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Ontario Health Innovation Council's report offers transformative solutions to improve Ontario's healthcare system

MEDEC highly supportive of the Council's recommendations to government

Toronto (December 19, 2014) – MEDEC, the national association representing Canada's Medical Technology Companies, expresses its strong support for the Ontario Health Innovation Council's recommendations outlined in their report, *[The Catalyst: Towards an Ontario Health Innovation Strategy](#)*, that was released to the Wynne government today. The report provides transformative recommendations to the government that have the potential to greatly improve Ontarians' health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs through the increased adoption of innovative medical technologies into the healthcare system.

The Council was created by the Wynne government in November 2013 to provide recommendations to "accelerate the adoption of new technologies in (Ontario's) health care system and support the growth and competitiveness of Ontario's health technology sector". The report recommends that the government:

1. Establish a dedicated office to lead and coordinate innovation efforts
2. Broker relationships among industry, research, and health sector stakeholders to accelerate commercialization of innovations
3. Invest in made-in-Ontario technologies
4. Shift to strategic, value-based procurement of innovation
5. Create incentives and remove barriers to innovation across the health system
6. Continually improve pathways to adoption and diffusion of innovative health technologies.

"The recommendations from the Ontario Health Innovation Council provide transformational ways to address so many of the barriers that our members currently face in getting their innovative, life-saving products to patients in the healthcare system" said Brian Lewis, President and CEO of MEDEC. "We would like to thank Premier Wynne and her government for their leadership and commitment to finding solutions to increase the adoption of innovative medical technologies that will improve health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs, while at the same time fostering growth in Ontario's world-renowned medical technology sector."

"MEDEC is grateful to have had an opportunity to present to the Council and we are also very pleased that the Council referenced the work of the Ontario Medical Technology Working Group in the report" continued Mr. Lewis. "We look forward to continuing to collaborate with the government as they work towards the implementation of the Council's recommendations."

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 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.

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