



# ANNOUNCEMENT

Friday, November 19, 2021

## Portland Holdings Appoints Chief Scientific Officer, Life Sciences



**BURLINGTON, ONTARIO** – Portland Holdings group of companies (“Portland”), a Canadian privately held investment firm, is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Hubert Walinski as Chief Scientific Officer, Life Sciences. Dr. Walinski is tasked with advising Portland’s portfolio of healthcare companies on scientific strategies and therapeutic and technological innovations. Dr. Walinski joins Portland after five years at AstraZeneca as the Head of Medical in Canada.

“I am thrilled to have Dr. Walinski join our dedicated life sciences leadership team. Increased longevity presents complex issues including a potential crisis as society struggles to deal with shifting demographics and a greater prevalence of chronic diseases. There is global demand for enhanced healthcare through the development of novel therapies that reduce the burden of disease and address unmet patient needs. Dr. Walinski’s vast experience and credentials are instrumental to Portland’s presence in the health sciences ecosystem” said Michael Lee-Chin, Chairman of Portland.

Dr. Walinski brings to Portland over a decade of leadership experience across both the pharmaceutical and biotech sectors. Dr. Walinski has held diverse medical and scientific roles, including Regional Medical Director of Europe and Canada, ensuring the continued success of AstraZeneca’s growing Respiratory and Immunology portfolio, as well as the expansion into vaccines. During the course of his career, he has played a significant role in driving the medical strategies instrumental in regulatory approval, launch and commercialization of numerous medicines, positively impacting patients’ quality of life. Most recently Dr. Walinski was instrumental in the approval and rollout of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine in Canada in efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

“I am delighted to join Portland and guide the strategic investment decisions in the growing life science division” said Dr. Walinski. “The ingenuity of the life sciences and biotech sector has never been more important in the advancement of health care and economic growth than it is today. The rise in novel therapeutic and technological innovations continues to grow at a rapid pace providing significant

opportunities to identify valuable partnerships and could help the aging population live longer, more fulfilling lives” added Dr. Walinski.

Dr. Walinski graduated with an Honours Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Biochemistry from McMaster University and obtained his Ph.D. from the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at the University of British Columbia.

“The principle of “Doing Well, by Doing Good” is the core of our business so the prospect of investing in companies that are working towards providing patients with improved outcomes and enhanced quality of life excites me.” added Michael Lee-Chin.

## **ABOUT THE PORTLAND GROUP**

With investor roots dating back to 1987, Portland Holdings is a privately held investment company headquartered in Canada, that manages public equity, private equity and has a direct ownership interest in a collection of diversified businesses operating across multiple sectors including financial services, insurance, media, tourism, agriculture, real estate development, targeted radionuclide therapy, and more.

[www.portlandholdings.com](http://www.portlandholdings.com)

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