



Montreal, November 14, 2005 - On behalf of Génome Québec and Génome Canada, Mr. Paul L'Archevêque and Mr. Martin Godbout, respectively President and CEO, would like to congratulate Dr. Michel G. Bergeron, renowned clinician scientist, professor of microbiology and director of the Infectious Disease Research Centre at Université Laval, on receiving the Wilder Penfield award, one of the most important awards conferred by the Quebec government.

During the official ceremony held in the National Assembly on November 8, Dr. Bergeron received one of the eleven Quebec awards presented by Mr. Claude Béchard, Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade, and Ms. Line Beauchamp, Minister of Culture and Communications, to individuals having distinguished themselves through their exceptional contribution to Quebec's scientific and cultural development. The Wilder Penfield award signifies the government's recognition of individuals responsible for significant advancements in the field of biomedical sciences.

Dr. Bergeron earned this honour through his numerous innovative approaches applied to the fields of microbiology and infectious diseases, which led particularly to the development of rapid diagnostic tests using microbial DNA rather than bacterial cultures and is considered to be a major scientific breakthrough.

Director and founder of the Infectious Disease Research Centre at Université Laval, one of the most important centres in the world devoted to the study of infectious diseases, Dr. Bergeron also sits on several prestigious committees, has presided over many Canadian and international scientific societies, and is the author of some 400 publications.

We are also very proud to be able to benefit from Dr. Bergeron's expertise at Génome Canada and Génome Québec, where he is currently working in close collaboration towards the achievement of a largescale project, the 'Theranostic Technology' project, which will certainly have major repercussions in the health sector.

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Dr. Bergeron has succeeded in bringing about revolutionary advances in microbiology. He has earned our admiration for the body of his work, which holds exemplary value for future generations. Please join us in applauding this welldeserved honour.



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