

May 08, 2015 - Halifax, N.S. - Research conducted at the Biomedical Imaging Centre (BIOTIC) has fostered diagnostic advances which have granted medical professionals remarkable insights into what's happening inside the human brain. BIOTIC is launching two projects intended to affect meaningful change in the treatment of brain disorders and disease as well as train the next generation of neurosurgeons and nurses. The Honourable Peter MacKay today announced Government of Canada support for the initiative.

BIOTIC is a leader in diagnostic imaging and the only facility of its magnitude in Atlantic Canada. The Centre provides researchers with the expertise and equipment needed to take their ideas from theory to commercial success. Government support will better equip BIOTIC for research and development activities as well as allow them to forge valuable private-sector partnerships.

Specialized video-recording equipment and lighting will be installed in the neurosurgical suite of the Nova Scotia Health Authority's QEII site, which will facilitate the launch of a simulation platform. The platform will give BIOTIC the ability to create neurosurgical teaching simulation apps. Undertaken in partnership with Conquer Mobile of Surrey, British Columbia, the apps will help train the next generation of neurosurgeons and nurses. The new equipment will also allow for the development of additional training initiatives utilizing the latest virtual reality technologies.

A new electroencephalogram (EEG) will also be acquired to support the work of incoming researchers. The EEG will allow BIOTIC to work with, and draw on, the expertise of companies working towards solutions for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other traumatic brain injuries (TBIs).

The Government of Canada is contributing \$212,500 to the initiative, through ACOA's Business Development Program (BDP). The project is also being supported by the QEII Foundation with an investment of \$50,000 and an investment of \$5,000 from Conquer Mobile.



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