

## PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Farah El-zarkout Associate Business Development Manager <u>farah.elzarkout@mediphage.ca</u>

## Mediphage Signs License Option Agreement with Multinational Pharmaceutical Company

**Toronto, ON, January 04, 2023-** Mediphage Bioceuticals (Mediphage), a preclinical-stage company developing safe and redosable non-viral gene therapies based on its proprietary ministring DNA<sup>TM</sup> (msDNA<sup>TM</sup>) technology announced today that it signed an Evaluation and Option agreement with an undisclosed multinational pharmaceutical company, a leader in the gene therapy space.

Mediphage has been working closely with the partner organization, conducting feasibility studies over the past 18 months, and evaluating msDNA<sup>TM</sup> technology for its safety and durability of expression. As Mediphage's first Option agreement, this represents validation of Mediphage's core technology as a viable approach for non-viral gene therapies. Under the agreement, Mediphage will be responsible for the design and manufacturing of the customized msDNA<sup>TM</sup> constructs, and the company will conduct the preclinical evaluation.

"We are excited to continue working with our partner on this study, developing safe and durable non-viral gene therapies. It has been a very productive relationship. The professionalism and caliber of their scientists and team is exactly what is needed to move a novel technology to the next level." said Alvaro Amorrortu, Mediphage's President and CEO.

The pharmaceutical industry is growing its interest in safe non-viral gene therapy solutions to overcome some of the limitations posed by viral-based platforms. Mediphage's msDNA<sup>TM</sup> is currently being evaluated by various large pharma and biotechnology companies in applications, including gene addition, *in vivo* and *ex vivo* gene editing, and as starting material for recombinant AAV (rAAV) production.

## **About Mediphage**

Mediphage, a Toronto-based preclinical-stage biotechnology company, is developing a next-generation non-viral gene therapy platform based on its proprietary linear, covalently closed, and double stranded ministring DNA<sup>TM</sup> (msDNA<sup>TM</sup>) technology. msDNA<sup>TM</sup> is designed to overcome critical challenges facing viral gene therapies and leverage advancements in the non-viral delivery of nucleic acids. msDNA<sup>TM</sup> is a versatile and scalable platform with applications including gene addition, *in vivo* and *ex vivo* gene editing, recombinant viral vector production, and DNA vaccines.