



They can definitely knock-out a gene and apparently they can also throw some serious blows! Who will be the next Contenders at AmorChem's KNOCK-OUT™ Event? FRQS and AmorChem invite you to come and find out at BioContact 2014.

Back by popular demand, AmorChem is hosting its second KNOCK-OUT™ Event at BioContact 2014, in Québec City. Researchers selected to participate in the Dragons' Den inspired AmorChem KNOCK-OUT™ Event will fight it out in the ring against our panel of "heavyweights" eager to defend their title for the second year in a row.

If you are an academic life science researcher with an appetite to knock-out the competition, if you have innovative science with strong commercial potential, then you may be one of the participants chosen to duke it out in the AmorChem KNOCK-OUT Event and could be granted an AmorChem financing of up to \$500,000!

As part of the celebrations marking its 50th anniversary, the Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé is joining forces with AmorChem to promote the KNOCK-OUT Event. The two groups very naturally complement each other's strengths: the FRQS, as the first step toward value creation in the field of life sciences, offers grants to support basic research and encourages applied research, while AmorChem, the accelerator venture fund for Quebec's applied research, acts as the second step, leading to the commercialisation of life sciences innovation.

Interested researchers must fill out the attached form describing their technology, its clinical applications, its relevance to human disease, as well as its commercial potential. As competition in the ring will be fierce, researchers are encouraged to seek the assistance of their technology transfer or commercialization office that can also prove useful in training for the final Event.

All application forms must be submitted no later than Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at 10 am at the following email address: [info@amorchem.com](mailto:info@amorchem.com)

Participants chosen to climb into the ring in the final round will be notified no later than September 2nd, 2014. They will then become Contenders in the Amorchem KNOCK-OUT Event and will be invited to a call in order to assist them in their final preparations.

Contenders will then convene on October 8<sup>th</sup> at the "AmorChem" session of BioContact 2014 in Québec City. Note that all Contenders must register for the conference in order to participate in the AmorChem KNOCK-OUT Event.

The Event will play out in front of a live audience (last year was standing room only!). At the sound of the bell, each Contender will be given up to five minutes to make their case on their technology. Following their pitch, each Contender will duke it out, in the ring, with our “heavyweights” over a ten minute Q&A “boxing match”. The Contenders will confront the “professional boxers” with only wits and scientific agility in their corner. Just as boxers climb into the ring with only their gloves, our contenders will not be allowed visual support.

The champion of this second Québec edition of the AmorChem KNOCK-OUT Event may qualify for a financing of up to \$500,000 from AmorChem, subject to completion of final pre-investment conditions including approval by the AmorChem Investment Committee. All Contenders will be invited to a dinner in Québec City with our “heavyweights” following the Event.

Can you roll with the punches, and go 5 rounds in the ring with our seasoned biotech executives? If you think you can, act fast: spaces will be limited to a maximum of 5 participants and the deadline for application is July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014!

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## **ABOUT AMORCHEM**

AmorChem ([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. 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. Projects are managed by AmorChem using a combination of the resources found in the researcher’s lab, other academic labs and contract research organisations. In order to contribute efficiently to projects requiring small molecules, AmorChem established its own medicinal chemistry contract research organisation- NuChem Therapeutics Inc. For more information about our KNOCK-OUT event, please visit [http://amorchem.com/knock\\_out.php](http://amorchem.com/knock_out.php)

## **ABOUT THE *FONDS DE RECHERCHE DU QUÉBEC – SANTÉ* (FRQS)**

The mission of the *Fonds de recherche du Québec – Santé* (FRQS), which reports to the Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade, is to support health research to foster the wellness of Quebec’s population. Its mandate is to promote and financially support such research, to disseminate knowledge and train researchers, to forge partnerships necessary for the development of Quebec's research and innovation system, and, lastly, to advance research internationally. For further information, visit [www.frqs.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.frqs.gouv.qc.ca).

## **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.

## **ABOUT BIOCONTACT 2014:**

<http://www.biocontact.qc.ca/english/default.html>

## **ABOUT NUCHEM THERAPEUTICS:**

[www.nuchemtherapeutics.com](http://www.nuchemtherapeutics.com)