investigators.

“**Business-Led Network**” or “**BL-Network**” means [enter name of the Business-Led Networks of Centres of Excellence], a not-for-profit corporation incorporated under Part II of the Canada Corporations Act.

“**Commercialization**” means the series of activities to transform knowledge and/or technology into new goods, processes or services to satisfy market demands.

“Confidential Information” means knowledge, materials, know-how or any proprietary information, whether in electronic, written, graphic or other tangible form and any such oral information that has been reduced to writing within two weeks of its disclosure.

“Consortium” means a group who represents the interests of private sector enterprises with substantial R&D operations in Canada or potential to benefit from R&D and are a not-for-profit incorporated corporation under Part II of the Canada Corporations Act (the “Act”) and that has signed this Agreement.

“Granting Agencies” means the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) and/or the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). **“Granting agency”** means any one of them

“Intellectual Property” means all materials, concepts, know-how, formulae, inventions, improvements, industrial designs, processes, patterns, machines, manufactures, compositions of matter, compilations of information, patents and patent applications, copyrights, trade secrets, technology, technical information, software, prototypes and specifications, including any rights to apply for protections under statutory proceedings available for those purposes, provided they are capable of protection at law.

“NCE Secretariat” means the Tri-Agency Secretariat responsible for administering the BL-NCE Program.

“Network Director” means the individual appointed by the Board of Directors to be responsible for providing overall direction, coordination, and management of the Network Strategic Plan.

“Network Investigator” are researchers who are affiliated to a BL-Network Member and undertake research and commercialization initiatives to further the goals of the BL-Network.

“Network Member” will enable the BL-Network to deliver on the goals and objectives of the BL-NCE Program. Members are eligible to receive network funds and can be Canadian universities, private sector enterprises or not for profit organizations who have signed the Network Agreement and have substantial R&D operations in Canada or potential to benefit from R&D.

“Network Strategic Plan” means a description of the proposed activities of the Network comprised of two primary elements: the research plan, including its objectives and milestones, its anticipated achievements and the value added of a network approach to the research and research management; and the business management plan outlining the strategic importance of the research and commercialization to Canada and its potential economic and social benefits, the intellectual property management and technology transfer mechanisms, and the details of the proposed management structure.

“Network-Supported Intellectual Property (NSIP)” means Intellectual Property created or invented during BL-Network activities.

“Net Revenues” means proceeds received from commercialization of Network Supported Intellectual Property (NSIP) minus expenses incurred in obtaining legal protection for and/or commercialization of the NSIP.

“Non-NCE Funds” means funds provided by Network Members and other sources in support of the activities of the BL-Network.

“Parties” means the signatories to this Agreement.

“Tri-Agency” or “Tri-Council” refers to the “Granting Agencies”.

2. OBLIGATIONS OF NETWORK MEMBERS

2.1 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Network Members shall hold BL-Network Funds in trust for use by the BL-Network and the Network Investigators in accordance with the BL-Network Funding Agreement, the terms established by the BL-Network, the policies of the Network Member and the requirements of the BL-NCE Program.

2.1.1. Each Network Member shall provide to the BL-Network Administrative Centre, by May 31 of each year of this Agreement, summary reports for all BL-Network Funds received in accordance with the requirements of the Network and the NCE Program.

2.1.2. Each Network Member receiving BL-Network Funds shall:

2.1.2.a Ensure that adequate financial controls are in place to ensure Members’ adherence as described in the BL-NCE Funding Agreement the BL-NCE Program Guide, the Use of Grant Funds section (section 3) of the Tri-Agency Financial Administration Guide and this Agreement.

2.1.2.b Keep proper accounts and records of all eligible expenses identified in the BL-NCE Funding Agreement.

2.1.2.c Provide the BL-Network Administrative Centre with the name and address of the person within the Network Member responsible for the administration and accounting of BL-Network Funds

2.1.2.d Work in concert with the owners and inventors of the NSIP, the Network Member and the BL-Network, in the commercialization of NSIP.

2.1.2.e Provide their Network Investigators with sufficient space, time and support to allow them to contribute to BL-Network research and commercialization activities.

2.1.2.f Promptly notify the BL-Network Administrative Centre in the event that a Network Investigator ceases to be employed by a Network Member or otherwise ceases to hold a position with the Network Member.

2.2 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND MATERIAL TRANSFER

In carrying out the activities contemplated by this Agreement, it is anticipated that the Network Member may disclose certain information or material which is considered by the disclosing party to be confidential. Where such information is disclosed or material is transferred, it shall be substantially in accordance with the form of the Confidentiality Agreement attached as **Annex B** to the Network Agreement or the Material Transfer Agreement attached as **Annex C** to the Network Agreement, as the case may be.

