



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **OCE Inc. Announces New Board of Directors**

*Ontario Centres of Excellence Inc. Positioned to Accelerate Ontario Innovation Capability*

**Toronto, ON, October 28, 2004** — Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) Inc. today announced the appointment of the members of its new Board of Directors, who are charged with guiding the company following the completion of a merger on April 1, 2004.

“We’re excited to have these leaders join the OCE Inc. Board of Directors. Each member brings tremendous commitment, talent, and experience to help guide and ensure the continued excellence of OCE Inc.,” says David McFadden, Chair, OCE Inc. Board of Directors, and partner, Gowlings. “Their combined scientific and business acumen will help us build on strengths and leverage new opportunities. This board is truly representative of the way we are shaping and positioning OCE Inc. for continued success in the future.”

### **The Board Members of OCE Inc.**

A short biography of each director follows:

**Mr. David J. McFadden**, Board Chair, is a partner in Gowling LaFleur Henderson LLP and has an active presence in the technology, innovation, energy, and infrastructure industries. He was Chair of the Advisory Committee for the Ontario Centres of Excellence in October 2000 and became Chair of the Board of Directors of OCE Inc. on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004.

**Dr. Robert Moses**, Vice-Chair of the OCE Inc. Board of Directors, is President and CEO of PCI Geomatics. Dr. Moses also participates in advisory positions to several government departments mandated with fostering the use and development of science and technology.

**Dr. Suhayya Abu-Hakima** is Senior Advisor at Entrust for Compliance and Content Analysis. Dr. Abu-Hakima is also founder, president and CEO of AmikaNow! Corporation - launched as a spin-off from the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) in 1998 where she spent 11 years focused on the application of artificial intelligence to real-world problems as diverse as aircraft engine diagnosis and intelligent messaging agents.

**Dr. Peter Annan** is President of Sensor & Software and multiVIEW Locates, a research professor at the University of Waterloo, and a research consultant for AEM developments with Fugro Airborne Surveys.

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**Mr. Mark Chamberlain** is founder and CEO of Pictorvision. He was President and CEO of Wescam until October 2003, when he retired. Chamberlain subsequently re-purchased the Film and Broadcast Services Group in April 2004, creating Pictorvision.

**Mr. Sean Conway** is a policy advisor for Gowlings, working with clients in the energy and natural resources sector. Before joining Gowlings, Conway served in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario from 1975 to 2003.

**Dr. Suzanne Fortier** is Vice-Principal (Academic) at Queen's University and a Professor in both the departments of chemistry and computing and information sciences. Her research is concerned with the development of mathematical and AI methodologies for protein structure determination and crystallographic data mining.

**Dr. Paul Guild** is Vice-President, University Research at the University of Waterloo. He is appointed as Professor in the department of management sciences, faculty of engineering and he is cross appointed as Professor in the departments of psychology and systems design engineering.

**Ms. Rebecca MacDonald** is one of the founders and current Chair and CEO of Energy Savings Income Fund. Prior to this, MacDonald was the President of EMI, another successful gas marketing company.

**Mr. J. Marvin MaGee** is President of Celestica International Inc., where he is responsible for Celestica's worldwide business development including regional sales, global customer accounts, diversified markets and marketing and sales.

**Mr. Jim Orgill** is Managing Director of BDC Venture Capital, responsible for the advanced technologies portfolio across Canada. His focus is on equity investments in early stage companies in the areas of electronics, energy, environment, new materials and advanced manufacturing processes.

**Dr. Mamdouh Shoukri** is Vice-President, Research and International Affairs at McMaster University, where he also is a Professor of Mechanical Engineering. As Vice-President, he is responsible for all research activities within the university and for the aggressive pursuit of new partnerships locally, nationally and internationally.

**Dr. Ian Smith** is Director General of the Institute for Biodiagnostics, National Research Council, Winnipeg. His specialities are early diagnosis of cancer using magnetic resonance imaging and spectroscopy, and the commercialization of technology.

**Mr. Jeffrey Steiner** is President and CEO of the City of Toronto Economic Development Corporation, which is designated as the city's redevelopment agency with authority to explore, pilot, and implement redevelopment tools for brownfields and other strategic properties.

**Dr. Ilse Treurnicht** is President and CEO of Primaxis Technology Ventures Inc. Prior to Primaxis, Treurnicht was involved in the commercialization of a variety of technologies ranging from materials to environmental products, medical devices, and consumer products.

**Dr. Kimberly Woodhouse** is a Professor in the department of chemical engineering and applied chemistry and in the institute of biomaterials and biomedical engineering at the University of Toronto. She is an expert in the design of novel materials for tissue engineering and regenerative medicine.

## **The New Structure of OCE Inc.**

OCE Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to fostering Ontario innovation and supporting the commercialization of industry and academic research collaborations in specific technologies across a range of market sectors. It was formed on April 1, 2004 when the four individual centres of excellence within the Ontario Centres of Excellence program – Communications and Information Technology Ontario (CITO), the Centre for Research in Earth and Space Technology (CRESTech), Materials and Manufacturing Ontario (MMO), and Photonics Research Ontario (PRO) – joined to become a single entity. This significant turning point in the history of the centres, enables OCE Inc. to leverage the tremendous opportunities available as a united entity and continue to build upon a long-standing, strong Ontario tradition.

In addition to a strong Board of Directors, Mr. Mark Romoff joins OCE Inc. as its new President and CEO. Mark comes to OCE Inc. from Industry Canada, where he was the Executive Director for the Ontario region, overseeing programs and initiatives designed to create a dynamic and innovative, knowledge-based economy. Prior to that he had a distinguished career in the Canadian Foreign Service promoting business, trade, and economic interests. Mark will guide OCE Inc. as it continues to build collaborations between Ontario's post-secondary academic research institutions, innovative companies and the investment community – connections that help move research from concept to commercialization.

## **About OCE Inc.**

OCE Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation supported through the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade's (MEDT) Ontario Centres of Excellence program. OCE Inc. fosters innovation and supports the commercialization of industry and academic research collaborations in specific technologies across a range of market sectors including communications and information technology, environmental sciences, photonics, and manufacturing. With more than 300 R&D initiatives with 22 post-secondary institutions in more than 20 industries across Ontario, OCE Inc. is a crucial link in Ontario's innovation cycle - providing a catalyst for ideas to evolve from the lab to the marketplace.

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For further information:

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