

## **Project Backgrounder for Press Releases – MONTRÉAL**

Our experimental surgery suite will focus on filling in the gaps between advances in surgical technologies, medical practices and the requirements of the patient – resulting in more efficient treatments and shorter hospital stays for our patients.

Working with our established bio-pharmaceutical partners here in Montreal, we will evaluate promising new biological and chemical therapies. We will build on existing partnerships with Novartis, Samaratin Pharma, CIPHERGEN and Adherex. Montreal and Quebec provide an environment unparalleled in Canada to pursue this theme in medical and pharmaceutical research.

In addition, recognizing the unique potential associated with our international reputation for leading edge research, clinical and academic activities, the MUHC and McGill have created a dedicated not-for-profit venture, the “Montreal Excellerator”. The goal of the Montreal Excellerator is to substantially increase the creation of new companies by 50%, to multiply license revenues and to establish strong relationships with international institutions and industry leaders. This proposal will directly support and enhance these activities.