2.3 OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 2.3.1 Each Network Member shall obtain in writing an acknowledgment, in the form set out as **Annex A** from each of their respective Network Investigators that he or she understands and agrees to be bound by the provisions entitled “Obligations of Network Investigators” set out in Article 3 of this Agreement.
- 2.3.2 Each Network Member will ensure that the Network Investigator has complied with the requirement that all members of the Network Investigator’s research team, including students, have entered into agreements containing substantially similar terms to those governing the Network Investigator set out in this Agreement.
- 2.3.3 Each Network Member will ensure that Network Investigators obtain appropriate certification and/or approval for research detailed in Paragraph 2.3.4 to Paragraph 2.3.13.
- 2.3.4 Research involving human subjects will meet the requirements of the Tri Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (see <http://www.pre.ethics.gc.ca/english/policystatement/policystatement.cfm> for details).
- 2.3.5 Research involving human pluripotent stem cells is required to adhere to the Updated Guidelines for Human Pluripotent Stem Cells Research posted on the CIHR website (see <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/34460.html> for details).
- 2.3.6 Research requiring the use of animals will be conducted in accordance with the policies and guidelines of the Canadian Council on Animal Care: Guide to the Care and Use of Experimental Animals (Volume 1 & 2) and hold a valid Certificate of Good Animal Practice (GAP) (see http://www.ccac.ca/en/CCAC_Programs/Guidelines_Policies/GUIDES/ENGLISH/toc_v1.htm and http://www.ccac.ca/en/CCAC_Programs/Guidelines_Policies/GUIDES/ENGLISH/TOC_V2.HTM for electronic versions of Volume 1 and 2 respectively).
- 2.3.7 Research involving biohazards must adhere to the standards outlined in the latest edition of Laboratory Biosafety Guidelines of the Public Health Agency of Canada (see <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/lbg-ldmbl-04/index-eng.php> for details).
- 2.3.8 Research involving infectious agents must adhere to the latest edition of the Laboratory Biosafety Guidelines prepared by the Public Health Agency of Canada (see <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/publicat/lbg-ldmbl-04/index-eng.php> for details).
- 2.3.9 Research involving radioactive materials must comply with all Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) regulations, recommended procedures, and safety precautions governing the use of such materials in Canada (see <http://www.nuclearsafety.gc.ca/eng/lawsregs/index.cfm> for details).
- 2.3.10 Research activities having potential effects on the environment must adhere to the Environmental Review Policy for Networks Receiving BL-NCE Funds (see Appendix B for details).

- 2.3.11 Research involving controlled information must comply with all laws and regulations regarding Controlled Information, including but not limited to the Defence Production Act, Export Control Regulations, the Controlled Goods Regulations before, during or after the tenure of a grant from the NCE. The Network Member will ensure subsequent documentation required by the BL-Network, including all reports and strategic plans, will not include information subject to restrictions or controls under the Export and Import Permits Act or its regulations, the Export Control Regulations or the Controlled Goods Regulations (see http://www.nserc.ca/professors_e.asp?nav=profnav&lbi=p7#controlled_info for details).
- 2.3.12 Research involving Aboriginal People must adhere to the CIHR Guidelines for Health Research Involving Aboriginal People (see <http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/29134.html> for details).
- 2.3.13 Research performed in the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut must be accompanied by the appropriate licenses for all researchers. Research in the North should be governed by a set of ethical principles as described in the publications by the Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies titled - Ethical Principles for the Conduct of Research in the North (see <http://www.acuns.ca/ethical.htm> for details).

3. OBLIGATIONS OF NETWORK INVESTIGATORS

In signing the Acknowledgement attached as **Annex A**, a Network Investigator agrees as follows:

3.1 PUBLICATIONS

In all presentations and publications of results of BL-Network research and commercialization activities, the Network Investigator shall acknowledge the author's participation in the BL-Network and the support of the BL-NCE Program, the Granting Agencies, and industrial support where appropriate.

3.2 DISCLOSURE AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF NSIP

- 3.2.1 The Network Investigator shall promptly disclose in writing to the Network Member organization and to the Network Director, any results of BL-Network research that the Network Investigator believes have the potential to be commercialized.
- 3.2.2 The Network Investigator shall withhold publication for no longer than 90 days or for such period as is provided by the policies of their employer (Network Member), any such material pending evaluation by the Network Director and/or his/her delegate and the Network Member organization to determine whether contents contain patentable, or confidential information. For greater clarity Network Investigators shall not be restricted from presenting at symposia, national, or regional professional meetings, or from publishing in abstracts, journals, theses, or dissertations, or otherwise, whether in printed or in electronic media, methods and results of research carried out pursuant to this Network Agreement, except where such publication or presentation would result in the public disclosure of NSIP or Confidential Information.

- 3.2.3 Furthermore, upon request by the BL-Network or the Network Member, the Network Investigator shall further delay publication of NSIP for up to 6 months to provide time for the Network or the Network Member to seek patent protection for the NSIP. In the case students are involved in the research or commercialization activities the Network Investigator will work with the Network Member organization and the Dean of Graduate Studies to ensure that any such delays do not interfere with a student's thesis defense or the graduation of the student.
- 3.2.4 The Network Investigator shall promptly disclose in writing to their Network Member, and to the BL-Network Administrative Centre any conflict of interest that may arise pursuant to the terms of Paragraph 3.4 of this Agreement.
- 3.2.5 The Network Investigator shall promptly disclose in writing to the Network Member organization and Network Director existing Intellectual Property which could limit the extent to which proposed and/or ongoing BL-Network research could be commercialized.

3.3 CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND TRANSFER OF MATERIAL

The Network Investigator shall ensure that the appropriate agreements concerning the disclosure of Confidential Information and the transfer of biological and other materials are entered into prior to any disclosure of Confidential Information or transfer of material by the Network Investigator.

Where such information is disclosed or material is transferred, it shall be substantially in accordance with the form of the Confidentiality Agreement attached as **Annex B** or the Material Transfer Agreement attached as **Annex C**.

