

Statement Regarding Industry Partnerships

The central operations of the Michael G. DeGroote Centre for Medicinal Cannabis Research are financially supported by a generous unrestricted philanthropic gift by Mr. Michael G. DeGroote. Industry funding was neither solicited, nor will be accepted to support the Centre's central operations to ensure objectivity is always a superordinate priority. However, the Centre does not proscribe its affiliated faculty from research collaborations with commercial partners, and is fully supportive of appropriate and mutually beneficial public-private partnerships or commercialization activities. In these instances, the expectations are that the faculty member will act in accordance with all McMaster University policies and guidelines pertaining to relationships with commercial entities, commercialization, and conflicts of interest. Furthermore, the Centre has internal guidelines for identifying the most appropriate commercial partners and has specific expectations of industry partnerships to maximize objectivity, rigor, and transparency. Finally, to ensure transparency internally, the Centre requires all faculty affiliates to report potential financial conflicts of interest on an annual basis.