

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Innovation Voucher Program to Help New Brunswick SMEs

Fredericton, May 17, 2013 - The Province announced a new funding program today aimed at promoting innovation within small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

The Innovation Voucher Fund assists SMEs by paying up to 80% of the costs to engage an eligible research provider, such as RPC, New Brunswick's provincial research organization. Projects can range from \$10,000 to \$100,000 in total value. Eligible services include applied research, prototyping, proof of concept, product testing and demonstration, product evaluation and certification, process/engineering services and scientific support.

"I am encouraged to see innovation support for SMEs. This will help to promote business-led research, an area of great potential," says Eric Cook, Executive Director of RPC. RPC works with hundreds of SMEs annually providing services in all the eligible service areas.

The program will be administered by the New Brunswick Innovation Foundation. Program details and applications can be made at www.nbif.ca. To learn about RPC's services, visit www.rpc.ca.

Smart People. Smart Ideas. Smart Move.



About RPC

RPC is New Brunswick's provincial research organization (PRO), an independent contract research and development and technical services organization located in Fredericton, NB. RPC's complement of 98 scientists, engineers and technologists are supported by a 13,000 sq. meter facility housing world-class analytical chemistry and material-testing laboratories, comprehensive life science capabilities, an internationally recognized fish health lab, extensive prototype design, manufacturing and testing services, and a wide variety of pilot facilities for the development and improvement of industrial and environmental processes and products.

RPC is accredited by various organizations including the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) and is ISO 9001:2008 certified. Further information about RPC's services is available from <http://www.rpc.ca>.

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