3.4 CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND RESEARCH ETHICS

- 3.4.1 The Network Investigator shall abide by the principles of the Tri-Council Policy Statement on Integrity in Research and Scholarship (see http://www.nserc.ca/professors_e.asp?nav=profnave&lbi=p9 for details) and comply with any investigation conducted by the BL-Network into allegations of research misconduct.
- 3.4.2 Each Network Investigator shall abide by the provisions of their Network Member's policies and guidelines with respect to conflict of interest, conflict of commitment and by the provisions of the NCE Conflict of Interest Policy Framework, as outlined in the BL-NCE Funding Agreement.
- 3.4.3 The Network Investigator shall be responsible for ensuring appropriate certification and/or that institutional approval is obtained for their BL-Network research and commercialization activities that involves any types of research described in Paragraph 2.3 of this Agreement. Network Members must send copies of these certificates and/or approvals to the Network Director of the BL-Network prior to the release of funds from the Consortium to the Network Members.

3.5 RECORDS AND REPORTS

- 3.5.1 The Network Investigator shall submit research progress reports to the BL-Network Administrative Centre as required by the BL-Network.
- 3.5.2 The Network Investigator shall ensure that students and all other members of his or her research team have entered into agreements containing substantially similar terms to those governing the Network Investigator set out in this Agreement.
- 3.5.3 The Network Investigator shall ensure that students and all other members of his or her research team maintain effective record keeping for experiments carried out as part of BL-Network Research.

3.6 OTHER OBLIGATIONS

- 3.6.1 The Network Investigator shall use reasonable efforts to attract complementary research funding.
- 3.6.2 The Network Investigator shall work in concert with the BL-Network, the Network Members and other inventors in the commercialization of NSIP including, but not limited to, the prosecution of patents, all in accordance with Articles 6 (Ownership of Intellectual Property) and 7 (Principles of Commercialization of Intellectual Property).
- 3.6.3 The Network Investigator shall participate on BL-Network committees and in other BL-Network activities as required.
- 3.6.4 The Network Investigator(s) who is (are) the primary user(s) of equipment purchased with BL-NCE funds, and the Network Member owning this equipment, agree(s) to provide other Network Investigators with reasonable access to the equipment for the pursuit of other BL-Network Research projects, and other non BL-Network Research projects, with BL-Network Research having priority access.
- 3.6.5 The Network Investigator(s) shall promptly provide to the Network Director a description of all capital expenditures prior to purchase with BL-NCE Funds.

3.7 TERMINATION OF PROJECT FUNDING

Where the BL-Network determines that a Network Investigator has failed to comply with the duties and responsibilities set out in this Agreement, it shall promptly notify the Network Member and the Network Investigator of the particulars. The Network Investigator shall have thirty (30) days within which to remedy the failure, otherwise the BL-Network may terminate funding of the BL-Network Research carried out by the Network Investigator. Notwithstanding the termination of funding, the Network Investigator will co-operate with the BL-Network to ensure an orderly transfer of responsibilities and phase-out of activities and shall continue to be bound by the provisions of this agreement governing intellectual property, publication, confidentiality and any other provisions which are necessary for the BL-Network to fulfill its obligations to the BL-NCE Program.

4. DISCLAIMERS OF WARRANTY AND LIABILITY

Each Party to this Agreement acknowledges that any and all research and commercialization results, including information, Intellectual Property and other tangible and intangible materials that it may receive pursuant to this Agreement are to be used with caution and prudence, since

all of their characteristics are not known. Each party disclaims all liability for any damages however arising from the use of such research results. Each Party further acknowledges that such research results, information, Intellectual Property and other tangible or intangible materials are provided without warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose or any other warranty of any sort, express or implied, and that the provider makes no representations that the use of the same will not infringe any patent or other proprietary right. This Article survives the provisions of Article 10 of this Agreement (Withdrawal).

5. EQUIPMENT

- 5.1 Title to equipment purchased with BL-NCE Funds shall vest with the Network Member that purchased the equipment.
- 5.2 The BL-Network Board of Directors shall have the right to direct the relocation of any capital expenditure purchased with BL-NCE Funds from one Network Member to another. In such event, ownership will be transferred to the receiving Network Member and the relevant Parties agree to execute any documents that may be reasonably necessary to effect this transfer. The cost of any such relocation shall be borne by the BL-Network.
- 5.3 To avoid unnecessary inconvenience, the Board of Directors shall, in directing the relocation of equipment from a Network Member, take into account the existing commitments of the Network Member for the use of the equipment.

6. OWNERSHIP OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Ownership and treatment of NSIP shall be determined by applicable Canadian law and the policies of the BL-Network and relevant Network Member(s). The Parties agree that the authority and responsibility for making decisions with regard to legal protection and commercialization of NSIP shall rest with the owners of the NSIP. Where there are two or more owners of the NSIP, they shall designate an agent to act on their behalf. For greater certainty and without limitation, unless otherwise agreed to in writing on a case-by-case basis by the owners of NSIP, no one shall have any rights in the NSIP, other than the right to a non-exclusive license provided for in Article 7.2 of this Agreement.

7. PRINCIPLES OF COMMERCIALIZATION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- 7.1 Pursuant to the mandate of the BL-NCE Program, every reasonable effort must be made to have the results of BL-Network research exploited in Canada for the benefit of Canadians. Accordingly the Parties shall act in accordance with the Benefit to Canada Working Guidelines, as outlined in the BL-NCE Program Guide.
- 7.2 Upon written request to the owner(s) of the NSIP, the Network Members shall be offered a non transferable, non exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual license to use and modify all NSIP solely for research and educational purposes provided that the terms and conditions of such license will not interfere with efforts to commercialize the NSIP.

