



350-4243 Glanford Ave.
Victoria, BC V8Z 4B9
Tel: 250-744-2811
Fax: 250-744-3331

STRESSGEN STRENGTHENS BOARD WITH CANADIAN MDS EXECUTIVE IAN LENNOX

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2002

San Diego, California USA - Stressgen Biotechnologies Corporation (TSX:SSB) announced today that Mr. R. Ian Lennox has been appointed to the Board of Directors. Mr. Lennox has 24 years of experience with large pharmaceutical and service companies and has led successful development, sales, marketing and manufacturing initiatives for a variety of companies within the global pharmaceutical industry. Currently, Mr. Lennox is President and CEO of the Drug Discovery & Development Sector of MDS Inc., a position he has held since April 2000. In 1999, Mr. Lennox was President & CEO of Phoenix International Life Sciences. Prior to Phoenix, he served for two years as President & CEO of Drug Royalty Corporation Inc. Mr. Lennox also held positions with Monsanto Company from 1978 to 1997, including President & CEO of Monsanto Company (Canada) Inc. for six years.

“We are confident that Mr. Lennox’s experience with all aspects of the global pharmaceutical industry will contribute to the future growth of Stressgen,” said William A. Cochrane, M.D., Chairman of the Board of Directors of Stressgen. “His experience will be important as Stressgen continues to strengthen its heat shock protein fusion technology platform and explore complementary technologies and products.”

“We are delighted to have Ian Lennox join our Board,” said Daniel L. Kopolinski, President and Chief Executive Officer of Stressgen. “His global experience in the pharmaceutical, health and life science industries will be especially valuable to us as we move forward with our partnering and commercialization efforts for HspE7.”

Mr. Lennox currently serves on the Board of Directors of MDS Proteomics, Hemosol Inc., and KBSH Capital Management Inc. He received his MBA from the Columbia School of Business and his Masters of Business and HSBC. in Physiology & Pharmacology from the University of Western Ontario.

About Stressgen Biotechnologies

Stressgen is a public biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development and commercialization of innovative stress protein-based immunotherapeutics. The Company is developing a broad range of products for the treatment of viral infections and related cancers. In addition to developing HspE7 for diseases caused by human papillomavirus (“HPV”), the Company has a program to evaluate stress protein fusions in hepatitis B and has initiated research studies to evaluate its heat shock protein technology in the treatment of herpes simplex and HIV. Stressgen is also an internationally recognized supplier of research products used by scientists worldwide for the study of cellular stress, apoptosis, oxidative stress and neurobiology.

HspE7 is a novel immunotherapeutic for the treatment of diseases caused by HPV, one of the most common sexually transmitted diseases, estimated to infect up to 50 percent of the sexually active population. There are 5.5 million new cases of genital HPV infection diagnosed per year in the U.S. alone, including over 1 million cases of genital warts. In addition to genital warts, genital HPV infection can cause cervical cancer and a variety of precancerous conditions, including anal and cervical dysplasia.

This news release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, including statements regarding corporate partnering and commercializing therapeutics. Factors that may cause the ultimate results to differ materially from those implied by such forward-looking statements include our needs for additional financing and regulatory approvals in order to develop and commercialize our products. These and other risks are more fully discussed in our filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and Canadian securities regulatory authorities.

-30-

Contacts:

Donna Slade
Director, Investor Relations
10241 Wateridge Circle, Ste. C200
San Diego, CA USA 92121
Tel: 858/202-4900
Dir: 848/202-4945
Fax: 858/450-6849
dslade@stressgen.com

Jennifer Matterson
Communications Coordinator
350-4243 Glanford Avenue
Victoria, BC CANADA V8Z 4B9
Tel: 250/744-2811
Fax: 250/744-3331
jmatterson@stressgen.com

###