



KINETA

Innovation From Within™

Ken North Named Senior Vice President of Finance For Kineta Inc.

Seattle Biotech Strengthens Executive Leadership with Veteran of Finance and Banking Industry

SEATTLE, WA, February 9, 2009, – Kineta Inc. today announced Ken North has been hired to lead the strategic development of financial initiatives and at the Seattle biotechnology company. Mr. North has been named Senior Vice President of Finance effective immediately.

“We are delighted to welcome Ken to our team. His extraordinary experience in running financial institutions and deep relationships among investors in the region makes him a great asset to our growing company,” said Kineta President and Chief Executive Officer, Charles Magness.

Mr. North will lead Kineta's efforts to grow investor funds and secure financing for its platform scientific discovery project and for in-licensed drug development programs. Mr. North adds substantial management and leadership experience to Kineta's executive team and will assist in high level financial and strategic planning for the company. Further, he will ensure that investors are availed high quality and frequent updates on Kineta's scientific and business developments.

Prior to joining Kineta in 2008, Mr. North spent nearly thirty years leading, and earlier managing several financial institutions. Most recently he served as President and CEO at Seattle Savings Bank. There, Mr. North was responsible for creating the successful business and marketing plans for the bank and greatly enhancing its value by developing unique product lines. Mr. North also was instrumental in launching and licensing Seattle Savings Bank at its inception. Before that, Mr. North held key leadership positions at Metropolitan Savings Bank and was responsible for managing \$90 million in deposits.

Kineta's premiere scientific discovery program is developing a broad spectrum antiviral drug that utilizes the retinoic acid inducible gene I (RIG-I) cellular pathway. Other programs are also focused on the development of medicines that harness the power of the human immune system to fight viral and autoimmune diseases.

For more information on Kineta Inc., to schedule interviews with Mr. North, Kineta scientists or its commercial development experts, contact: Meg O'Connor moconor@kinetabio.com 206-251- 8638

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Kineta Inc. is a privately held biotechnology company based in Seattle. Our world-class scientists are pioneers, developing unique classes of drugs that harness the power of the immune system to fight disease. Kineta seeks to improve the lives of millions of people suffering from viral and autoimmune diseases. Our progressive business model focuses on careful management of capital and a strong return for investors. For more information on Kineta Inc. visit our website, www.Kinetabio.com