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CLS Signs Agreement with Australian Synchrotron

The Canadian Light Source (CLS) at the University of Saskatchewan has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Australian Synchrotron in Melbourne intended to promote collaborative opportunities between the two facilities.

The agreement, announced by Victorian State Minister for Innovation John Brumby, was signed on December 7th.

CLS Executive Director Bill Thomlinson, who visited Melbourne to attend a meeting of Australian synchrotron researchers, signed the agreement on behalf of the CLS.

"I look forward to ongoing scientific exchange between our two facilities," Thomlinson said. "The great deal of similarity between them, and ongoing scientific exchange will be good for both."

Australian and Canadian scientists have been working together on a beamline at the CLS, for materials and minerals industry applications, and plan to transfer the technology to Australia to drive the development of a similar beamline at the Australian Synchrotron, which is currently under construction in Melbourne.

Researchers at the CLS and the Australian Synchrotron will also work together on medical radiation therapy research. Medical beamlines offer exciting opportunities to improve diagnostic and treatment for diseases such as aggressive cancers, with synchrotron microbeam radiotherapy promising research results.

"The Canadian Light Source and the Australian Synchrotron MOU will advance techniques for fundamental and applied research," Brumby said. "This agreement further cements scientific cooperation between the Canadian and Australian synchrotrons, with synchrotron experts who helped build the commissioning of the Canadian Light Source now working on building the machine at the Australian Synchrotron."

The Australian MOU is the second agreement this year to be signed by the CLS with another facility. In June, Thomlinson signed an agreement with Sincrotrone ELETTRA of Trieste, Italy for the construction of its Life Science Imaging Laboratory.

Located at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, the CLS is Canada's national synchrotron facility. Synchrotron light is used to understand the structure of matter at its fundamental level and for improved medical imaging, new drugs, advanced materials, better mineral extraction techniques and enhanced environmental monitoring.

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The original news release can be [found here](#).
