



## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Release Backgrounder

**Established in 2011**, the Centre for Commercialization of Regenerative Medicine (CCRM) is a public-private partnership funded by the Government of Canada, the Province of Ontario, and leading academic and industry partners. CCRM supports the commercialization of regenerative medicine-based technologies, and cell and gene therapies, with strategic funding, dedicated infrastructure and specialized business and scientific expertise.

By partnering with leading research institutions to launch new ventures, enabling industry by providing innovative contract development and manufacturing services, and scaling emerging companies by catalyzing investment, CCRM is accelerating the translation of promising technologies, processes and therapies into **life-changing health outcomes for patients**.

### *Selected Highlights*

- In 2016, Cytiva (formerly GE Healthcare) and the Canadian government each contributed \$20M for CCRM to build a fully-resourced, 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (~930 m<sup>2</sup>) facility to advance manufacturing and process development activities for cell and gene therapy developers. Cytiva announced its renewed commitment in the Centre for Advanced Therapeutic Cell Technologies in 2020, bringing the total investment in the centre to \$55M.
- In 2017, CCRM moved from the University of Toronto's Banting Institute to a 40,000 ft<sup>2</sup> purpose-built space containing modular labs, offices and meeting rooms in the MaRS Centre West Tower.
- In 2019, CCRM opened a 20,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (~1,300 m<sup>2</sup>) Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP)-compliant facility. The Centre for Cell and Vector Production (CCVP) is the largest facility of its kind in Toronto with 10 clean rooms for manufacturing clinical-grade cells and viral vectors for Phase I and II clinical trials. CCVP was built in partnership with University Health Network.
- In 2020, CCRM and McMaster Innovation Park announced their intent to partner, build and operate a biomanufacturing campus in Hamilton, Ontario, that will attract more than 1,000 jobs to the region. The anchor of the biomanufacturing campus will be a commercial-scale contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO) that will be spun out of CCRM by the end of 2021.
- Since 2016, CCRM has been developing a number of cell and viral vector manufacturing platforms. For example, in 2020, CCRM's technology development team produced more than 10 billion pluripotent stem cells in a 10 L single-use stirred-tank bioreactor platform, as reported on in a [published paper](#).
- CCRM has partnerships with Pfizer and Amgen to offer funding to promising academic discoveries.
- CCRM has grown from a dozen employees, six-months after launching, to an anticipated 160 employees by the end of 2021.

### *Incubating Companies*

- CCRM supports Canadian start-ups. As of March 2021, CCRM had invested more than \$4.9M into its 12 portfolio companies, which have raised over \$770M as of February 2021. Over 400 opportunities have been assessed, and 25 technology projects are ongoing. CCRM has supported and helped to launch 14 Canadian companies.
- Notch Therapeutics is a product of CCRM's incubation program. It launched in November 2019 with a multi-million-dollar collaboration with Allogene Therapeutics. In February 2021, Notch closed a Series A financing for US\$85 million.

### *Our Network*

- CCRM was founded around an academic network that includes the University of Toronto, University Health Network, The Hospital for Sick Children and Ottawa Hospital Research Institute. In May 2021, CCRM announced the signing of alliance agreements with four Canadian universities and two international institutions.
- CCRM works closely with the Stem Cell Network, CellCAN, STEMCELL Technologies, TIAP, McEwen Stem Cell Institute, MaRS Discovery District and others to build the regenerative medicine ecosystem in Canada.
- CCRM has built an industry network of more than 100 companies and launched more than 10 co-development projects with industry partners to commercialize regenerative medicine-based technologies and cell therapies.
- CCRM is establishing global hubs to support the commercialization of intellectual property from advanced therapies to bolster existing strength in the field. CCRM Australia launched in 2016.
- CCRM helped launch the Ontario Institute for Regenerative Medicine with \$25M in funding from the Province of Ontario.
- CCRM is the commercialization partner of Medicine by Design, a centre at the University of Toronto that is designing and manufacturing molecules, cells, tissues and organs that can be used to treat degenerative diseases. In 2015, it was awarded \$114M from the Government of Canada.

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\* Dollar amounts are CAD unless otherwise noted.