

**CCRM**Centre for Commercialization of **Regenerative** Medicine

Toronto Regenerative Medicine Centre Helps Launch International Consortium

May 2012, Toronto, Canada -- The [Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine](#) (CCRM) is a founding member in a newly formed international consortium of translation centres that has been created to share expertise and advance the field of regenerative medicine (RM). The [Regenerative Medicine Coalition](#) (RMC), based in Berlin, Germany will accelerate the delivery of new and safe RM solutions to patients. In addition to Canada's CCRM, RMC includes one group from Spain, Germany and The Netherlands, and two from the United States.

Regenerative medicine harnesses the power of stem cells, tissue engineering and biomaterials to repair, regenerate or replace diseased cells, tissues and organs. It has the potential to treat, manage and perhaps cure some of the most debilitating and costly diseases in the world today, such as heart disease and diabetes. Translation centres move research discoveries from the 'bench to the bedside.'

"Developing strong ties internationally benefits the stem cell community here in Canada and CCRM is pleased to participate in this worthwhile initiative," says Michael May, CEO of CCRM. "I look forward to collaborating with RMC members to benefit researchers, industry and ultimately, the patient."

RMC plans to expand its membership with the addition of more RM translation centres, biopharmaceutical companies and funding organizations.

Frank-Roman Lauter, co-founder of RMC and Head of Business Development at the Berlin-Brandenburg Center for Regenerative Therapies (BCRT), explains the purpose of RMC as follows: "For the benefit of the patients and through an open and intensive exchange of ideas and experience, through joint strategic planning and joint usage of resources, we intend to develop new therapies faster and cost-effectively. A coalition, such as this one, is an ideal partner for industry."

Greg Bonfiglio, Managing Partner of Proteus Venture Partners and Chair of CCRM's Board of Directors, has been chosen as the inaugural Chair of RMC's Board.

The other founding partners are listed below:

- Berlin-Brandenburg Center for Regenerative Therapies (BCRT) Berlin, Germany
- Cabimer – Andalusian Molecular Biology and Regenerative Medicine Centre, Seville, Spain
- MIRA Institute for Biomedical Technology and Technical Medicine, Enschede, The Netherlands
- McGowan Institute for Regenerative Medicine, University Pittsburgh, PA, USA
- Wake Forest Institute for Regenerative Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC, USA

About Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine (CCRM)

[CCRM](#), a Canadian not-for-profit organization funded by the Government of Canada's Networks of Centres of Excellence program and six institutional partners, supports the development of technologies that accelerate the commercialization of stem cell- and biomaterials-based technologies and therapies. A network of academics, industry and entrepreneurs, CCRM translates scientific discoveries into marketable products for patients. CCRM launched in Toronto's Discovery District on June 14, 2011.

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