

## **NEXTERRA ENERGY WINS 2009 LIFE SCIENCES BRITISH COLUMBIA COMPANY OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR BIOENERGY**

**Vancouver, BC – March 09, 2009** – LifeSciences British Columbia announced today that Nexterra Energy Corp., the Vancouver-based company whose gasification technology converts biomass into clean-burning “syngas” to displace fossil fuels, is the recipient of the 2009 Life Sciences British Columbia Company of the Year Award for Bioenergy.

These awards are presented annually by LifeSciences British Columbia to recognize individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the development of British Columbia’s life sciences industry across all sub-sectors, from biopharmaceuticals and medical devices to bioproducts and bioenergy – sectors which are critical to the economic future of the province and country.

“We all know what a challenging business environment the world is facing,” commented Karimah Es Sabar, President of LifeSciences British Columbia, “So it’s even more important during such times that we celebrate and continue to nurture these great accomplishments. These recipients have all proven during the course of their careers that great science and the application and commercialization of that science continue to be achieved right here in British Columbia. We extend our warmest congratulations and appreciation to each of the Award recipients.”

“Nexterra is deeply honoured to receive this prestigious award,” said Jonathan Rhone, President and CEO of Nexterra. “Nexterra is fortunate to have attracted some of the best and brightest people in the business and an A-list of industrial, institutional and financial partners. While we have already accomplished much, we believe we have really only scratched the surface of the technology’s potential to significantly reduce both energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions for our institutional and industrial customers.”

The LifeSciences 2009 awards will be presented on April 8th, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Vancouver. Other Award categories and recipients include:

Genome BC Award for Scientific Excellence:

- Dr. Ben Koop, Centre for Biomedical Research, University of Victoria
- Dr. Willie Davidson, Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, Simon Fraser University

Innovation & Achievement:

- John Babcook, AMGEN British Columbia Leadership Awards:
- Dr. Jack Saddler, Faculty of Forestry, University of British Columbia
- Dr. Julio Montaner, BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS

Medical Device Company of the Year:

- Response Biomedical Corporation

Life Sciences Companies of the Year:

- OncoGenex Pharmaceuticals
- Nexterra Energy Corporation

**About LifeSciences British Columbia** – LifeSciences British Columbia supports and represents the biopharmaceutical, medical device, bioproducts, bioenergy and greater life sciences community of British Columbia through leadership, advocacy and promotion of our world-class science and industry. Via active facilitation of partnering and investment into the life sciences sector, British Columbia is fast becoming a global life sciences leader. LifeSciences British Columbia is a not-for-profit, non-government, industry-funded association. [www.lifesciencesbc.ca](http://www.lifesciencesbc.ca).

**About Nexterra Energy Corp.** – Nexterra is a leading developer and supplier of biomass gasification solutions that generate heat and power for institutional and industrial customers. Nexterra’s gasification systems convert biomass fuels into clean burning “syngas” that can be used as a direct substitute for natural gas and other fossil fuels in the production of heat, steam or power. Nexterra’s technology has proven that customers can reduce costs and become more energy self-sufficient, while also significantly lowering greenhouse gas and other harmful air emissions. [www.nexterra.ca](http://www.nexterra.ca).

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