



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**DR. NANCY BRAVERMAN: CHAMPION OF THE AMORCHEM KNOCK OUT!**

**Quebec City, December 8, 2017.** The Contenders of the fourth AmorChem KNOCK OUT™ Event valiantly climbed into the ring and duked it out against a panel of Heavyweight Champions for a chance of winning a coveted \$500,000 financing from AmorChem. Earlier in the fall, AmorChem, the innovative venture capital seed fund, launched a province-wide call for proposals to participate in its KNOCK OUT Event.

All the Contenders displayed remarkable courage and agility in the ring, yet only one could stand victorious. The winner of the 2017 KNOCK OUT Event is:

**Dr. Nancy Braverman**

**“Retinal Gene Augmentation for Peroxisome Biogenesis”  
Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre, McGill University**

“The 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of AmorChem’s KNOCK OUT was a great success,” says Elizabeth Douville, Founder and Managing Partner at AmorChem. “We created this KNOCK OUT to increase the research community’s awareness of our fund and to encourage its members to promote the commercial potential of their work. The success of this Event shows that we are reaching our objectives, and the involvement of Dr. Braverman’s student, Catherine Argyriou, indicates that we are also reaching a next generation of promising scientists.”

“The Heavyweights had a tough job deciding on a winner among these high-quality Contenders,” comments Inès Holzbour, Founder and Managing partner at AmorChem. “We would like to thank the Contenders for rolling with the punches, our Heavyweights for bringing their individual expertise into the ring today and Christopher Hall for successfully keeping everyone battling within the rules.”

The final bell has rung; AmorChem now looks forward to working with Dr. Braverman and her team.

This KNOCK OUT was held on December 6<sup>th</sup> as part of the Lumira Capital-AmorChem Event, a conference highlighting the respective roles of the two venture capital groups in the financing of the R&D continuum. This year, the Lumira-AmorChem Event was held as part of the 11<sup>th</sup> Quebec City Healthcare Industry Forum.

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#### **ABOUT AMORCHEM**

AmorChem ([www.amorchem.com](http://www.amorchem.com)) is a venture capital fund located in Montreal focused on creating promising life science companies from technologies originating primarily from Quebec-based universities and research centres. Launched in 2011, the AmorChem fund model combines access to financial resources with a virtual incubator structure that enables the rapid development and commercialization of its technologies. The fund has built a portfolio of 24 technologies and successfully transacted two pharma exits as well as spun-out five companies. The attractiveness of this seed fund model and the role it plays in the investment ecosystem were highlighted in September of 2017 with the launch of the AmorChem II fund.

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