

Merck Canada's Executive Director, Legal and Compliance & Chief Privacy Officer, Chantal Desbiens, honoured at the Canadian General Counsel Awards with Litigation Management award

KIRKLAND, QC, June 13, 2023 – Merck (NYSE: MRK), known as MSD outside the United States is proud to announce that Chantal Desbiens, Executive Director, Legal and Compliance & Chief Privacy Officer at Merck Canada, has received the prestigious Litigation Management Award at the annual Canadian General Counsel Awards. This recognition was bestowed upon Ms. Desbiens for her exceptional leadership and outstanding contributions in the field of litigation management.

Welcoming senior members of the Canadian private bar and the leading in-house counsels in the country every year, the Canadian General Counsel Awards ceremony recognizes the achievements of Canada's in-house legal community. The Litigation Management Award received by Chantal celebrates those who distinguished themselves by their effective legal strategy, proactive external advisors' management and positively impactful decision-making skills.

"I am truly humbled by, and thankful for, this remarkable accolade from my esteemed peers. This award is very meaningful to me, because it recognizes the hard work and perseverance of an entire team of consummate professionals dedicated to helping patients," shared **Chantal Desbiens**, Executive Director, Legal and Compliance & Chief Privacy Officer at Merck Canada and recipient of the 2023 Litigation Management award.

"Chantal's well-deserved award is a testament to her amazing leadership and genuine care for others. She inspires us all," added **Marwan Akar**, President and Managing Director of Merck Canada

About Merck

At Merck, known as MSD outside of the United States and Canada, we are unified around our purpose: We use the power of leading-edge science to save and improve lives around the world. For more than 130 years, we have brought hope to humanity through the development of important medicines and vaccines. We aspire to be the premier research-intensive biopharmaceutical company in the world – and today, we are at the forefront of research to deliver innovative health solutions that advance the prevention and treatment of diseases in people and animals. We foster a diverse and inclusive global workforce and operate responsibly every day to enable a safe, sustainable, and healthy future for all people and communities.

In Canada, Merck markets a broad range of vaccines, pharmaceutical and animal health products and is one of the top R&D investors in Canada, with investments totalling \$93.58 million in 2020 and more than \$1.3 billion since 2000. Based in Kirkland, Quebec, Merck employs approximately 592 people across the country. For more information about our operations in Canada, visit www.merck.ca and connect with us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#) @MerckCanada.