



For Immediate Release

Vineland Research and Innovation Centre appoints new Director, Commercialization

VINELAND STATION, Ontario, April 1, 2025 – Dr. Ian Potter, President and CEO at Vineland Research and Innovation Centre (Vineland) is pleased to announce Mike Pautler, PhD as the new Director, Commercialization. In this role, he will lead Vineland’s refreshed vision and enhanced resourcing for the commercialization portfolio. Vineland’s commercialization portfolio covers a diverse range of innovations ranging from tree fruit to vegetable seeds to robotic harvesters.

Pautler joined Vineland in 2013 as Research Scientist in Applied Genomics, leading a program in horticultural trait development. His team was engaged in next-generation DNA sequencing, marker development and plant phenotyping in a wide range of crop species. Pautler led the creation and rapid growth of Platform Genetics, a spin off company of Vineland. In this role, he was responsible for scientific operations as well as international business development for the corporation.



Previous to Vineland, Pautler completed his PhD from the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York. He has authored scientific papers in high-profile journals such as Plant Cell and Genome Research and patented a gene that controls yield in corn.

“It is my sincere pleasure to announce Pautler’s appointment to Director, Commercialization,” says Dr. Potter. “Mike’s experience in strategic business planning and client relationship management will enhance Vineland’s commercialization efforts, allowing us to realize the full potential and benefits of the program.”

About Vineland Research and Innovation Centre

Vineland Research and Innovation Centre is a uniquely Canadian results-oriented organization dedicated to horticulture science and innovation. We deliver innovative products, solutions and services through an integrated and collaborative cross-country network to advance Canada’s research and commercialization agenda.

Vineland is situated on treaty lands. These lands are steeped in the rich history of the First Nations including the Hatiwendaronk, the Haudenosaunee, the Anishinaabe and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Many First Nations, Métis and Inuit people from across Turtle Island live and work in Niagara today. Vineland stands with all Indigenous

people, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.

We are an independent, not-for-profit organization, funded in part by the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. For the latest on our research and innovation visit www.vinelandresearch.com.

For more information, please contact:

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