- 7.3 Within 30 days after the receipt of a written disclosure, the NSIP owner(s), the network member employer of the researcher or the Network shall call a meeting of all interested parties to discuss the history of support, the potential for commercialization, a plan for management, share of returns and commercialization of the intellectual property. In the event that an agreement is not reached by the parties the appropriate dispute resolution mechanism (as outlined in Article 9 of this agreement) will be implemented.

8. SHARING OF NET REVENUES

- 8.1 The owner, the inventor, the network member employer of the researcher, the BL-Network and the relevant Network Member, shall be entitled to a share of the Net Revenues commensurate with their contributions related to the NSIP, in accordance with the BL-Network and/or applicable Network Member's official policies, those of other Network Members as appropriate, as well as the terms of any relevant Network Agreement.
- 8.2 The parties shall negotiate the terms in good faith.

9. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 9.1 **Consultation/Negotiation.** In the event of a controversy or dispute between or among any Parties arising out of or in connection with this Agreement or regarding its interpretation or operation, the disputing Parties shall use their best efforts to resolve the dispute amicably.
- 9.2 **Mediation.** If the Parties are unable to resolve their dispute within sixty (60) days after beginning the consultation/negotiation process, any Party to the dispute may serve written notice on the other Party(s) requiring that they submit the dispute to non-binding mediation. The Parties shall mutually agree on a single mediator to mediate the dispute in accordance with mediation procedures suggested by the mediator and agreed to by the Parties. The Parties agree to use best efforts to participate in the mediation process and attempt to resolve their dispute. Each party shall pay its own costs and an equal share of all other costs of the mediation except as otherwise decided by the mediator.
- 9.3 **Arbitration.** If the mediation fails to resolve the dispute within 60 days following the day the mediator is appointed, or if one Party refuses to cooperate or participate in good faith in the mediation process, any Party to the dispute serve written notice on the other Parties that the dispute be submitted to binding arbitration in the following manner:
- 9.3.1 The Parties shall mutually agree on a single arbitrator to adjudicate the dispute. In default of agreement within fifteen (15) days of receipt of the written notice requiring arbitration, then either party may apply to a Judge of a court having jurisdiction to appoint the single arbitrator who shall be unconditionally accepted by both parties.
- 9.3.2 Unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, the arbitration shall be conducted in English and according to the governing law of this Agreement and in accordance with arbitral procedures in place in that jurisdiction.
- 9.3.3 The arbitration hearing shall commence within sixty (60) days after appointment of the arbitrator is done.

- 9.3.4 Unless the Parties to the dispute otherwise agree, the place of arbitration for disputes for which arbitration is initiated by either party shall be the City where the BL-Network is located.
- 9.3.5 Each party shall bear the cost of preparing its own case. The arbitrator shall have the right to include in the award the prevailing party's costs of arbitration and reasonable fees of attorneys, accountants, engineers and other professionals incurred by it in connection with the arbitration. Failing a specific award, the parties shall share equally the costs of the arbitrator and arbitration proceedings.
- 9.3.6 The award rendered by the arbitration shall be final and binding on all Parties and may be entered as an order in any court having jurisdiction.
- 9.3.7 This Article survives the provisions of Article 10 of this Agreement (Withdrawal).
- 9.3.8 Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article, the parties recognize that a party may desire to seek emergency, provisional, or summary relief (including temporary injunctive relief) to enforce the provisions of this Agreement relating to protection of intellectual property and/or Confidential Information. A party may seek such relief, provided, however, that immediately following the issuance of any emergency, provisional, temporary injunctive or summary relief, any such judicial proceedings shall be stayed (and each party shall consent to such stay) pending resolution of any related underlying claims between the parties.

10. WITHDRAWAL FROM AGREEMENT

Upon the withdrawal of a Network Member, that Members' Network Investigators will no longer be eligible to receive BL-Network Funds. Notwithstanding withdrawal from this Agreement, the Network Member and the Network Investigator shall continue to be bound by the provisions of this Agreement governing intellectual property, publication, confidentiality and any other provisions which are necessary for the BL-Network to fulfill its obligations to the BL-NCE Program.

- 10.1 **Voluntary Withdrawal:** A Network Member shall be entitled to withdraw from this Agreement upon ninety (90) days written notice to the Chair of the BL-Network Board of Directors and to the Network Director.
- 10.2 **Involuntary Withdrawal:** Where the BL-Network determines on the basis of at least a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors that a Network Member has failed to comply with the duties and responsibilities set out in this Agreement, it shall promptly notify the Network Member(s) of the particulars. The Network Member shall have thirty (30) days within which to remedy the failure, otherwise the Network Member may be deemed to have withdrawn from this Agreement.
- 10.3 **Consequences of Withdrawal:** Upon the effective date of withdrawal of a Network Member, the withdrawing Network Member shall submit to the BL-Network a full accounting and all unused and uncommitted funds advanced by the BL-Network. The withdrawing Network Member and Network Investigator(s) will co operate with the BL-Network to ensure an orderly transfer of responsibilities and phase-out of activities.

11. EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERM

This Agreement shall come into force on the date signed and shall remain in force for the same duration as either the BL-Network Funding Agreement or any NSIP related agreements which ever is longer.

