



MANITOBA



MINNESOTA

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR BIOSCIENCES AND LIFE SCIENCES COLLABORATION

BETWEEN
THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
AND
THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

for Biosciences and Life
Sciences Collaboration

WHEREAS, Minnesota and Manitoba enjoy a longstanding co-operative relationship and wish to build upon the experience of previous agreements between the two jurisdictions, such as the 2001 Renewed Memorandum of Understanding on Trade, Tourism and Economic Co-operation, the 2001 Memorandum of Understanding to Protect Water Resources, the 1988 Minnesota-Manitoba Agreement on Economic Co-operation and Trade Opportunities, the 1989 Minnesota-Manitoba Agreement on Educational Co-operation, and the 2004 Memorandum of Understanding for Flood and Drought Mitigation on the Red River;

WHEREAS, Minnesota and Manitoba share a strong interest in promoting a climate of research, innovation and technology development within their respective economies and recognize that the biosciences and life sciences industries have become dynamic growth-oriented sectors of the knowledge economy;

WHEREAS, Minnesota and Manitoba share a strong expertise and have growing and vibrant industries and state-of-the-art research facilities;

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota and the Province of Manitoba acknowledge the advantages to be gained by strengthening and broadening mutually beneficial relations and in further enhancing commercial ventures between their two jurisdictions;

THEREFORE, consistent with the laws and existing treaties between their respective nations, the State of Minnesota and the Province of Manitoba intend to:

1.0 PROMOTE AND FACILITATE BILATERAL EXCHANGES

- 1.1** Advance common interests by encouraging and promoting opportunities for joint biosciences and life sciences-focused research and development activities and business relationships in each jurisdiction;
- 1.2** Share publicly available information, between themselves and among relevant public and private stakeholders, on opportunities for strategic alliances, opportunities for skills transfer, and research and development partnerships;
- 1.3** Exchange and share publicly available information and expertise on business development opportunities;
- 1.4** Foster the development of programs that identify biosciences and life sciences career opportunities in each jurisdiction;
- 1.5** Explore opportunities for joint participation in biosciences and life sciences-focused symposia, workshops, reciprocal missions, and joint economic development missions to targeted markets; and
- 1.6** Create awareness of the Minnesota-Manitoba region as a thriving bioscience and life sciences corridor.



2.0 ENHANCE THE SUCCESS OF TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION IN THE BIOSCIENCES AND LIFE SCIENCES

- 2.1** Stimulate a cross-border environment that encourages shared entrepreneurial activity, commercialization, and incubation of innovative technologies;
- 2.2** Share best practices and expertise on the commercialization and incubation of innovative health, agricultural and environmental technologies; and
- 2.3** Explore opportunities where a bundling of technologies from each jurisdiction enhances the economic potential of the technology.

3.0 PROMOTE THE ONGOING RELATIONSHIP

The Governments of Minnesota and Manitoba recognize the benefits of ongoing, regular communication between their respective governments to promote their bilateral relationship and to identify additional areas of priority in which there are opportunities for joint formal or informal co-operation. Therefore, the State of Minnesota and the Province of Manitoba intend to:

- 3.1** Designate state and provincial government representatives to serve as principal points of contact to advance and monitor bilateral biosciences and life sciences collaboration;
- 3.2** Support mutually agreed upon activities and initiatives related to this Memorandum of Understanding; and
- 3.3** Explore other matters of common interest between the two parties in support of and complementary to this Memorandum of Understanding.

Dated in San Francisco, California this 7th day of June 2004.

The Honorable Tim Pawlenty
Governor
State of Minnesota

The Honourable Gary Doer
Premier
Province of Manitoba

