



CANADA'S MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES
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News Release

For Immediate Release

Ontario Moving in the Right Direction on Economic Development Strategies by focusing on the Medical Technology Sector

MEDEC applauds the Ontario Government for plans to establish the Ontario Health Innovation Council (OHIC)

Toronto (November 7, 2013) – Announced today in its Fall Economic Statement, the Ontario Government says that it will be “Fostering health care advancements and their commercialization by establishing the Ontario Health Innovation Council.”

Medical technologies play a critical role in increasing patient care quality, while at the same time lowering the total cost of health care for each patient. The medical technology industry is also a rapidly growing sector that creates high quality jobs for Ontarians.

“The Ontario Government clearly understands the potential growth of this sector in our Province, and its ability to enable our health care system to define and capture the incredible clinical and economic value that technology can provide throughout each patient’s journey – while creating jobs and growing the economy,” said Brian Lewis, President and CEO of MEDEC, the national association representing Canada’s medical technology companies.

Lewis further noted, “The medical technology industry is a win-win industry for Ontarians. The Ontario Government has sent a strong signal through the creation of OHIC that we have an incredible opportunity to strategically facilitate the faster adoption of advanced medical technologies into the health care system in Ontario, and to grow this high value sector resulting in the creation of high quality jobs for Ontarians.”

From the discovery of the world’s first home-based dialysis therapy to treatments for newborns with heart defects, the medical technology industry in Canada is transforming the lives of patients, here and abroad, by developing innovative products, procedures and services that improve the quality and safety of patient care.

About the Ontario Health Innovation Council (OHIC)

Located in the 2013 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review under the title “Investing in Entrepreneurship and Innovation” in Chapter 1:

“The government is establishing the Ontario Health Innovation Council (OHIC) to bring together experts in the health care, research, business and not-for-profit sector along with patient groups to identify opportunities for practical, evidence-based strategies that will further enhance the quality of health care at a lower cost to the system while growing Ontario’s economy through the cultivation of highly skilled jobs. OHIC will pursue initiatives that would put Ontario on a path to becoming a world leader in health care advancements and create a dynamic business environment that raises Ontario’s capacity for innovation and commercialization.”

Link: <http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/budget/fallstatement/2013/chapter1a.html>

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 publically-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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