

Publications of the Week

Low Oxygen Enhances Trophoblast Column Growth by Potentiating Differentiation of the Extravillous Lineage and Promoting LOX Activity

 First Author: Jenna Treissman (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Alexander Beristain Development | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute and UBC


Early placental development and the establishment of the invasive trophoblast lineage take place within a low oxygen environment. However, conflicting and inconsistent findings have obscured the role of oxygen in regulating invasive trophoblast differentiation. The authors showed that exposure to low oxygen enhanced extravillous column outgrowth and promoted the expression of genes that align with extravillous trophoblast lineage commitment. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

The Long Non-Coding RNA Cancer Susceptibility 15 Is Induced by Isocitrate Dehydrogenase Mutations and Maintains an Immature Phenotype in Adult Acute Myeloid Leukemia

 First Author: Sarah Grasedieck | Senior Author: Florian Kuchenbauer (*pictured*) Haematologica | Terry Fox Laboratory


To better understand the relationship between long non-coding RNAs (lncRNAs) that control granulopoiesis and the block of differentiation in AML blasts, the authors sequenced stranded, non-poly-A-enriched cDNA libraries that were prepared from healthy human donor bone marrow. Expression of the lncRNA Cancer Susceptibility 15 was significantly anti-correlated with myeloid differentiation and highly enriched in myeloblasts. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

December 2019 Award Winners


Dr. Wilfred Jefferies (*pictured*) from the Michael Smith Laboratories has been elected as a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors for his innovative strategies and outstanding inventions that have enabled cancer immunotherapies and vaccines. Find out which other researchers received grants and awards in the month of December in our Monthly Award Summary! [Read More](#)

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Local News

SFU Names Joy Johnson as Its 10th President and Vice-Chancellor

SFU News



Following an extensive community consultation and international search process, SFU's Board of Governors has named Professor Joy Johnson (*pictured*) as the university's next President and Vice-Chancellor. Johnson has held her current role as SFU's Vice-President, Research and International since 2014, and is widely respected in academic and research communities. [Read More](#)

Researchers Study Yeast Genomes to Uncover New Ways of Brewing

CBC News



A Thompson Rivers University (TRU) professor has teamed up with Vancouver's Parallel 49 brewery to study one of their most popular but hard-to-create beers. Jonathan Van Hamme and his team are using the microbiology research lab at TRU in Kamloops to sequence the genomes of the yeast strains in the Belgian ale the company markets as Wild Ride. [Read More](#)

A New DNA-Based Method for Tracking Samples through the Lab

BC Cancer Genome Sciences Centre



As precision medicine for the treatment of cancer and other diseases becomes a reality, there is increased demand for DNA sequencing. With the high volumes of samples now being sent for sequencing analysis, scientists at Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre have created streamlined, tightly regulated processes that minimize errors and ensure production of high quality data. [Read More](#)

New Research Will Broaden Canada's Ability to Identify Strains of Oyster-Related Illnesses

Genome BC



Every year, people around the world enjoy oysters from British Columbia, but oyster-related illnesses have posed risks to human health and the BC oyster industry. The Ministry of Agriculture and Genome BC are funding three projects that will broaden Canada's ability to identify strains of norovirus and *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, and positively change the way shellfish-related illness outbreaks and food safety investigations are handled. [Read More](#)

Bioprinting Firm Aspect Biosystems Raises \$20 Million

3D Printing Media Network



Aspect Biosystems, a Canadian biotech company specializing in microfluidic 3D bioprinting, has raised \$20 million (USD) through a Series A investment round. The funding will enable the bioprinting company to accelerate its work by advancing multiple tissue therapeutic programs, expanding its technology platform and growing its team. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

January 18 11:00 AM	LifeSciences BC Career Connect Day Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre
January 19 - 23 4:00 PM	Keystone Symposia: Tissue Organoids as Models of Host Physiology and Pathophysiology of Disease Fairmont Hotel Vancouver
January 21 12:00 PM	Brown Bags @UBC Chan Gunn Pavilion
January 22 6:00 PM	BCIT Biotechnology Networking Night AMS Student Nest
January 22 7:00 PM	Nerd Nite v49: Waterslides, Ecology, and Oil Tankers Fox Cabaret

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