Claims

1. A promoter polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 1 in the Sequence Listing.

2. A foreign gene expression unit comprising the promoter polynucleotide according to claim 1.

3. The foreign gene expression unit according to claim 2, wherein the foreign gene is a gene encoding a multimeric protein, or a heteromultimeric protein.

4. The foreign gene expression unit according to claim 2, wherein the foreign gene is a gene encoding an antibody or a functional fragment thereof.

5. A foreign gene expression vector comprising the foreign gene expression unit according to any one of claims 2 to 4.

6. A foreign gene expression vector comprising the foreign gene expression unit according to any one of claims 2 to 4, and one or more polynucleotides selected from polynucleotides described in (1) to (9) in the following Group A:

Group A

(1) a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 10 in the Sequence Listing;

(2) a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 11 in the Sequence Listing;

(3) a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 12 in the Sequence Listing;

(4) a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 13 in the Sequence Listing;

(5) a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO: 14 in the Sequence Listing;

(6) a polynucleotide comprising at least 3000 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence represented by any one of SEQ ID NOS: 10 to 14 in the Sequence Listing;

(7) a polynucleotide comprising at least 2000 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence represented by any one of SEQ ID NOS: 10 to 14 in the Sequence Listing;

(8) a polynucleotide comprising a polynucleotide sequence having an identity of 95% or more to the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotide according to any one of the above (1) to (7), and having the activity of enhancing foreign gene expression; and

(9) a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence having an identity of 99% or more to the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotide according to any one of the above (1) to (7), and having the activity of enhancing foreign gene expression.

7. A transformed cell into which the foreign gene expression vector according to claim 5 or 6 has been introduced.

8. A transformed cell into which the foreign gene expression vector according to claim 5 or 6 and an element vector have been introduced.

9. The transformed cell according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the cell is a cultured cell derived from a mammal.

10. The transformed cell according to claim 9, wherein the cell is a COS-1 cell, a 293 cell, or a CHO cell.

11. A method for producing a protein characterized by comprising culturing the transformed cell according to any one of claims 7 to 10 and obtaining a protein derived from a foreign gene from the resulting culture product.

12. Use of the promoter polynucleotide sequence according to any claim 1 for expressing a foreign gene in a transformed cell.

13. Use of a promoter polynucleotide sequence having an identity of 95% or more to the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotide according to claim 1 for expressing a foreign gene in a transformed cell.

14. Use of a promoter polynucleotide sequence having an identity of 99% or more to the nucleotide sequence of the polynucleotide according to claim 1 for expressing a foreign gene in a transformed cell.

15. Use of the foreign gene expression vector according to claim 5 or 6 for expressing a foreign gene in a transformed cell.