

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Quebec Universities Post Solid Gains in Research Income, Outpace National Trend

Quebec Universities record 6.1% increase in research income compared with 2.2% National Increase
McGill University and Université du Québec à Rimouski named Research Universities of the Year

Toronto, ON (October 17, 2012). According to *Canada's Top 50 Research Universities List 2012*, released today, total research income for Quebec's 13 universities rose by 6.1% in Fiscal 2011, well ahead of the 2.2% average national gain. Total income of the Quebec institutions on Research Infosource's list grew \$1.79 billion from \$1.68 billion in Fiscal 2010. The outstanding result meant that Quebec universities' share of the Top 50 income total rose to 27% from 26% the year before. Income expanded at 10 Quebec institutions and fell at 3 others. *Canada's Top 50 Research Universities List 2011* is available on the Research Infosource website, researchinfosource.com.

Income gains were strongest at Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (+111.1%), Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue (+43.9%) and Université de Sherbrooke (+30.0%). Income also rose at McGill University (+11.3%) and was flat at Université de Montréal (+0.3%). U. de M. lost one place in the national ranking, falling to 4th place overall from 3rd last year.

Research Infosource, Canada's Source of Research and Development Intelligence, is proud to name McGill University as the 2nd-ranked Research University of the Year in the Medical/Doctoral category based on its performance on a balanced scorecard of research inputs and outputs and impacts. Similar kudos go to Université du Québec à Rimouski for 3rd place overall in the Undergraduate category.

"Fiscal 2011 was a tough year overall for Canadian universities, which managed only a 2.2% total increase in research income", said Ron Freedman, CEO of Research Infosource. "But Quebec institutions really picked up the pace with a 6.1% increase in funding. Funding gains were especially strong at smaller Quebec universities."

Three Quebec universities – McGill, Laval and Sherbrooke – gained entry to Research Infosource's \$100 Million Club, an elite group with over \$100 million of research income each.

Regional Picture

Examining provincial performance, university research income rose in 7 provinces and declined in 3. Gains were strongest in Saskatchewan where 2 universities posted a total increase of 8.0% in research income. UPEI boosted Prince Edward Island's total by 7.0%, while 13 Quebec institutions posted a combined gain of 6.1% and 4 British Columbia universities upped provincial research income by 5.8%. Provincial research income totals fell over the period in New Brunswick (-10.4%), Newfoundland (-5.8%) and Ontario (-2.0%). Research income growth in Manitoba (1.8%) also lagged the national increase of 2.2%. Ontario universities' 18 institutions captured 38% of the national total, down from 39% in Fiscal 2010. Quebec's 13 institutions increased their share to 27% of the total from 26% in Fiscal 2010. Over the period share was steady in Alberta (13% of the total) and increased 1% in British Columbia (12% of the total).

"The Fiscal 2011 national result signals retrenchment of research funding at our top universities. Gone are the heady days of double-digit increases in funding", said Mr. Freedman. "By way of comparison, from 2001-2011 annual increases were running from 3-17%. This year's growth is the poorest since Research Infosource began tracking in 2000. With most research income coming from government sources – typically two-thirds or more - and with governments at all levels cutting back, it is not surprising to see total research support slipping" added Freedman. "It's not yet time to ring the alarm

bells, because strong investments over the past decade have produced a robust research system. And, because other jurisdictions are experiencing the same pain, our competitive position will remain static".

About Research Infosource Inc.

Research Infosource Inc., a division of The Impact Group, is Canada's source of R&D intelligence. Drawing from proprietary databases, Research Infosource Inc. publishes **Canada's Innovation Leaders**, which includes *Canada's Top 100 Corporate R&D Spenders List*, *Canada's Top 50 Research Universities List* and *Canada's Top 40 Research Hospitals List*. As well, Research Infosource publishes specialized reports and is the producer of *The Innovation Atlas of Canada*TM – a web-based research and innovation mapping and data information product. Data were obtained through Statistics Canada and the Research Infosource Canadian University R&D database. For the complete list visit www.researchinfosource.com.

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