

Publications of the Week
Predominant DNMT and TET Mediate Effects of Allergen on the Human Bronchial Epithelium in a Controlled Air Pollution Exposure Study

 First Author: Hang Li | Senior Author: Chris Carlsten (pictured, second from left)
 Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology | UBC


Epidemiological data show that traffic-related air pollution contributes to the increasing prevalence and severity of asthma. The authors assessed the effects of allergen and diesel exhaust exposures on global DNA methylation and its regulation enzymes in human airway epithelium. Response to allergen challenge was associated with key DNA methylation regulation enzymes. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

SUSA2 Is an F-Box Protein Required for Autoimmunity Mediated by Paired NLRs SOC3-CHS1 and SOC3-TN2

 First Author: Wanwan Liang (pictured, fifth from left) | Senior Author: Xin Li (second row, third from right)
 Nature Communications | Michael Smith Labs and UBC


Both higher plants and mammals rely on nucleotide-binding leucine-rich repeat (NLR) immune receptors to detect pathogens and initiate immunity. The authors previously showed that disruption of the E3 ligase, senescence-associated E3 ubiquitin ligase 1 (SAUL1) leads to the activation of the NLR SOC3. Here, they report the identification of suppressor of saul1 2 (susa2) and susa3 from the saul1-1 suppressor screen. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

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Awards
\$10M in Funding Coming to BC Researchers for Improved Grapevine and Cannabis Management

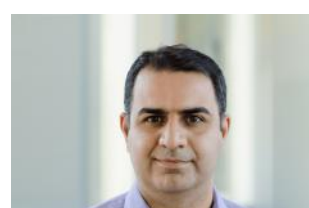
Genome BC



Genome BC has funded two BC-led teams for their projects designed to harness the power and potential of bio-innovation to create healthier, more sustainable and prosperous communities. The first project aims to develop a rapid, cost effective genomic solution for grapevine disease management. The second focuses on characterizing sources of genetic resistance to powdery mildew and beginning to introduce them into a cannabis breeding program. [Read More](#)

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Local News
Novel Computational Tool Accurately and Quickly Detects Circular RNA

Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



Scientific research into the double- and single-helix linear structures of DNA and RNA has revealed a mystery in the form of circular RNA (circRNA). A new computational tool called CircMiner, developed by Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute scientist Dr. Faraz Hach (pictured) and his team at the Vancouver Prostate Centre, is helping researchers identify circRNA and better understand their role in conditions like prostate cancer. [Read More](#)

Precision NanoSystems Will Receive \$18.2 Million from the Government of Canada to Develop an RNA Vaccine for COVID-19

Precision NanoSystems



Precision Nanosystems, Inc. (PNI), a global leader in technologies and solutions in genetic medicine, has received a commitment of up to \$18.2 million in support from the Government of Canada under the Innovation, Science and Economic Development's Strategic Innovation Fund to develop a COVID-19 vaccine. PNI will use the investment to advance a best-in-class COVID-19 mRNA vaccine candidate to clinical trials. [Read More](#)

Pursuing New COVID-19 Drug Treatments

UBC Medicine



From artificial intelligence to X-ray crystallography, Dr. Artem Cherkasov (pictured, right) and Dr. Natalie Strynadka (pictured, left), both Professors at UBC, are employing cutting-edge techniques in their quest to find an anti-viral drug to treat COVID-19. In this interview, they answer some questions about their potentially lifesaving project. [Read More](#)

Girls and STEAM Virtual Symposium Features Workshops, Mentorship, and Keynote Address by Dr. Bonnie Henry

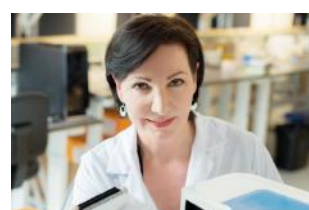
The Georgia Straight



B.C.'s favourite defender in the battle against COVID-19, Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry (pictured), will give the opening keynote address at an online kids event. Henry will speak at the start of the Girls and STEAM (Science, Tech, Engineering, Arts and Design, and Math) virtual symposium, which takes place on November 7. [Read More](#)

COVID-19 Collaboration Saves Lives of ICU Patients

Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health



A research collaboration co-led by Dr. Myp Sekhon and Dr. Cheryl Wellington (pictured) from UBC is examining how the immune system can overreact in the presence of COVID-19 and attack the lungs. The research team worked around the clock, completing analyses within 48 hours, where a patient study would usually take between four and six months. So far, 58 patients have taken part in the study. [Read More](#)

Symvivo Corporation Receives Funding for COVID-19 Vaccine Program

LifeSciences BC



Symvivo Corporation is receiving advisory services and funding of up to \$2.8 million from the National Research Council Industrial Research Assistance Program to support the clinical advancement of bacTRL-Spike™, the company's oral, room temperature-stable DNA vaccine candidate for the prevention of COVID-19. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles
Government of Canada Invests in Regenerative Medicine, Genomics Research to Support Canadians' Health

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada



The Government of Canada has announced an investment of more than \$20 million to support advances in stem cell and regenerative medicine, and genomics research. The investments include \$4.3 million through the Stem Cell Network's competitive research funding program, and \$16 million through Genome Canada to support 10 new genomics projects. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

November 4 9:00 AM	2nd Annual Tri-Cluster Research Day: The Future of Health Online
November 5-6 9:00 AM	BCREGMED & ISCRM Cascadia Corridor Research Symposium Online
November 5 10:00 AM	Career "Ask Me Anything" Café Online
November 7 9:00 AM	Girls and STEAM 2020 Virtual Symposium Online
November 8 1:00 PM	How I Found My Job in SciCom: Into the Digital Realm Online

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