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Planning and Growth Management Committee:

Life Sciences Ontario is the fully member-funded, not-for-profit industry association that represents the life sciences industry in the province. Sanofi has been a long-time member and supporter of LSO, dating back to when we began as the local grassroots organization known as the Toronto Biotechnology Initiative. As an anchor company to the sector in Ontario, it is with much enthusiasm that I offer my full support of Sanofi in their request to expand their Connaught Campus.

Since its founding in 1917, the Connaught Laboratory Campus has made major contributions to the development and production of life saving medicines for diseases such as diabetes, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio and smallpox. They produced medicines for allied soldiers in both World Wars and they continue to develop and produce vaccines that save the lives of millions of men, women and children around the globe.

These contributions were the result of Canadian scientists and innovations, in collaboration with international partners, which produced medicines that have impacted hundreds of millions of lives globally for nearly a century.

It's these contributions that have helped shape how Canadians are viewed internationally. We are a highly respected member of a global community and viewed as country with a strong social conscience. It's this desire to help our fellow man that in part defines us as Canadians and differentiates us on an international stage.

Today, Connaught Laboratories is asking this committee to allow it to continue to grow, create more jobs within this community and thus enable the further development and production of medicines that will save the lives of even more men, women and children throughout the world. I ask you, when you deliberate your decision, to think beyond your role as a city of Toronto official; but rather think with the same social conscience that unites us, and defines us, as Canadians.

Sincerely,

Jason Field, PhD

Executive Director

Life Sciences Ontario

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