# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM 8-K

### **CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

**Date of Report: January 20, 2016** (Date of earliest event reported)

# Stellar Biotechnologies, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**British Columbia, Canada** (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

000-54598 (Commission File Number) **N/A** (IRS Employer Identification Number)

**332 E. Scott Street Port Hueneme, California** (Address of principal executive offices)

**93041** (Zip Code)

(805) 488-2800

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

# **Not Applicable**

(Former Name or Former Address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

#### Item 8.01. Other Events

On January 20, 2016, Stellar Biotechnologies, Inc. issued a press release announcing the entry into a term sheet with Neovacs S.A. to form a joint venture for the manufacture of conjugated therapeutic vaccines. A copy of the press release is filed as Exhibit 99.1 to this report and is incorporated herein by reference.

## Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

## (d) Exhibits

99.1 <u>Press Release of Stellar Biotechnologies, Inc. dated January 20, 2016</u>

# **SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: January 20, 2016 STELLAR BIOTECHNOLOGIES, INC.

By: <u>/s/ Kathi Niffenegger</u>
Kathi Niffenegger
Chief Financial Officer

**Exhibit Index** 

Exhibit No. Description

99.1 Press Release of Stellar Biotechnologies, Inc. dated January 20, 2016

Stellar Biotechnologies and Neovacs Propose to Form Joint Venture to Manufacture Conjugated Therapeutic Vaccines With Stellar KLH(TM)

PORT HUENEME, CA and PARIS, FRANCE and BOSTON, MA -- (Marketwired - January 20, 2016) - **Stellar Biotechnologies, Inc. ("Stellar")** (NASDAQ: SBOT) (TSX VENTURE: KLH) **and Neovacs S.A. ("Neovacs")** (ALTERNEXT PARIS: ALNEV) today announced they have entered into a term sheet to form a joint venture for the manufacture of conjugated therapeutic vaccines (the "Joint Venture") using Stellar's proprietary Keyhole Limpet Hemocyanin (KLH). The purpose of the proposed Joint Venture is to produce Neovacs' Kinoid product candidates, including IFNa-Kinoid, as well as potentially manufacture other KLH-based immunotherapies on behalf of third party customers.

The parties intend to negotiate the terms of one or more definitive agreements related to the organization, ownership allocation, and supply and services for the Joint Venture. The parties anticipate that the Joint Venture will be owned initially 70% by Neovacs, with Stellar holding the remaining 30% interest. There can be no assurance that the Joint Venture will be consummated or, if consummated, will achieve the expected results.

Stellar is a leader in the sustainable manufacture of KLH, a carrier protein used for its immune-stimulating properties in the production of active immunotherapies (also known as conjugated therapeutic vaccines). KLH is a key component of Neovacs' Kinoid technology.

Neovacs is a leader in the development of active immunotherapies for autoimmune and inflammatory diseases. Neovacs' patented Kinoid technology combines a targeted cytokine attached to Stellar KLH<sup>TM</sup> as the immune-stimulating carrier molecule. Neovacs' lead product candidate IFNa-Kinoid for the treatment of systemic lupus erythematosus (lupus) is in Phase IIb clinical trials in Europe, Latin America and Asia. A Phase IIa trial in the United States is expected to begin in 2016. There can be no assurance that the clinical trials will ultimately lead to commercialization of the products.

"We look forward to working with Stellar Biotechnologies to form this cooperative venture, as they are the leading supplier of KLH protein based on sustainable, scalable aquaculture techniques," said Miguel Sieler, Chief Executive Officer of Neovacs. "Since KLH is a key component of IFNa-Kinoid, this venture is intended to support Neovacs as we work toward potential market launch, as well as bring added value in the field of KLH-Kinoid conjugate vaccines."

Frank Oakes, President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of Stellar added, "We believe the proposed joint venture could be a very positive development for both Stellar and Neovacs. It would enable us to work together to ensure the successful development of IFNa-Kinoid at scale but, importantly, we anticipate building manufacturing infrastructure and expertise that could be offered to other developers of conjugate vaccines looking to transition their product candidates from clinical to commercial scale. For Stellar, this is an example of leveraging our KLH core business to expand our potential clinical and commercial opportunities."

#### **About Neovacs**

Created in 1993, Neovacs S.A. (ALTERNEXT PARIS: ALNEV) is today a leading biotechnology company focused on an active immunotherapy technology platform (Kinoids) with applications in autoimmune and/or inflammatory diseases. On the basis of the company's proprietary technology for inducing a polyclonal immune response (covered by five patent families that potentially run until 2032), Neovacs is focusing its clinical development efforts on IFNa-Kinoid, an immunotherapy being developed for the indication of lupus and dermatomyositis. Neovacs is also conducting preclinical development works on other therapeutic vaccines in the fields of auto-immune diseases, oncology and allergies. The goal of the Kinoid approach is to enable patients to have access to safe treatments with efficacy that is sustained in these life-long diseases www.neovacs.fr.

## About Stellar Biotechnologies, Inc.

Stellar Biotechnologies, Inc. (NASDAQ: SBOT) (TSX VENTURE: KLH) is the leader in sustainable manufacture of Keyhole Limpet Hemocyanin (KLH), an important immune-stimulating protein used in wide-ranging therapeutic and diagnostic markets. KLH is both an active pharmaceutical ingredient (API) in many new immunotherapies (targeting cancer, immune disorders, Alzheimer's and inflammatory diseases) as well as a finished product for measuring immune status. Stellar Biotechnologies is unique in its proprietary methods, facilities, and KLH technology. We are committed to meeting the growing demand for commercial-scale supplies of GMP grade KLH, ensuring environmentally sound KLH production, and developing KLH-based active immunotherapies.

Visit www.stellarbiotech.com and the KLH knowledge base www.klhsite.org.

## **Forward Looking Statements**

This press release may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Forward-looking statements may be identified by the use of words such as "anticipate," "believe," "plan," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "may," "will," "would," "could," "should," "might," "potential," or "continue" and variations or similar expressions. Readers should not unduly rely on these forward-looking statements, which are not a guarantee of future performance. There can be no assurance that forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate, as all such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause actual results or future events to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. Such risks include, but may not be limited to: general economic and business conditions; technology changes; competition; changes in strategy or development plans; governmental regulations and the ability or failure to comply with governmental regulations; the timing of the Company's or its partners' anticipated results, including in connection with clinical trials; and other factors referenced in the Company's filings with securities regulators. For a discussion of further risks and uncertainties related to the Company's business, please refer to the Company's public company reports filed with the B.C. Securities Commission and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

All forward-looking statements are made as of the date hereof and are subject to change. Except as required by law, the Company assumes no obligation to update such statements. This press release does not constitute an offer or solicitation of an offer for sale of any securities in any jurisdiction, including the United States. Neither the TSX Venture Exchange nor its Regulation Services Provider (as that term is defined in the policies of the TSX Venture Exchange) accepts responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of the information contained in this press release.

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