

Leadership in a Research-Intensive Environment

CFREF Symposium May 27, 2025





LEADERSHIP







WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES ASSOCIATED WITH LEADING IN A HIGH-IMPACT RESEARCH-INTENSIVE LIKE D2R?





ABOUT D2R

Project: D2R | DNA to RNA : An Inclusive

Canadian Approach to Genomic-

based RNA Therapeutics

Funding: \$165 million from the Canada

First Research Excellence Fund



Period: 2023-2030







VISION

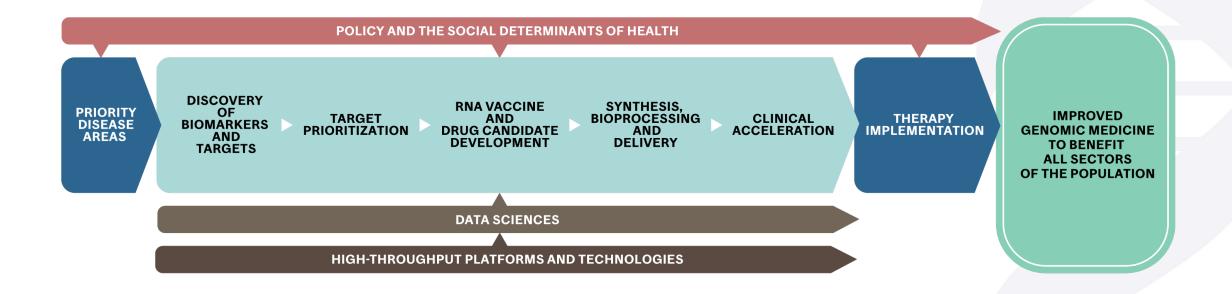
To deliver genomic-based RNA therapies to benefit the health of different populations affected by infectious, rare and neglected diseases, or those who have common chronic diseases such as cancer.







INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FRAMEWORK







PARTNERS

Private Sector

















CHEMGENES

Flagship Pioneering

Agilent

AMORCHEM





Håber Biologics

moderna

molecular forecaster

NAN VATION therapeutics

NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT



Intelia











Academic Institutions

























Public Sector





Public Health Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé publique du Canada





National Research Council Canada

Conseil national de recherches Canada

















Attractivity of the academic-industry interface

Strong clinical research and knowledge translation partnership

Globalization of the effort



Canadian

CHALLENGES

- Coordinating Interdisciplinary Collaboration balancing scientific freedom with strategic direction
- 2. Managing a large multi-stakeholder Initiative variety of partners
- 3. Driving innovation while maintaining scientific rigor
- 4. Building inclusive practices
- 5. Accelerating translation and commercialization Translating research into real-world impact.
- 6. Sustaining long-term momentum





OPPORTUNITIES

- 1. Advancing Scientific Knowledge and supporting Breakthrough Innovation
- 2. Mentorship, Talent Development and Retention attracting top-tier talent.
- 3. Building an integrated and collaborative network (strong partnerships)
- 4. Global recognition: Elevate the institution's and the leader's reputation on a global scale.





KEY QUALITIES

- 1. Scientific Credibility
- 2. Strategic Vision
- 3. Inclusive and Ethical
- 4. Collaborative
- 5. Communication and Influence
- 6. Oriented towards Innovation
- 7. Resilience and Adaptability





CONCLUSION

- Effective Research Leadership is crucial to advancing scientific and academic goals
- Unique challenges exist in research environments but if handled correctly can lead to innovative and impactful outcomes.
- Vision, Strategic Planning, Adaptability and Collaboration are all important factors for success





THANK YOU



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