

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Launch of *Association des chercheurs(es)
professionnels(les) du Québec's* web site

Montreal, December 23rd 2005 – ACPQ is introducing its web site, found at www.acpq.ca. The site provides the founding documents and basic information on the creation of this new and unique professional association and the direction chosen to further ACPQ's mission.

ACPQ was launched in April 2003 and officially incorporated in March 2004. The *Association des chercheurs(es) professionnels(les) du Québec (ACPQ)* is a non-union, non-profit organization, representing professional researchers practicing their profession in Quebec. The creation of this association was in response to the needs expressed by participants in two widely circulated e-ballots distributed during February of 2003, and is the fulfillment of the commitment made to those participants, a distinct majority of whom called for the creation of a professional association.

ACPQ devotes its efforts to the creation, establishment, and integration of a new profession for a unique class of public servants called the *professional researcher*. **ACPQ** will ensure the recognition of the profession and will act in the protection of the socioeconomic and professional interests of its members through a series of objectives covering three main areas :

- i- **REPRESENTATION** – By bringing to all forums, knowledge of the facts and expert opinions on matters affecting the members and/or their work through active participation in all venues of discussion and interaction. This representation will be centered in areas of basic research and related fields;
- ii- **SOCIAL CONTRACT** – To give the professional researcher the resources and means required to carry out his/her social mission, primarily in public service, such as protection of public health and advancement of public education;
- iii- **PURSuing CLAIMS AND NEEDS** – To urge institutions, granting agencies and other governmental bodies to provide adequate conditions in order for professional researchers to compete on an equal footing with those whose work is used as standards for assessing productivity. To secure the future of the profession, **ACPQ** will create an interesting professional blueprint and pursue claims and needs to reduce “defections” and encourage students with talent who would otherwise, contemplate an alternative career.