

June 17, 2013

NRC construction researcher receives grant funding from Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions

Building code certification is next step for structural insulated panels

MONTREAL...Dr. Jon Makar from the Ottawa-based National Research Council and his research team have been awarded \$180,000 in grant funding from the Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions' Bioindustrial Research and Innovation program for research on a new green building product.

In this three-year applied research project, Dr. Makar's team will assess the long-term performance of oriented-strand-board structural insulated panels (SIPs) and then develop a technical guide for the Canadian Construction Materials Centre (CCMC). SIPs are a factory-produced green building material for walls and roofs in housing. Major advantages of the technology for the developer and contractor compared to traditional housing include significantly reduced construction times, reduced on-site construction waste and a reduced need for skilled labour. For the homeowner, the increased air tightness and higher insulation of a well-constructed SIP-built-house means that it will annually consume less than half the energy of a traditionally built house. CCMC requires a technical guide before it can evaluate SIPs for compliance with the National Building Code of Canada. With a total project cost of more than \$2 million, many industrial partners from across Canada have provided support to Dr. Makar's project, including several Quebec companies.

Reporters are invited to interview Dr. Makar in Montreal and see SIP samples at the complimentary reception "MEET ALBERTA OPPORTUNITIES" hosted by Bioeconomy Alberta as a side event to the 2013 BIO World Congress on Industrial Biotechnology (held June 17 to 19, 2013 in Montreal).

Date: Tuesday June 18, 2013
Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Location: Scena, Jacques Cartier Quay, 2 de la Commune East Street
In front of Place Jacques – Cartier, Montreal, QC

Reporters are invited to stay for the full reception and enjoy an evening of good food and networking. Several of Dr. Makar's French-speaking colleagues will be at the reception.

Dr. Makar's project is one of six bioindustrial projects to be announced on June 18, 2013 that will receive funding under the Alberta Innovates Bio Solutions' Bioindustrial Research and Innovation program. The news release and backgrounder about the projects will be posted to www.bio.albertainnovates.ca/funding/bri2012 at 9:30 a.m. EDT June 18, 2013.

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Please contact Marie Cusack to arrange an interview with Dr. Makar and also to register for the reception:

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