

Friday, April 13, 2018

Mayor Don Darling and Common Council
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Mayor Darling and Members of Common Council

It is my pleasure to support the City of Saint John's application for the Government of Canada's Smart Cities Challenge.

I have been impressed with the level of community engagement conducted to develop the Challenge Statement and the application. I am particularly heartened that the community chose Population Decline with a focus on Newcomer Retention as the focus of the application.

Our community recognizes how important this is for all of us who live or would like to live here. Saint John was the only city in the country to lose population in the 2016 census.

The IMPART investigator team Canada (<https://impart.team/>) was founded in 2017, with Saint John as the central hub of what is called a Living Lab for medical research and innovation. Our mission is to promote the health research enterprise of this city, provide advanced medical education (MBA, MD & PhD), support a diverse workforce of homegrown and newcomer talents in the health sector. We value being in Saint John, as the community is strongly supportive of our mission to grow the knowledge economy through medical entrepreneurship and innovation. Recently, our team won Canada's first ever-Medical Dragons Den for \$500,000 to acquire a Novel prize winning technology called a super-resolution microscope (also called a nanoscope). We have successfully recruited world-class physicians and scientists to Saint John to train the next generation of medical professionals and innovators. Our medical specialists are recognized as world class, often performing better than larger cities in patient outcomes. Companies from major cities have come to partner and do business with our deeply specialized team. This helps recruit and retain the best professionals by providing opportunity for their families and the security of knowing they have access to the very best medical care the world can offer.

We believe that a successful application could mean positive change for our population and could well serve communities across the country facing a similar situation.

Sincerely

Juliana Prestes

Community & Medical Technology Engagement
IMPART investigator team - Canada

Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick