



## AREV BRANDS INTERNATIONAL LTD PRESS RELEASE

### AREV INTERNATIONAL BRANDS LTD. ANNOUNCES CANADA'S FIRST CANNABIS COMPANY TO HAVE GENOMICALLY-VERIFIED CERTIFICATION

**Vancouver, British Columbia, May 8, 2019** – AREV Brands International Ltd. ("AREV" or the "Buyer") (CSE - AREV), is pleased to announce BC Bud Depot becomes Canada's first cannabis company to receive genomically-verified certification for the identity of genetic assets, based on whole genome analysis provided by Lighthouse Genomics Inc. ("Lighthouse"), which has the industry's most scientifically rigorous and authoritative identity certification process.

Lighthouse has issued certification documents to BC Bud Depot for the master plants of ten genomic varieties, or Genovars™, which are unique clone lines associated with the individual plant tested in the certification process. The BC Bud Depot Genovars™ are elite lineages selected for traits desirable in master breeding stock used for producing seeds and new cannabis varieties.

The certificate of genomic identity provides the documentary basis for sales and licensing of genetic assets. Plants from downstream generations can be rapidly tested by genotyping to prove or disprove their identity as a match to the certified Genovar™. Each certificate is digitally notarized with a link to a time-stamped record of the certificate's digital fingerprint.

Matthew Harvey, Founder and Lead Breeder at BC Bud Depot, stated "This certification is a long-awaited game-changer for us as a company and for the industry as a whole. It allows BC Bud Depot to demonstrate the uniqueness and authenticity of our strains in precise and scientific terms. In the emerging global trade in cannabis Genovars™, there is an advantage for participants to be able to have support, trust, and transparency in all transactions. Standard practice of using a strain name and chemical profile is not enough to establish identity compared to the absolute certainty of basing identity on the genetic code. These first ten certifications from Lighthouse are evidence of valuable genetic IP that we created and control."

Mr. Harvey went on to say, "Each Lighthouse certificate includes a visual rendering of the certified cannabis genome, comprised of 900 bars in a radial pattern. Each bar represents a variable base pair of nucleotides in the DNA sequence, the colour indicating whether the pair is the same, entirely different, or one part different from the Purple Kush reference genome."

"Each plant we test yields a unique visual signature, which allows us to distinguish key data at a glance, for example, whether two tested plants belong to the same clone line," stated Harvey. "This is important in an age when genetic assets are subject to agreements between companies. Now we can verify exact genetic identity at a glance."

Mike Withrow, CEO of AREV states "this initiative by BC Bud Depot to catalogue its genetic assets at a genomic level will inform the breeding of optimized new strains and will position AREV to lead in the global marketplace for cannabis genetics. AREV is proud to participate in scientific initiatives to propel the advancement of science. The cannabis genome is incredibly rich data with approximately 800 million base pairs per plant — and we're going the extra mile to extrapolate maximum information by exploring that genetic frontier. With an expansive seed catalogue ranging from award-winners to rare landraces, AREV and BC Bud Depot are in a position to amass one of the most valuable and diverse databases of genetic information among companies in the industry today. This provides AREV through BC Bud Depot with the ability to breed a target composition for medicine and the recreational experience and to deliver a consistent product"



**For further information, contact**

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On behalf of the Board,

Mike Withrow  
CEO & Director

**About AREV Brands International Ltd.**

AREV Brands International Ltd. ("AREV") produces and delivers functional compounds and ingredients from its innovative extraction systems. AREV is revolutionizing the current delivery method of terpenes, cannabinoids and flavonoids. These premium ingredients and formulations are used in products targeted for sale in the natural health, medical, functional food, nutraceutical, sport nutrition and biocetical markets. AREV innovates through extraction to produce extracts from specific selected plant and exude from trees that address 5 areas of health including Anxiety, Pain Management, Insomnia, Central Nervous System Disorders & Libido.

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