

AllerGen and partners launch a \$176,300 Competition for Research Studentships to promote allergic and immune disease research

For Immediate Release

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Hamilton, ON (December 4, 2009) – AllerGen NCE Inc., the Allergy, Genes and Environment Network (AllerGen), a national research network, is pleased to announce the national launch of a \$176,300 competition for student fellowship support of which AllerGen is providing \$88,150 in partnership funding for research that reduces the morbidity, mortality and socio-economic burden of allergic and related immune diseases. AllerGen funding can be matched by partner organizations in support of Canadian students.

AllerGen is inviting applications for its Canadian Allergy and Immune Diseases Advanced Training Initiative (CAIDATI) awards, which are intended to contribute to a significant increase in Canada's research capacity in allergy, asthma, anaphylaxis and related immune/inflammatory processes through joint funding of new studentships in partnership with other organizations across Canada.

This training award is aimed at undergraduate summer students and at students pursuing MD, Masters and PhD degrees and Post-Docs. Eligible applicants must be Canadian citizens or hold Canadian permanent resident status and be currently enrolled or accepted in a full-time degree programme at a Canadian university. The deadline for applications is March 1, 2010.

Please visit the link: http://www.allergen-nce.ca/Training_and_Careers/Funding_and_Training_Opportunities.html

These awards are aligned with AllerGen's three research thrusts and are of strategic importance to the generation of new knowledge with potential for social and economic impact on allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis in the areas of: *Gene-Environment Interactions, Diagnostics and Therapeutics and Public Health and Ethics, Policy and Society.*

AllerGen is funded through the federal Networks of Centres of Excellence program. The Networks of Centres of Excellence Canada is a joint initiative of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and Industry Canada.

AllerGen's mission is to catalyze and support discovery, development, networking, capacity building, commercialization and knowledge translation that contribute to reducing the morbidity, mortality and socio-economic burden of allergic and related immune diseases.

AllerGen aims to create an enduring network of allergy and immune disease experts whose discovery and development efforts contribute to reductions in the impact of allergic and related immune diseases nationally and globally. AllerGen's networked approach to multi-disciplinary approaches to allergy, asthma and anaphylaxis research unites 134 researchers, 379 highly qualified personnel and over 100 Canadian/global partners.

For more information please visit www.allergen-nce.ca

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