

BIOTECCanada Supports Government of Canada's Global Skills Strategy Initiative

November 3, 2016 [OTTAWA] - BIOTECCanada, the national industry association representing biotechnology companies congratulates the Minister of Finance and the Government of Canada on the Fall Economic Statement. In particular, the industry is very supportive of the Statement's initiative to develop a *Global Skills Strategy* which recognizes the importance of providing high growth Canadian businesses with greater and faster access to global talent.

“Skilled human capital and investment capital are central to the biotechnology sector's ability to take an innovative idea from the lab to commercial viability. If a company is unable to secure both talent and investment then their innovative idea will move to where the people and investment dollars are. Being able to attract talent from abroad, including returning Canadians who have left the country for opportunities, is critical for the biotech industry's companies that are commercializing innovation. Canada's biotechnology industry is well positioned to deliver solutions for the global health and environmental challenges. The *Global Skills Strategy* is an important initiative will help make the industry more globally competitive by enhancing its ability to attract top level talent from around the world” commented Andrew Casey, President and CEO BIOTECCanada.

-30-

BIOTECCanada is the national industry association with more than 200 members located nationwide, reflecting the diverse nature of Canada's health, industrial and agricultural biotechnology sectors. In addition to providing significant health benefits for Canadians, the biotechnology industry has quickly become an essential part of the transformation of many traditional cornerstones of the Canadian economy including manufacturing, automotive, energy, aerospace and forestry.

For more information:
Nadine Lunt
BIOTECCanada
613-230-5585 x257