

## **CANADIAN BIOTECH INDUSTRY RECOGNIZES ITS TOP PERFORMERS: GOLD LEAF AWARDS HONOUR CANADIAN BIOTECH INNOVATION**

*Cardiome Pharma Corp, Allon Therapeutics, Sanofi Pasteur, industry leader Yves Rosconi honoured with prestigious awards.*

WASHINGTON D.C. [June 27, 2011] – BIOTECanada will formally present the 2011 winners of the prestigious Gold Leaf Awards, tomorrow afternoon, during the BIO International Convention in Washington. Nominated and judged by biotechnology industry leaders, the awards honour companies and individuals in Canada's biotech industry whose demonstrated innovation and financial success in 2010 best reflect the vital contribution biotech is making to the growing global bio-economy.

Vancouver's Cardiome Pharma Corp, took top honours as company of the year for its succession developing proprietary drugs to treat or prevent cardiovascular and other diseases.

The early stage company award in the health category went to Allon Therapeutics, recognizing the company's clinical trial successes and progress toward commercializing products in devastating degenerative brain diseases, such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and several types of frontotemporal dementia. EnWave Corporation was awarded company award for early stage industrial biotechnology, for their development of commercial applications for Radiant Energy Vacuum dehydration technology.

"These two companies have demonstrated an inherent entrepreneurial spirit to seek out made in Canada solutions," commented Brad Thompson, Ph.D. Chairman of BIOTECanada. "Together we are building a world-leading bio-economy and establishing the foundations for a safer, cleaner, healthier and more sustainable future."

The association also awarded a national industry leadership award to Mr. Yves Rosconi. A highly accomplished leader, Mr. Rosconi has more than 30 years experience in the pharmaceutical industry in Canada and internationally. During his years at Theratechnologies, Mr. Rosconi made it his mission to complete the various stages of the clinical trials for tesamoreline, as well as the regulatory process in the United States for acceptance. He also played an important role in the conclusion of a partnership for the exclusive rights for the commercialization of tesamoreline in the U.S.

New this year is an award to recognize corporate contribution to Canadian communities. The 2011 recipient, Sanofi-Pasteur, was chosen for going beyond producing quality vaccines to promoting and creating healthy communities. Sanofi Pasteur activities span a variety of initiatives such as inspiring students through our Bio Talent Challenge, and supporting employees in causes near to them.

For more details about the award winners visit: [www.goldleafawards.ca](http://www.goldleafawards.ca).



ABOUT BIOTECanada [www.biotech.ca](http://www.biotech.ca) BIOTECanada is dedicated to the sustainable commercial development of biotechnology innovation in Canada. It is the national industry-funded association with over 250 member companies representing the broad spectrum of biotech constituents including emerging and established firms in the health, industrial, and agricultural sectors, as well as academic and research institutions and other related organizations.

### **Canadian Biotechnology Company of the Year: Cardiome**

CEO Doug Janzen sees Cardiome making great strides in the next five years. "2010 was a momentous year for Cardiome with the European marketing approval of vernakalant IV (Brinavess). Over the next five years, we look forward to seeing Vernakalant IV approved in many additional territories beyond Europe. Cardiome also expects to leverage its expertise to build a diversified portfolio with projects at various stages of development. The focus for internal R&D efforts is, and will continue to be on targets for diseases with a high unmet need," he said.

### **Early Stage Company of the Year (Health): Allon Therapeutics**

Gordon McCauley, Allon's President and CEO commented. "Being chosen as Canada's leading pre-commercial healthcare biotech company is a great honour and an enormous compliment to the dedication, innovation, and excellence demonstrated by our team every day," said McCauley. "It is also important recognition of the investigators, patients, and caregivers we partner with to find solutions to these awful diseases."

### **Early Stage Company of the Year (Industrial): Enwave Corp.**

Dr. Tim Durance, Chairman and Co-CEO hopes this award will help bring attention to EnWave from the larger pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies who want to produce shelf-stable biopharmaceutical products in vials, but want a faster, cheaper process than lyophilization.

### **Industry Leadership: Yves Rosconi**

"It is a great honour to have been chosen for this award by my peers. Leadership is a cornerstone competency necessary for the success of the biotechnology industry in Canada. I look forward to applying this leadership on boards of biotechnology companies and contribute further to the success of the industry in Canada and abroad," commented Yves Rosconi.

### **Contribution to Canadian Communities: Sanofi Pasteur Ltd.**

"Sanofi Pasteur is honoured to receive this recognition. Our company was built on one man's determination to make a difference. Today, we have over 1100 employees in Canada continuing the legacy of protecting public health, supporting science education and enhancing the lives of people in the community," said Mark Lievonen, President, Sanofi Pasteur Limited.

Join us at the Canada Café at the BIO International Convention to meet Canada's best in biotechnology. June 28th, 2011 in Washington DC. Booth number 3705 at 4pm.

For interviews with the winners:

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