news release

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$582,234 in technology transfer support awarded to a joint network involving U of C, MRC, RDC and SAIT

(Calgary, Alberta) – University Technologies International Inc.("UTI") (University of Calgary), Mount Royal College, Red Deer College and the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology joined forces to create the Southern Alberta Intellectual Property Network (SAIPN). SAIPN has been formed to leverage UTI's success in technology transfer and commercialization. The Network was successful in their Intellectual Property Mobilization program proposal, receiving a $582,234 grant over the next three years.

"The SAIP Network is a new collaboration drawing on the collective knowledge and opportunities of our four institutions and will increase the benefit to Albertans of our growing investment in research," states Paul Cataford, President & CEO of University Technologies International Inc., University of Calgary's technology transfer and commercialization centre.

Industry Minister David L. Emerson and Health Minister Ujjal Dosanjh recently announced 22 grants worth $17.1 million over three years to accelerate the transfer of knowledge and new technology being developed in Canadian universities, hospitals and colleges for use in the Canadian economy.

The awards will provide the essential resources for research-intensive institutions to develop the critical mass of expertise, tools and resources to manage and protect intellectual property, to encourage entrepreneurship and to make industry more aware of the knowledge and technology resources at their disposal.

These grants are being funded through the Intellectual Property Mobilization program, a cooperative arrangement involving the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).

"The Southern Alberta Intellectual Property Network is an excellent example of what we are trying to achieve with the tri-agency Intellectual Property Mobilization program," said Janet Walden, NSERC Vice-President for Research Partnerships Programs. "This is a concerted effort among academic institutions in Canada to increase the commercialization of research through the effective sharing of resources."

The Network will access UTI's extensive experience in technology commercialization, enabling collaboration between the four institutions rather than duplication.

"The SAIP Network will help to generate new ideas and practices that will help us apply the knowledge gained from research for the benefit of all Canadians", said Dr. Alan Bernstein, President of CIHR.

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