12. AMENDMENTS

The terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement, together with the Annexes form the complete agreement among the Parties and no amendment or modification shall be binding upon the Parties unless agreed to in writing by the Parties. In the event the BL-NCE program policies or policies of the Government of Canada are amended during the term of this Agreement, the NCE Secretariat will provide ninety (90) days written notice to the BL-Network and the Consortium and specify what amendments to this Agreement are required. Following receipt of such notice, the Parties agree to make all necessary amendments to this Agreement, as required by the NCE Secretariat.

13. GENERAL

- 13.1 Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed so as to create a legal relationship of partnership, agency or employment among any of the Parties. Each Party is an independent contractor and is not authorized or empowered to act as agent for any other Party for any purpose.
- 13.2 Notices under this Agreement shall be given by prepaid post, facsimile or courier .Notices sent by prepaid post shall be deemed received on the fifth business day following dispatch. Notices sent by facsimile or courier shall be deemed received on the business day following dispatch. Notices shall be addressed as follows:
- a) if to the BL-Network:
{insert particulars}
 - b) if to the Network Member:
{insert particulars}
- 13.3 No Party hereto may assign, directly or indirectly, any right or obligation arising from this Agreement without the prior written consent of all of the other Parties. This Agreement shall ensure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Parties and their respective, heirs, executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns.
- 13.4 This Agreement will be interpreted in accordance with the applicable laws of Canada and the laws of the province where the BL-Network resides.

- 13.5 The dates and times by which any Party is required to perform any obligation in this Agreement shall be postponed automatically to the extent, for the period of time that the party is prevented from so performing by circumstances beyond its reasonable control and which is not caused by any default or act of commission or omission of such Party and is not avoidable by the exercise of reasonable effort or foresight by such Party.
- 13.6 No failure to enforce any provision of this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of such provision or a waiver of the right to enforce each and every provision of this Agreement. Waiver of any breach shall not be deemed to be a waiver of any future breach, even if similar in nature.
- 13.7 This agreement can be signed in multiple parts (there is no need to make Network Members sign a single copy of this agreement)
- 13.8 This agreement is valid between the parties whether its version is signed in English or French by the parties.
- 13.9 New Network Members (as approved by the BL-Network Board of Directors) can be added to this agreement after the original Network Members have signed, by agreeing to all the same terms and conditions.

[signature page follows]

SIGNATURES (*)

Signed for and on behalf of «Insert Name of BL-Network» by its duly authorized officer:

_____ Date: _____
Name and Title

Signed for and on behalf of the [insert name of the 1st Network Member that is party to this agreement] by its duly authorized officer:

_____ Date: _____
Name and Title

Signed for and on behalf of the [insert name of the 2nd Network Member that is party to this agreement] by its duly authorized officer:

_____ Date: _____
Name and Title

Signed for and on behalf of the [insert name of the 3rd Network Member that is party to this agreement] by its duly authorized officer:

_____ Date: _____
Name and Title

Signed for and on behalf of the [insert name of the 4th Network Member that is party to this agreement] by its duly authorized officer:

_____ Date: _____
Name and Title

(* use additional pages for signatures, if required)



ANNEX A to BL-NCE Network Agreement

Acknowledgement

I, {name of Network Investigator, name of Network Member»} acknowledge that I have read, understood and agree to be bound by the Obligations of Network Investigators set out in this Network Agreement.

Name of Network Investigator

Name and Title

Date: _____

[IN THE CASE OF A STUDENT OR OTHER MEMBER OF THE NETWORK INVESTIGATOR'S TEAM]

Acknowledgement

I, {name of Student or Member} participating in Network Research conducted by {name of Network Investigator} of {name of Network Member»} acknowledge that I have read, understood and agree to be bound by the Obligations of Network Investigators set out in this Network Agreement.

Name of Member of Network Investigator's Team

Name and Title

Date: _____



ANNEX B to the BL-NCE Network Agreement

Confidentiality Agreement (Reciprocal Non-Disclosure)

This Agreement made as of the _____ day of _____, 200_.

BETWEEN:

_____ ("Disclosing Party")

AND:

_____ ("Receiving Party")

WHEREAS:

A. Each party (hereinafter referred to in its role as a provider of information as the "Disclosing Party") to this Agreement has information concerning a certain subject which is its confidential and proprietary property; and

B. Each party (hereinafter referred to in its role as recipient of information from the Disclosing Party as the "Receiving Party") to this Agreement wishes the Disclosing Party to disclose its information to it and the Disclosing Party is willing to disclose its information to the Receiving Party provided that the confidentiality of all such information so disclosed is maintained as hereinafter provided.

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH that in consideration of the premises and of the mutual covenants herein set forth, the parties hereto have covenanted and agreed as follows:

1. Information covered by this Agreement must be identified as Confidential

In this Agreement, "Information" shall mean any and all knowledge, know-how, information, and/or techniques disclosed by the Disclosing Party to the Receiving Party relating to financial and/or commercial information, and/or relating to research projects or technologies developed by members of BL-NCE Program or _____ University or _____ Company or any combination of BL-NCE Program, _____ University or _____ Company inclusive of:

- a) _____,
- b) _____,
- c) _____,
- d) _____, and
- e) _____,

all of the above which include, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, all research, data, specifications, plans, drawings, prototypes, models, documents, records, instructions, manuals, papers, or other materials of any nature whatsoever, whether written or otherwise, relating to same, as well as the existence of this Agreement and its terms and conditions. In order to constitute "Information" for the purposes of this Agreement, the Disclosing Party must clearly identify it in writing as being confidential, or if the disclosure takes place orally or in some other non-tangible form, the Disclosing Party must summarize it in writing within 15 days of making the disclosure.

