

Chantal Petitclerc, Paralympic Champion and World Record Holder, to Speak at Canadian Immunization Conference

Ottawa (November 15, 2010) – Chantal Petitclerc, winner of 14 Paralympic gold medals and Companion of the Order of Canada will be the keynote speaker during the opening banquet of the Canadian Immunization Conference on December 6, 2010 in Quebec City. Sponsored by BIOTECanada’s Vaccine Industry Committee, Ms. Petitclerc will speak about the importance of partnerships and the value of innovation.

“Chantal is one of Canada’s most recognizable and celebrated athletes in Canadian sports history” said John Dorsey of Novartis Canada and Chair of the Vaccine Industry Committee. “We are pleased to be presenting her story as it demonstrates that with hard work, the right team and world-class equipment, Canadians can be the very best in the world.”

Every two years, the Canadian Immunization Conference brings together non-governmental organizations, vaccine manufacturers, provincial and territorial immunization policy and program planners as well as professionals from the many disciplines involved in the immunization field.

BIOTECanada’s Vaccine Industry Committee is comprised of Canada’s major vaccine developers and suppliers. Members actively engage with the federal, provincial and territorial governments to foster full access and availability of all vaccines including existing, new and innovative vaccines for all Canadians. The committee also promotes the high quality nature of Canadian research, development, manufacturing and distribution of vaccines, and develops awareness of the value of vaccines to the Canadian health care system. The Committee helps during the planning and execution of the Canadian Immunization Conference, including moderating and participating in panel discussions and exhibiting.

Since becoming a paraplegic at the age of 13, Chantal Petitclerc, has gone on to win a total of 21 Paralympic medals including 14 gold medals. In order to prepare for the Beijing Olympic Games, she worked with a team of trainers, nutritionists and technicians in order to develop a first-class training regimen and reduce the weight of her wheelchair. In the end, she won gold and set a world record in all five races she competed in.

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ABOUT BIOTECanada 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.

