### **NEWS RELEASE**

#### PORTAGE TO PRESENT AT MASTER INVESTOR 2015 IN LONDON, UK

**Toronto, Ontario, April 16, 2015** – Portage Biotech Inc. ("Portage" or "the Company")) (**OTC Market: PTGEF, Canadian Securities Exchange: PBT.U**), is pleased to announce that the Company will be presenting at the Master Investor Show on April 25, 2015 to be held in London, UK. Portage's chairman, Dr. Gregory Bailey and Mr. James Mellon, a director of Portage, will provide an overview and an update on the key programs at its subsidiaries, Portage Pharmaceuticals Ltd. ("PPL"), and Biohaven Pharmaceuticals Holding Company Ltd. ("Biohaven"), wherein the Company holds 54% equity. The Company's presentation materials will be available at the Portage booth at the Show.

## About Portage:

Portage is engaged in researching and developing pharmaceutical and biotech products through to clinical "proof of concept" with an initial focus on unmet clinical needs. Following proof of concept, Portage will look to sell or license the products to large pharmaceutical companies for further development and commercialization.

Portage is seeking discovery and co-development partners in areas such as certain inherited diseases, inflammatory and autoimmune disease, cancer, infectious disease, neurology and psychiatry developing novel targeted therapies, and even older marketed products that have been found to have novel patentable characteristics that bring new value to patients.

Portage seeks to work with a wide range of partners, in all phases of development through inlicensing or other types of alliances. The collaboration may include direct funding or investing human capital from our extensive pool of talented scientists and physicians. Specifically, Portage will invest sweat equity as well as, or instead of, capital. This internal pool of drug developers, financiers, scientists and physicians will provide unique value-add for our partners including but not limited to mitigating risks, clinical trial design, regulatory expertise and maximizing the rewards.

### About Biohaven

Biohaven is a privately-held biopharmaceutical company engaged in the identification and development of clinical stage neuroscience compounds targeting the glutamatergic system. Biohaven founders were among the first researchers at Yale University to discover the therapeutic potential of the NMDA antagonist ketamine and other glutamate modulating agents

in the treatment of neuropsychiatric disorders. Biohaven has a worldwide license from Yale University to use intellectual property relating to the use of certain glutamate modulating agents in the treatment of neuropsychiatric disorders. The company's first drug candidate, BHV-0223, is a reformulated glutamate modulating agent being developed for treatment-resistant mood and anxiety disorders.

Clinical drug supply manufacturing has begun for BHV-0223 at Catalent Pharma Solutions (NYSE: CTLT) and Biohaven plans to begin a Phase 1 pharmacokinetic and biomarker study by 3Q2015 to confirm optimized drug exposure levels of its novel formulation. inVentiv Health will oversee the study execution of this clinical trial.

BHV-0223 is a glutamate modulating agent being developed using Section 505(b)(2) of FDA guidelines. Section 505(b)(2) permits approval of new drug applications based, in part, upon prior findings of safety and/or effectiveness from a previously approved drug product.

#### About PPL

PPL is a wholly owned subsidiary of Portage. PPL has successfully validated a new proprietary cell permeable peptide platform technology derived from human genes. This proprietary platform technology has been shown to efficiently deliver an active pharmacological agent or cargo into a cell without disrupting the cell membrane. The platform has favourable pharmaceutical properties simplifying formulation development for systemic and locally administered conjugates which will allow more rapid development of drug products. PPL has converted its previously filed provisional patent application for this delivery system to an international patent application that includes a variety of structures utilizing cargos that address important areas of medical need.

PPL has prioritized inflammation as an area with a large therapeutic opportunity. Using a cargo peptide against an anti-inflammatory target, PPL has demonstrated not only cell penetration but also convincing in-vitro and in-vivo pharmacological effects mediated intracellularly. PPL has further validated its platform cell penetrating peptide technology for safely delivering a potent anti-inflammatory cargo into eye tissues. Its lead compound PPL-003 showed success in two studies in rabbits. In the first study, topical eye administration of PPL-003 at the highest feasible dose was well tolerated with no abnormal clinical or pathological findings. In the second study PPL-003 demonstrated efficacy in an experimental uveitis model by significantly suppressing the cellular inflammatory response in the anterior chamber and reducing the protein content of the anterior chamber aqueous humor. These results in rabbits clearly demonstrated at least a ten-fold safety margin and confirmed the topical anti-inflammatory activity of PPL-003 previously demonstrated in a mouse uveitis model. PPL is continuing its uveitis program working toward an IND submission in 2016.

For further information, contact Dr. Greg Bailey, the Chairman at <u>gb@portagebiotech.com</u> or Kam Shah, Chief Financial Officer, at <u>(416) 929-1806</u> or <u>ks@portagebiotech.com</u> or visit our website at <u>www.portagebiotech.com</u>.

# Forward-Looking Statements

This news release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. federal and Canadian securities laws. Any such statements reflect Portage's current views and assumptions about future events and financial performance. Portage cannot assure that future events or performance will occur. Important risks and factors that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from those indicated in our forward-looking statements.

Portage assumes no obligation and expressly disclaims any duty to update the information in this News Release.