2. Specified use of Confidential Information

The Receiving Party shall not, without the Disclosing Party's prior written consent, use the Disclosing Party's Information, directly or indirectly, for any purpose other than:

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Receiving Party shall not use, manufacture, or sell the Disclosing Party's Information or any device or means incorporating any of the Disclosing Party's Information, and shall not use any of the Disclosing Party's Information as the basis for the design or creation of any device or means.

3. Permitted exceptions to the obligation to keep information confidential

The Receiving Party shall keep and use all of the Disclosing Party's Information in confidence and shall not, without the Disclosing Party's prior written consent, disclose any part of the Disclosing Party's Information to any person, firm, corporation, or other entity unless and until that part of the Disclosing Party's Information:

- a) is made subject to an order by judicial or administrative process requiring the Receiving Party to disclose any or all of the Disclosing Party's Information, provided however that the Receiving Party shall promptly notify the Disclosing Party and allow the Disclosing

- Party reasonable time to oppose such process before disclosing any of the Disclosing Party's Information;
- b) is published or becomes available to the general public other than through a breach of this Agreement;
 - c) is obtained by the Receiving Party from a third party with a valid right to disclose it, provided that said third party is not under a confidentiality obligation to the Disclosing Party;
 - d) is independently developed by employees, agents or consultants of the Receiving Party who had no knowledge of or access to the Disclosing Party's Information as evidenced by the Receiving Party's business records; or
 - e) was possessed by the Receiving Party prior to receipt from the Disclosing Party, other than through prior disclosure by the Disclosing Party, as evidenced by the Receiving Party's business records.

4. Agreement does not create a license or contract

The Receiving Party acknowledges and agrees that any and all disclosures of the Disclosing Party's Information pursuant to this Agreement are on a non-exclusive basis and that the Disclosing Party is free to make similar or other disclosures to third parties. Nothing in this Agreement shall create, or be construed to create, any license to the Receiving Party or any obligation on either party to enter into a license or other agreement with respect to the Information. Furthermore, nothing contained herein shall be deemed or construed to create between the parties hereto an agency relationship, partnership or joint venture. Neither party shall be liable for any act, omission, representation, obligation, or debt of the other party, even if informed of such act, omission, representation, obligation, or debt.

5. No warranty given by Disclosing Party

The Disclosing Party makes no representations or warranties, either express or implied, with respect to the merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose of its Information. The Disclosing Party shall in no event be liable for any loss of profits, be they direct, consequential, incidental, or special or other similar or like damages arising from any defect, error or failure to perform with respect to its Information, even if the Disclosing Party has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

6. Receiving Party's indemnifies Disclosing Party

The Receiving Party hereby indemnifies, holds harmless and defends the Disclosing Party, its Board of Governors, directors, officers, employees, faculty, students, invitees, and agents against any and all claims (including all legal fees and disbursements incurred in association therewith) arising from or out of the receipt or use of the Disclosing Party's Information by the Receiving Party including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any damages or losses, consequential or otherwise, arising from or out of the receipt or use of the Disclosing Party's Information by the Receiving Party, howsoever the same may arise. In the event that the Receiving Party is prohibited by law from granting the indemnity contemplated herein, the Receiving Party shall carry insurance in an amount of no less than \$1,000,000 and which shall provide coverage to the Disclosing Party, its Board of Governors, directors, officers, employees, faculty, students, invitees, and agents against any and all claims (including all legal fees and disbursements incurred in association therewith) arising from or out of the receipt or use of the Disclosing Party's Information by the Receiving Party including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any damages or losses, consequential or otherwise, arising from or out of the

receipt or use of the Disclosing Party's Information by the Receiving Party, howsoever the same may arise.

7. No transfer of rights and duties under this Agreement

Neither party shall assign, transfer, mortgage, charge or otherwise dispose of any or all of its rights, duties or obligations granted to it under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the other.

8. Term of this Agreement and return of all copies of information

This Agreement will be deemed to have come into force on the earlier date of the first date above written or the date when Information was transferred under this Agreement regardless of the date of execution, and shall be read and construed accordingly. This Agreement shall terminate on the expiration of a term of five (5) years after this Agreement comes into force unless earlier terminated by the mutual agreement in writing executed by duly authorized signatories of the parties. Forthwith upon the termination of this Agreement, the Receiving Party shall cease to use the Disclosing Party's Information in any manner whatsoever and upon the written request of the Disclosing Party shall forthwith deliver up to the Disclosing Party all of the Disclosing Party's Information, together with all full or partial copies thereof as shall then be in the Receiving Party's possession or control, except that the Receiving Party may retain one complete record copy of said Information for archival purposes to assure compliance with this Agreement. Notwithstanding any termination or expiration of this Agreement, the obligations created in this Agreement shall survive and continue to be binding upon the Receiving Party, its successors and assigns for the full term set forth above.

9. Applicable laws

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the « Province of the Network Members » and the laws of Canada in force therein without regard to its conflict of law rules.

10. Arbitration

In the event of any dispute arising between the parties concerning this Agreement, its enforceability or the interpretation thereof, the same shall be finally resolved by the provisions of Article 9 of the BL-NCE Network Agreement.

11. Notices

All notices or other documents that either of the parties hereto are required or may desire to deliver to the other party hereto may be delivered only by personal delivery, by courier, by telecopy, or by registered or certified mail, all postage and other charges prepaid, at the address for such party set forth above or at such other address as that party may hereinafter designate in writing to the other.

