



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Dr. FACKSON MWALE: CHAMPION OF THE AMORCHEM KNOCK OUT!**

**Montreal, June 5 2015.** The five Contenders of the second AmorChem KNOCK OUT™ Event valiantly climbed into the ring yesterday at the Lumira Capital-AmorChem Event to duke it out against a panel of Heavyweight Champions for a chance to win a coveted \$500,000 financing from AmorChem. Earlier in the year, AmorChem, the innovative Quebec-based venture capital seed fund, launched a country-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.

It is with pleasure that AmorChem announces the winner of the 2015 KNOCK OUT Event:

**Dr. Fackson Mwale**

**“LINK N peptide as a therapeutic agent to treat intervertebral disc degeneration, arthritis and pain”  
Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research and McGill University**

“The 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of AmorChem’s KNOCK OUT was a great success,” says Elizabeth Douville, General Partner at AmorChem. “We created this Event to increase the Quebec and Canadian research communities’ awareness of AmorChem and reach out to researchers who may not have been aware of the possibility of commercialising aspects of their work. This Event definitely reached those goals.”

“The Heavyweights had a tough job in making a selection,” comments Inès Holzbaur, General 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. Mwale.

This KNOCK OUT was held on June 4<sup>th</sup> 2015 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.

AmorChem and Lumira Capital thank their sponsors:



## **ABOUT AMORCHEM**

AmorChem L.P. ([www.amorchem.com](http://www.amorchem.com)) is a venture capital fund located in Montreal focused on investing in promising life science projects originating from Quebec-based universities and research centres. The principal limited partners of this fund are Investissement-Québec, FIER Partenaires, Fonds de solidarité FTQ and Merck & Co. This fund is the latest addition to the GeneChem portfolio of funds, a fund manager in existence since 1997. AmorChem's innovative business model involves financing research-stage projects to enable them to reach pre-clinical proof-of-concept ("POC") in a semi-virtual mode within 18-24 months. The fund seeks to generate returns through a two-pronged exit strategy: sell projects having reached POC to large biotechnology or pharmaceutical companies; or bundle them into new spin-out companies. AmorChem using external resources will manage the projects. To that effect, AmorChem has established a strategic partnership with the Biotechnology Research Institute in order to access its R&D platforms. In addition, to enabling projects requiring small molecules as tools or drug leads, AmorChem has founded NuChem Therapeutics Inc., a medicinal chemistry contract-research company.

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## **ABOUT ROBIC**

Founded in 1892, **ROBIC, LLP** is an internationally renowned firm of lawyers, patent and trade-mark agents specialized in Intellectual Property and Business Law. Headquartered in Montreal, ROBIC is a Canadian firm with more than 175 people including 23 partners and 45 professionals. We provide dynamic and entrepreneurial assistance and representation to clients in executing business transactions in addition to managing, protecting, enforcing and commercialising their intellectual capital.

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#### **ABOUT LUMIRA CAPITAL**

Lumira Capital is a leading North American healthcare and life sciences venture capital firm. Lumira Capital is currently actively investing from two funds: **Lumira Capital II** invests primarily in North American, clinical-stage biopharmaceutical, medical device, and healthcare IT companies. **Merck Lumira Biosciences Fund** is targeted to earlier stage investments in biopharmaceutical companies located in Quebec. Successful investments from our previous fund include: KAI Pharmaceuticals (acquired by Amgen), Ception Therapeutics (acquired by Cephalon), Morphotek, (acquired by Eisai Co.), Argos Therapeutics (IPO), Guava (acquired by Millipore), Corus Pharma (acquired by Gilead Sciences), Depomed (public exit following PIPE), Ista (public exit following PIPE), Pharmasset (acquired by Gilead Sciences following IPO) and MAKO Surgical (acquired by Stryker following IPO).

Lumira Capital's portfolio companies are located throughout North America and we have partners in our offices in Toronto, Montreal and Boston.

For more information visit the Lumira Capital website at [www.lumiracapital.com](http://www.lumiracapital.com).