



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

### **AmorChem welcomes Martin Leblanc to its Investment Committee**

**Montreal, Quebec –November 3, 2013** – AmorChem is proud to announce that Mr. Martin Leblanc has joined its Investment Committee. Mr. Leblanc is currently President and CEO of Caprion Inc. and was recently named “Personnalité de la semaine” by La Presse, a Montreal newspaper, for the role played by Caprion in the development of a diagnostic tool for certain types of lung cancer.

A co-founder of Caprion, Martin has led the development of Caprion’s leading proteomics technology and of its profitable and rapidly growing service business in the field of drug discovery and personalized medicine. Under his leadership as CEO since 2007, Caprion has achieved a 3-fold increase in revenues and a 20-fold increase in operating profits by building successful customer relationships and strategic alliances with over 50 major pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies as well as with leading government agencies and academic institutions. He also concluded two successful acquisitions in addition to the recent sale of Caprion to Chicago Growth Partners, a leading healthcare private equity firm.

Prior to Caprion, Martin began his professional career as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company. He then initiated his career as a biotech entrepreneur at Advanced Bioconcept, initially as Vice-President of Sales & Marketing and then as General Manager following the company’s acquisition by NEN Life Sciences (now part of Perkin-Elmer).

Martin is currently a member of the Governing Council of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), and of the Board of Directors of Cytovance Biologics, Mispro Biotech services, Montreal InVivo and the Atlantic Cancer Research Institute. He earned his bachelor’s degree in Economics from the University of Moncton prior to completing an M.A. in Economics and Politics at Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar.

“We are very pleased to welcome Mr. Leblanc to our Investment Committee. His operational and transactional experience with big pharma will be of value to AmorChem in support of its licensing model” said Elizabeth Douville, General Partner at AmorChem.

M. Leblanc joins a committee composed of Dr. Bernard Coupal, Dr. Brian White-Guay, Dr. Steve Xanthoudakis, Mr. André Monette and Dr. Martin Godbout, recently named its acting chairman. Dr. Godbout is a well-known figure of the biotech world who currently holds the position of chairman of the board of Genome Quebec. Prior to this, he was the founding president and CEO of Genome Canada. Dr. Godbout has led a varied career starting in academic research following by a transition to important roles in the venture capital industry, namely president and general manager of Innovatech Quebec and senior vice-president at BioCapital. He has shared his expertise with many organisations and currently sits on the board of biotech companies: AngioChem, Acasti Pharma, Asmacure and Mirati Therapeutics. He also serves on the board of several funding agencies and industry associations, most notably, Fonds

de recherche du Quebec-Santé, Montreal InVivo, BioQuébec, the Public Population Project in Genomics (P<sup>3</sup>G), the Fondation sur les Leucodystrophies and the Fondation de l'ataxie de Charlevoix-Saguenay. The annual conference he organises, BioContact, has long played a pivotal role in the Quebec biotech ecosystem, bringing together local and international entrepreneurs and investors.

Mr. Godbout holds a PhD in Physiology and Molecular Endocrinology from Université Laval and completed postdoctoral training in neuromolecular biology at the Scripps Research Institute in San Diego.

“Our Investment Committee plays a key role in the AmorChem model and we are very pleased that Dr. Godbout accepted to take the helm. We believe he will contribute greatly to our success,” said Inès Holzbaour, General Partner at AmorChem.

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#### **ABOUT AMORCHEM L.P.**

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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