

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

May 21st, 2015

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN - ASTECH

I am writing to offer my enthusiastic support for [REDACTED] as a candidate for the Astech [REDACTED] Award.

I have known [REDACTED] for many years (and his father before him) and have watched and admired how [REDACTED] has steadfastly built on the pioneering achievements of his late father and created one of the most successful [REDACTED] in North America, if not the world. I am referring to [REDACTED] one of Edmonton's few unqualified homegrown successes in the [REDACTED] field. The remarkable success of [REDACTED] is, in itself, cause for celebration but today I am writing more specifically about [REDACTED], perhaps an even more compelling story.

[REDACTED] was established in 2012 as a spin-off from [REDACTED] and is dedicated to the discovery and development of novel [REDACTED] there are currently few treatment options. [REDACTED] has devoted itself to further developing certain proprietary [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] has accumulated over the years as a result of its extensive [REDACTED] activities and sub-licensed to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] pipeline includes [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. This is a very important feature in the fight against [REDACTED] and offers new hope in the fight against [REDACTED].

With the financial support of [REDACTED] and local angel investors, [REDACTED] was able to show [REDACTED] and then has successfully completed [REDACTED] demonstrating that it had favourable safety and [REDACTED] properties. This is an important and critical milestone in [REDACTED] and with additional support from long-time partner [REDACTED], allowed [REDACTED] to showcase its [REDACTED] to the world's top [REDACTED] companies. After a dramatic and exhilarating 'beauty contest', in which several of the biggest [REDACTED] companies in the world participated, the [REDACTED] team signed [REDACTED] one of the most significant partnering deals [REDACTED] and arguably the largest ever in Canada. The deal is valued in excess of [REDACTED] plus [REDACTED] payments.

This is a remarkable achievement for any company, let alone an Alberta company and, in our opinion [REDACTED] amply qualifies [REDACTED] for the [REDACTED] Award.

However, before closing I want to add a few words about [REDACTED] himself and the outstanding leadership he has provided to his companies and to our community.

[REDACTED] was born and raised in Alberta and has been involved in the [REDACTED] industry for 28 years. He is a "serial entrepreneur" and has proudly founded six companies, including [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. His leadership style is that of 'lead by example'. He presents the vision to his team and allows them to turn that vision into reality, while providing his support and guidance. This was evident during the 2008 market collapse and subsequent recession. [REDACTED] creatively managed to keep [REDACTED] in operation, while maintaining key staff (often at a financial loss), knowing that markets do turn around and when they do, those key staff will be there to see [REDACTED] through its future successes. Going against the norm epitomizes [REDACTED] approach to business. While competitors fought to control costs by reducing the number of [REDACTED] [REDACTED] held true to his game plan. During the downturn, [REDACTED] maintained a high level of [REDACTED] on projects and focused on those smaller and medium size companies that had limited funding and great pressure to produce results in a very short period of time. Many of those clients are still with [REDACTED] today. This fearless style of management has kept [REDACTED] in the forefront and has earned it the industry's respect. To this day, [REDACTED] still remains as one of a few privately owned [REDACTED] in North America that has been 100% self-financed. To some in the [REDACTED] industry, this fact alone is astounding!

The [REDACTED] family legacy began with [REDACTED] father [REDACTED] and his [REDACTED] ultimately achieving annual sales of over [REDACTED]. Today, [REDACTED] continues to extend this legacy through [REDACTED] breakthrough [REDACTED] that will be the [REDACTED] of choice [REDACTED] around the world, [REDACTED] and saving millions of [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] founded the [REDACTED] Fund to support graduate students in the Faculty of [REDACTED] who have come to Canada without adequate support to complete their [REDACTED] programs. He also co-founded the [REDACTED] Fund that supports interactions between universities in Alberta and [REDACTED]. Through his holding company, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and his wife [REDACTED], are in the process of establishing [REDACTED] Foundation that will fund a variety of charities and worthy causes focused on children in need. [REDACTED] currently serves on the Board of Directors of [REDACTED] and also on the Board of [REDACTED] a small [REDACTED] start-up company based in Boston.

In conclusion, I re-iterate my warm and enthusiastic support for [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for the Astech [REDACTED] Award. I have been a regular participant in Astech events almost since its inception and I have no hesitation in saying that I have seldom, if ever, seen a more worthy recipient.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Dr. [REDACTED]
Executive Chairman, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]