12. Miscellaneous Provisions

No condoning, excusing or overlooking by either party of any default, breach or non-observance by the other party at any time or times in respect of any covenants, provisos, or conditions of this Agreement shall operate as a waiver of such party's rights under this Agreement in respect of any continuing or subsequent default, breach or non-observance so as to defeat in any way

the rights of such party in respect of any such continuing or subsequent default or breach, and no waiver shall be inferred from or implied by anything done or omitted by such party, save only an express waiver in writing.

13. This Agreement may be executed in counterpart, each such counterpart when taken as a whole with the other executed counterparts, constituting an original Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have hereunto executed this Agreement on the dates set forth below but effective as of the date first above written.

Signed for and on behalf of « _____ » by its duly authorized officer:

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Signed for and on behalf of « _____ » by its duly authorized officer:

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

I, « **Network Investigator** », «of the Network Member » hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood the provisions of this agreement.

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____



ANNEX C to the BL-NCE Network Agreement

Confidential Information and Material Transfer Agreement

BETWEEN:

<COMPANY>, a corporation having its head office at _____,
 Attention: Name & Title, Telephone: () _____, Fax: ()
 _____ ("_____")

AND:

<University Name>, a corporation continued under the _____ Act of _____,
 and having offices at _____,
 Attention: Industry Liaison Office, Telephone: _____, Fax: ()
 _____ ("_____")

AND:

« **Network** », Attention: Name, Telephone: () _____, Fax: ()

AND:

«**Network Investigator**», Attention: Telephone: () _____, Fax: ()

WHEREAS:

A. Each party (hereinafter referred to in its role as a provider of information as the "Disclosing Party") to this Agreement has information concerning a certain subject which is its confidential and proprietary property; and

B. Each party (hereinafter referred to in its role as recipient of information from the Disclosing Party as the "Receiving Party") to this Agreement wishes the Disclosing Party to disclose its information to it and the Disclosing Party is willing to disclose its information to the Receiving Party provided that the Receiving Party maintains the confidentiality of all such materials and information and uses same only for the purposes as hereinafter provided.

NOW THEREFORE IN CONSIDERATION of the premises and of the mutual covenants herein set forth, the parties hereto have covenanted and agreed as follows:

1. Confidential Information and permitted exceptions

In this Agreement, "Information" shall mean any and all knowledge, know-how, information, and/or techniques disclosed by the Provider to the Recipient relating to the Materials hereinafter defined or related to the project entitled

“ _____

”

including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, all research, data, specifications, plans, drawings, prototypes, models, documents, recordings, instructions, manuals, papers or other materials of any nature whatsoever, whether written or otherwise, relating to same, as well as the existence of this Agreement and its terms and conditions. In order to constitute "Information" for the purposes of this Agreement, the Disclosing Party must clearly identify it in writing as being confidential, or if the disclosure takes place orally or in some other non-tangible form, the Disclosing party must summarize it in writing within 15 days of making the disclosure.

This Agreement does not apply to Information that:

- (a) is made subject to an order by judicial or administrative process requiring the Recipient to disclose any or all of the Information, provided however that the Recipient shall promptly notify the Provider and allow the Provider reasonable time to oppose such process before disclosing any of the Information;
- (b) is published or becomes available to the general public other than through a breach of this Agreement;
- (c) is obtained by the Recipient from a third party with a valid right to disclose it, provided that said third party is not under a confidentiality obligation to the Provider;
- (d) is independently developed by employees, agents or consultants of the Recipient who had no knowledge of or access to the Provider's Information as evidenced by the Recipient's business records; or
- (e) was possessed by the Recipient prior to receipt from the Provider, other than through prior disclosure by the Provider, as evidenced by the Recipient's business records.

2. Definition of Materials

In this Agreement, "Materials" shall mean any and all cell lines, vectors, plasmids, clones, micro-organisms, antibodies, antigens, biologies, test plates, reagents, chemicals, compounds, physical samples, models, and specimens delivered by the Provider to the Recipient, as well as any and all progeny and derivatives thereof. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Materials shall include the following:

- (a) _____(description & quantity & concentration)
- (b) _____

3. Provider retains ownership of Information and Materials

This agreement and the resulting transfer of Information and Material constitutes a bailment and grants the Recipient a license to use the Material owned by Provider as provided herein. The parties hereby acknowledge and agree that the Provider owns any and all rights, title and interest in and to the Information and Materials.

4. Permitted use by Recipient of Information and Materials

The Recipient shall not, without the Provider's prior written consent, use the Information or the Materials, directly or indirectly, for any purpose other than for the following experiments:

(a) _____; and

(b) _____

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Recipient shall not commercially use, manufacture, or sell the Information or the Materials or any device or means incorporating any of the Information or the Materials, and shall not use any of the Information or the Materials as the basis for the design or creation of any device or means.

5. Restrictions on use of Information and Materials

Notwithstanding anything else in this Agreement, the Recipient shall not apply, directly or indirectly, any of the Information or the Materials to any human use **without appropriate Institutional Approvals**. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Recipient shall not utilise any of the Information or the Materials for any human research, treatment, or diagnosis, but the Recipient may conduct pre-clinical evaluation of the Information and the Materials.

