

MEDEC strongly supports Ontario budget initiatives to increase innovation in healthcare

Province implementing all Ontario Health Innovation Council recommendations including \$20Million Health Technology Innovation Evaluation Fund

Toronto (April 23, 2015) – MEDEC, the national association representing Canada’s Medical Technology Companies, expresses its strong support for today’s Ontario budget initiatives that support the province’s world-renowned medical technology industry.

The budget confirms that Ontario will be implementing the transformative recommendations put forward by the provincially appointed Ontario Health Innovation Council (OHIC) in their report, [*The Catalyst: Towards an Ontario Health Innovation Strategy*](#), which was provided to the government in December 2014.

“We are very pleased that the Wynne government has recognized the immense untapped potential of Ontario’s medical technology industry by choosing to implement all of the very thoughtful and practical recommendations put forth by the Ontario Health Innovation Council” said Brian Lewis, President and CEO of MEDEC. “These initiatives have the potential to make Ontario a world-wide medical technology leader and will positively transform the way that our industry operates in the province – benefitting patients, the healthcare system and the economy.”

Through this budget, the Ontario government has committed to implement all of the following transformative initiatives:

1. Appointing a Chief Health Innovation Strategist
2. Appointing Six Innovation Brokers to Connect Innovators with Resources
3. Investing \$20M in Made-in-Ontario Technologies through a Health Technology Innovation Evaluation Fund
4. Continuing the Shift to Strategic, Value-Based Procurement
5. Creating Incentives and Removing Barriers to Innovation
6. Optimizing the Pathway for the Adoption and Diffusion of Innovation

MEDEC thanks the Wynne government - particularly Ministers Hoskins, Moridi and Oraziotti for ensuring the adoption of these recommendations and Minister Matthews for her role in the establishment of the Ontario Health Innovation Council.

About MEDEC

MEDEC is the national association representing the medical technology industry in Canada. Our members are committed to providing safe and innovative medical technologies that enhance the quality of patient care, improve patient access to health care, and help enable the sustainability of our publicly-funded health care system. The medical technology industry in Canada employs

Page 2

April 23, 2015

over 35,000 Canadians in approximately 1,500 facilities, and has sales of over \$7 billion per annum. We are committed to supporting the growth of a strong and vibrant medical technology industry that contributes to Canada's innovation economy.

Contact: Gerry Frenette
Executive Director, Public and Member Relations, MEDEC
(416) 620-1915 ext. 227
gfrenette@medec.org
www.medec.org