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Canada's Approach to COVID-19 Vaccine Development and Approval

The Canadian biotechnology industry's moment

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BIOTECanada and the Vaccine Industry Committee

- ▶ **BIOTECanada** is the national industry association with over 200 members located nation wide, reflecting the diverse nature of Canada's health, industrial and agricultural biotechnology sectors
- ▶ With unprecedented global issues including COVID, the climate crisis, food sustainability and human health needs, the biotechnology industry can play a central role in solving for the challenges while also delivering significant economic benefits, including investment and jobs.
- ▶ Canada's **Vaccine Industry Committee** (VIC) members include leading vaccine manufacturers serving the Canadian market and early stage Canadian vaccine companies

What does the Vaccine Industry Committee do?

- ▶ Vaccine industry Committee collaborating with industry and Government to develop solutions for COVID-19
- ▶ Vaccine Industry Committee Members developing advanced vaccine technologies work through the Committee to ensure :
 - a secure supply of vaccines for Canada,
 - advocates for equitable access to vaccines for all Canadians, and
 - promotes the value of immunization as one of the most cost-effective health interventions available
 - Increase uptake for recommended vaccines, and
 - Expand Canadian vaccine innovation and manufacturing capacity

<http://www.biotech.ca/policy-matters/health/canadas-vaccine-industry-committee/>

Canada's Approach to COVID-19 Vaccine Development and Approval

- ▶ A strong desire to prepare now for future health threats
- ▶ Recognition of the strategic importance of a strong Canadian life sciences sector
- ▶ Canada's biotechnology ecosystem is national and diverse including early stage companies, universities, incubators, research centres, investors and multinational pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies
- ▶ Canadian early stage companies demonstrate enormous potential. Canada has two established commercial manufacturing vaccine facilities with more soon to be operational

COVID 19 Response

- ▶ COVID-19 pandemic has put a spotlight on the importance of vaccines.
- ▶ Over the last year and a half, BIOTECanada and the Vaccine Industry Committee (VIC) has engaged with various stakeholders in the Government of Canada on COVID-19 vaccine supply, manufacturing capacity and industry support options.
- ▶ Individual companies have also engaged with Canada and Provinces / Territories on domestic COVID-19 vaccine R&D and manufacturing capacity.
- ▶ Several Canadian vaccine companies have been at the forefront at developing COVID-19 vaccines and therapies.
- ▶ VIC members will continue to work with all levels of government, the research community and public health to secure domestic vaccine manufacturing capacity, research partnerships and support for innovative medical countermeasures to better respond to future pandemic threats.

The Vaccine Industry Committee recognizes the significant steps Canada has taken to respond to the pandemic

- ▶ Advance Purchase Agreements with vaccine manufacturers
- ▶ Interim Orders allowing for expedited regulatory recommendation processes
- ▶ New investments to grow Canada's domestic biomanufacturing capacity
- ▶ Support for innovative research organization and biotech companies
- ▶ Future pandemic preparedness
- ▶ PPE and end-to-end logistics

Canada's Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy

- ▶ Biomanufacturing and Life Science Strategy announced by the Ministers of Innovation Science and Industry and Health Canada
- ▶ Recognizes Canada having a long and impressive history of achievement in health and life sciences innovation
- ▶ Canada's Five-Pillar Strategy includes enabling innovation by ensuring world class regulation to make its regulations and market access more agile and responsive to innovation, and the recommendations of the Health and Biosciences Economic Strategy Table (HBEST)

[Biomanufacturing Strategy EN WEB.pdf \(ic.gc.ca\)](#)



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