6. Disclosure requires prior written consent

The Recipient shall keep and use all of the Information and the Materials in strictest confidence and shall not, without the Provider's prior written consent, disclose any part of the Information or provide any part of the Materials to any person, firm, corporation, or other entity regardless of any affiliation or relationship with the Recipient.

7. Any disclosure to be under equivalent or greater obligation of confidentiality

The Recipient agrees that it has and shall maintain an appropriate internal program limiting the Internal distribution of the Information and the Materials to those of its officers, servants, or agents who require said Information and Materials so that the Recipient may use them for the purpose set forth in *Article 4*. Notwithstanding *Article 6*, the Recipient may disclose the Information but may not provide the Materials to third-party consultants but such disclosure of Information shall only be permitted to the extent that said third-party consultants require access to the Information in order to enable the Recipient to carry out the purpose set forth in *Article 4*. The Recipient covenants and agrees that before making any Materials or Information available to said officers, servants, agents, or third-party consultants, it shall ensure they are under written obligations of confidentiality which are equivalent to or greater than those set forth in this Agreement.

8. No license or other agreement created by this Agreement

The Recipient acknowledges and agrees that any and all disclosures of Information and provisions of Materials pursuant to this Agreement are on a non-exclusive basis and that the Provider is free to make similar or other disclosures to third parties. Nothing in this Agreement shall create, or be construed to create; a license to the Recipient except as set forth in *Article 4* or any obligation on either party to enter into a license or other agreement with respect to the Information or the Materials. Furthermore, nothing contained herein shall be deemed or

construed to create between the parties an agency relationship, partnership or joint venture. Neither party shall be liable for any act, omission, representation, obligation or debt of the other party, even if informed of such act, omission, representation, obligation or debt.

9. No warranty given by Disclosing Party

The Disclosing Party makes no representations or warranties, either express or implied, with respect to the merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose of its Information. The Disclosing Party shall in no event be liable for any loss of profits, be they direct, consequential, incidental, or special or other similar or like damages arising from any defect, error or failure to perform with respect to its Information, even if the Disclosing Party has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

10. Recipient holds harmless and will defend Provider against claims from its use

The Recipient hereby indemnifies, holds harmless and defends the Provider, its Board of Governors, directors, officers, employees, faculty, students, and agents against any and all claims (including all legal fees and disbursements incurred in association therewith) arising from or out of the receipt or use of the Information or the Materials by the Recipient including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any damages or losses, consequential or otherwise, arising from or out of the receipt or use of the Information or the Materials by the Recipient, howsoever the same may arise. The Recipient shall procure and maintain public liability insurance in reasonable amounts with a reputable and secure insurance carrier. In the event that the Recipient is prohibited by law from granting the indemnity contemplated herein, in addition to the public liability insurance contemplated hereunder, the Recipient shall also carry insurance in an amount of no less than \$1,000,000 which shall provide coverage to the Provider, its Board of Governors, directors, officers, employees, faculty, students, and agents against any and all claims (including all legal fees and disbursements incurred in association therewith) arising from or out of the receipt or use of the Information or the Materials by the Recipient including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any damages or losses, consequential or otherwise, arising from or out of the receipt or use of the Information or the Materials by the Recipient, howsoever the same may arise.

11. No assignment of rights

The Recipient shall not assign, transfer, mortgage, charge or otherwise dispose of any or all of the rights, duties or obligations granted to it under this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Provider.

12. Term of this Agreement

This Agreement shall take effect on the earlier date of or the date first written above or the date that Information or Materials is transferred under this Agreement regardless of the date of execution, and shall remain in full force and effect for a period of three (3) years after this Agreement comes into force unless earlier terminated by any party with 60 days written notice, or unless earlier terminated by mutual written agreement executed by all parties. Notwithstanding any early termination of this Agreement, the obligations created in this Agreement shall survive and continue to be binding upon the Recipient, its successors and assigns for _____ () years from the date first above written. Forthwith upon the termination of this Agreement, the Recipient shall cease to use the Information or the Materials in any manner whatsoever and, upon written request by the Provider, the Recipient shall deliver

up to the Provider all of the Information and Materials in its possession or control, together with a certificate certifying that no copies or progeny or derivatives, as the case may be, have been made or retained or that one copy of the Information and one set of the Materials have been retained for the sole purpose of ensuring compliance with the ongoing obligations created in this Agreement.

13. Applicable law

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the « Province of the Network Member » and the laws of Canada in force therein without regard to its conflict of law rules.

14. Arbitration in case of disagreement

In the event of any dispute arising between the parties concerning this Agreement, its enforceability or the interpretation thereof, the same shall be finally resolved by the provisions of Article 9 of the BL-NCE Network Agreement.

15. Notices

All notices or other documents that either of the parties hereto are required or may desire to deliver to the other party hereto may be delivered only by personal delivery, by courier, by telecopy, or by registered or certified mail, all postage and other charges prepaid, at the address for such party set forth above or at such other address as that party may hereinafter designate in writing to the other.

16. This Agreement comprises entire understanding between Parties

This Agreement sets forth the entire understanding between the Parties and no modifications hereof shall be binding unless executed in writing by the parties hereto.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Parties hereto have hereunto executed this Agreement on the dates set forth below but effective as of the date first above written.

Signed for and on behalf of « **COMPANY** » by its duly authorized officer:

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Signed for and on behalf of « **UNIVERSITY** » by its duly authorized officer:

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Signed for and on behalf of « **BL-Network** » by its duly authorized officer:

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

Read & Approved by « **Network Investigator** », « **Affiliation** »

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____