



Media release

The Hon Gordon Rich-Phillips MLC

Assistant Treasurer

Minister for Technology

Minister for the Aviation Industry

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Victorian Coalition Government funds new statewide biomedical research group

- **Victorian Coalition Government provides \$167,000 funding for Bio21 Cluster to transition to new, statewide biomedical research organisation**
- **New organisation, Biomedical Research Victoria, will include Monash University, major medical research institutes in Clayton Precinct and other universities and research-active hospitals across Victoria**
- **Coalition Government building a stronger medical research sector**

The Victorian Coalition Government has provided \$167,000 in funding for the Parkville-based Bio21 Cluster to transition to a new, statewide biomedical research organisation that will embrace the wider biomedical research community and promote innovation.

Minister for Technology Gordon Rich-Phillips said the Bio21 Cluster had successfully brought together the biomedical and health sciences research community within the Parkville Precinct.

“The new organisation, Biomedical Research Victoria, will include Monash University, the major medical research institutes in the Clayton Precinct and other universities and research-active hospitals across Victoria,” Mr Rich-Phillips said.

“Biomedical Research Victoria will create a Victorian biomedical research approach that is international in focus, more collaborative and efficient.

“Such a statewide biomedical research cluster will improve linkages within Victoria’s world class R&D base. It will also provide an excellent opportunity to further capitalise on Victoria’s competitive advantage in biomedical research, further lifting the state’s reputation as the leading global research hub.”

Mr Rich-Phillips said that Victoria enjoys a strong reputation as a global centre for excellence in life sciences education and innovation.

“The Victorian Government is committed to a thriving life sciences industry and that is why, since 2000, the state has invested over \$1.8 billion in driving the development of Victoria as a world-leading centre for life sciences,” Mr Rich-Phillips said.

“Medical research drives a life sciences industry in Victoria, which employs an estimated 10,000 people and recently generated annual sales in excess of \$8 billion.”

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Professor Ian Gust, Chair of Bio21 Cluster and Chair of the Minister's Victorian Biotechnology Advisory Council, said that the new funding will provide opportunities for global collaboration.

"The move of Bio21 Cluster to the new, statewide organisation will be important for the linking capabilities it will provide, particularly to international organisations and industry," Professor Gust said.

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