



AREV BRANDS INTERNATIONAL LTD PRESS RELEASE

AREV INTERNATIONAL BRANDS LTD. BECOMES WORLD'S FIRST CANNABIS COMPANY TO UTILIZE NEW GENOTYPING TECHNOLOGY

Vancouver, British Columbia, May 22, 2019 – AREV Brands International Ltd. ("AREV" or the "Company") (CSE - AREV), is pleased to announce that it has contributed DNA samples from select BC Bud Depot genovars™ to the inaugural batch run on the world's first BeadArray genotype chip to be designed specifically for the cannabis genome. The Illumina Infinium HTS microarray, designed and wholly owned by Lighthouse Genomics Inc., allows up to 96 samples to be economically tested in a single batch run. Through its holding BC Bud Depot, AREV has entered into a Letter of Intent to undertake genetic quality screening of all BC Bud Depot strains and genovars™. This advancement in genomics technology provides BC Bud Depot access to what is now the world's most efficient and cost-effective method of gathering quality, targeted data from the cannabis genome.

Under the terms of the LOI, BC Bud Depot will receive preferential pricing on Lighthouse sequencing, genotyping and consulting services for a period of one year, subject to renewal upon mutual agreement of both parties. During this period, BC Bud Depot will test and provide consultation on new services or technologies offered by Lighthouse Genomics. Initial services are to focus on mapping genetic diversity of the BC Bud Depot catalogue, creating genetic profiles of unique individuals and co-developing data-handling protocols for BC Bud Depot's genetic screening and cannabis breeding program.

"The Lighthouse cannabis array provides us an efficient tool for screening a vast number of plants for their genetic value," stated Matthew Harvey, Founder and Lead Breeder at BC Bud Depot. "We have been anticipating the completed manufacture of this custom cannabis array, as it is specific to our needs of producing genetic intelligence for our breeding programs. It draws our focus to those unique plant genomes holding especially high potential for enhancing the genetic quality and diversity of our cannabis gene pool."

The Lighthouse array provides 40,000 data points per sample relating to high-interest single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs), and can be used to determine which samples warrant deeper analysis through the whole genome sequencing program that BC Bud Depot has already initiated, as previously reported. Whole genome sequencing provides accurate data covering approximately 800 Million base pairs of DNA, the entire cannabis genome. With this data, AREV can overlay mass spectrometry data from crops to investigate linkages between plant metabolite profiles and genes associated with the production of specific cannabinoids and terpenes. From there, BC Bud Depot can stabilize a gene by a non-GMO method referred to as haploid breeding.

According to Dr. Gina Conte, Chief Scientific Officer of Lighthouse Genomics, the 40,000 SNPs targeted by the array were selected to include SNPs "annotated to be involved in cannabinoid, terpene or secondary metabolite biosynthesis, as well as genes involved in flower production." In addition, she notes, the array targets genes "well-distributed across the genome" with a high degree of "PC loading," or SNP variability, to enable "reliably distinguishing a practically infinite number of varieties."

Mike Withrow, CEO of AREV Brands, stated "This new technology empowers AREV and BC Bud Depot to investigate the state of cannabinoid and terpene synthase genes, including the likelihood that plants will breed true for genes that regulate the production of compounds used in extractions and oils. Using the most advanced cannabis genotype array known



to exist worldwide helps AREV and BC Bud Depot to continue our mandate of leading as pioneers in the development of novel genomes tailored to precise medical needs and consumer experiences.”

Timothy Harvey, CEO of Lighthouse Genomics, stated “This inaugural batch run is an historic moment for Lighthouse. We are extremely pleased that BC Bud Depot has chosen to join us in this venture. The collaboration enables us to customize our bioinformatics software to render genomic data to suit their specific industry needs. That BC Bud Depot is able to use these tools for a competitive advantage is a testament to the diligence and prowess of their breeding programs.”

For further information, contact:

Mike Withrow, CEO
E: mike@AREVBrands.com
C: 778-379-8551.

Donald Shaxon, President
E: don@arevbrands.com
C: 289•697•8625

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 bioceutical 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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