

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release

A cooperation agreement between Cluster Industrial Biotechnology and Trois-Rivières

Düsseldorf, July 8th, 2021– Innovation et Développement économique (IDE) Trois-Rivières and Cluster Industrial Biotechnology (CLIB) are proud to confirm the signing of a cooperation agreement on June 29th, 2021, in Düsseldorf, Germany, at the final hybrid event of the CLIB International Conference.

As a representative of the organisation IDE Trois-Rivières, the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières professor Patrice Mangin signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which was endorsed on the CLIB side by the Vice Chairman of the Board Roland Breves. This MoU documents describe the future cooperation between the two organisations to promote the bioeconomy in Germany and Canada and to initiate cooperation projects between the two countries. For this purpose, a virtual CLIB office was opened in Trois-Rivières. Roland Breves underlined: "IDE Trois-Rivières and CLIB share the same vision of the bioeconomy and see great synergies and complementary expertise in both countries. We want to use these to initiate joint projects and initiatives to realise our vision."

Professor Andreas Pinkwart, Minister for Economic Affairs, Innovation, Digitalisation and Energy of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia welcomed this German-Canadian cooperation and emphasised in his presentation the high relevance of process scaling for overcoming the valley of death in the successful market entry of new technologies.

The object of the agreement concerns the initiation and stimulation of German/Canadian cooperation in developing and implementing the bioeconomy. Specifically, companies, research institutes and public administration in both nations should be encouraged to learn about their specific capacities, identify mutual work areas, develop partnering projects and support mutual funding.

Innovation et Développement économique Trois-Rivières (IDE Trois-Rivières) and CLIB share the vision of an advanced bioeconomy as it is documented in the Canadian and the German bioeconomy strategies. Both strategies aim on supplying food, feed, fibres, chemicals (bulk, fine, special chemicals), and energy (fuel, power, heat) based on biological materials and in a sustainable way.

The first milestone of the MoU will take place in September 2021 with the formation of a group gathering IDE Trois-Rivières and CLIB representatives, industrial companies, industry associations, federal/provincial ministries and research institutes, from both Canada and Germany.

About CLIB – Cluster Industrial Biotechnology is an international open innovation cluster for bioeconomy with a focus on industrial biotechnology. The approximately 100 cluster members are large (multinational) companies, SMEs, universities, academic institutes as well as other stakeholders active in the bioeconomy. Founded in 2007, CLIB has >10 years of experience in connecting stakeholders along and across value chains; in helping to set up project consortia, in developing tech transfer strategies, in providing policy advice and in promoting industrial biotechnology as a key driver for a sustainable bio- and circular economy.

About IDE Trois-Rivières – Innovation et développement économique (IDE) Trois-Rivières is the economic arm of the City of Trois-Rivières. Its team is dedicated to supporting entrepreneurs, managing industrial parks and the Parc Micro Sciences, developing the tourism industry and managing the airport.

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