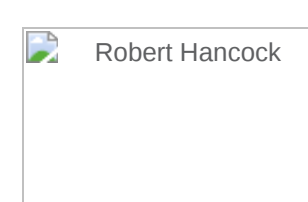


### Publications of the Week

#### Human Organoid Biofilm Model for Assessing Antibiofilm Activity of Novel Agents

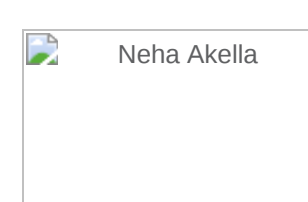
First Author: Catherine Wu | Senior Author: Robert Hancock *(pictured)*  
 Biofilms and Microbiomes | UBC



Bacterial biofilms cause 65% of all human infections and are highly resistant to antibiotic therapy but lack specific treatments. To provide a human organoid model for studying host-microbe interplay and enabling screening for novel antibiofilm agents, a human epidermis organoid model with robust methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* USA300 and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* PAO1 biofilm was developed. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

#### Diet as a Potential Moderator for Genome Stability and Immune Response in Pediatric Leukemia

First Author: Shanshan Wang | Senior Author: Neha Akella *(pictured)*  
 Cancers | UBC and BC Children's Hospital



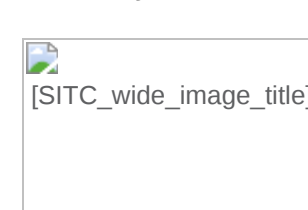
Pediatric acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) is the most prevalent cancer affecting children in developed societies. The authors review the role of diet in control of the incidence and progression of childhood ALL. Improved understanding of the dietary regulation of hormones and immunity may inform better approaches to predict, protect, and ultimately save children afflicted with pediatric leukemia. [Abstract](#)

[View All Publications](#)

### Awards

#### Excellence in Science Public Engagement and Outreach Award Winners Announced

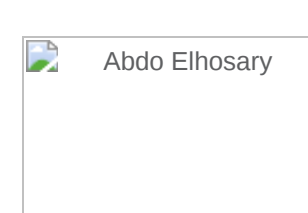
SFU Faculty of Science



The SFU Faculty of Science congratulates Dr. Caroline Collin *(pictured, left)*, Dr. Miriam Rosin *(middle)*, and Donya Divsalar *(right)* each for winning a 2021 Excellence in Science Public Engagement and Outreach Award for their outstanding achievements in their respective fields. This annual award was established to recognize the contributions of staff, faculty, and students toward community engagement and outreach. [Read More](#)

#### SBME Student Selected for the 2020 B.C. MEDTECH Graduate Award in Biomedical Engineering

UBC School of Biomedical Engineering



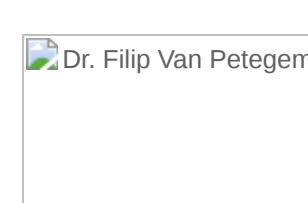
Abdo Elhosary *(pictured)*, a Masters of Applied Science in Biomedical Engineering (SBME) student at UBC, has received the 2020 B.C. MEDTECH Graduate Award in Biomedical Engineering. This \$1,500 award has been endowed by B.C. Medical Devices Association for a graduate student entering the School of Biomedical Engineering in the Faculties of Applied Science and Medicine. [Read More](#)

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### Local News

#### Filip Van Petegem Leads Study Showing Disease Mutant Causes Large Changes in the Structure of the RyR1 Protein

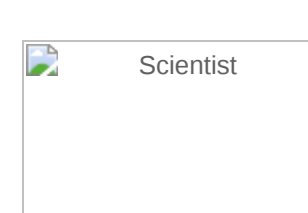
UBC Life Sciences Institute



Dr. Van Petegem *(pictured)* studies mutations of the ryanodine receptor, a daunting channel protein noted for its size and complexity. In a recent paper, Van Petegem and colleagues showed the sequence variations associated with malignant hyperthermia cause large changes in the structure of the RyR1 protein, which make it easier for this channel to open. [Read More](#)

#### Genome Science Is Shaping B.C.'s COVID-19 Response and Guiding Health Officials through Wrenching Decisions

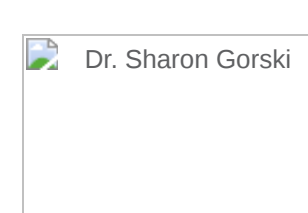
The Globe and Mail



B.C.'s biotechnology sector has emerged as a critical arm of the province's pandemic response. As a result, this has been a rare year where funding and resources are not in question. In the coming days, the B.C. Centre for Disease Control aims to increase its surveillance to screen every new COVID-19-positive sample for the presence of those variants of the coronavirus that are alarming public-health officials around the globe. [Read More](#)

#### Parkinson's Disease and Lung Cancer: *LRRK2* Gene a Shared Culprit?

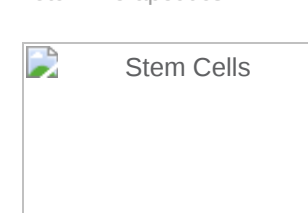
BC Cancer



*LRRK2* is a highly studied gene in Parkinson's disease, where increased activity is thought to play a causative role. New research from Dr. Sharon Gorski *(pictured)* has established that decreased *LRRK2* expression can be involved in the development of lung adenocarcinoma. With inhibitors of *LRRK2* now in clinical trials for the treatment of Parkinson's disease, the discovery that *LRRK2* loss can increase lung tumour initiation comes at a key point in time. [Read More](#)

#### Notch Therapeutics Closes \$85 Million Series A Financing to Develop Pipeline of Renewable Stem Cell-Derived Cancer Immunotherapies

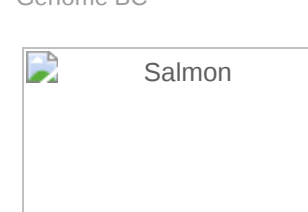
Notch Therapeutics



Notch Therapeutics, Inc., a biotechnology company developing renewable, induced pluripotent stem cell-derived cell therapies for cancer, has announced the closing of an oversubscribed U.S. \$85 million Series A financing. Notch is applying its scalable Engineered Thymic Niche technology platform to develop homogeneous and universally compatible stem cell-derived cell therapies. [Read More](#)

#### Genomic Tools Offer Insight for an Iconic Species

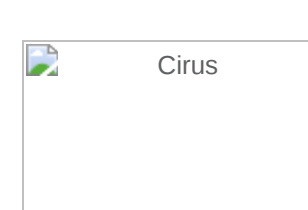
Genome BC



With funding from Genome BC and other partners, researchers from Simon Fraser University, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Coastal Rivers Conservancy, and the Wild Salmon Center are collaborating to develop a cost-effective, rapid genomic tool to monitor and characterize 118 sockeye salmon populations in the North and Central Coast Region of BC. [Read More](#)

#### Streamlining Clinical Research in BC to Tackle COVID-19

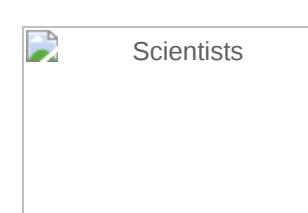
Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute



The race to find treatment approaches to improve patient outcomes and end the COVID-19 pandemic has involved the coordination of research teams and patients across British Columbia. At the helm of this undertaking is the COVID-19 Clinical Research Coordination Initiative, of which Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute scientist Dr. Theodore Steiner is a member. [Read More](#)

#### MSFHR and BC AHSN Intend to Join Forces to Drive Discovery and Innovation in BC's Health Research Enterprise

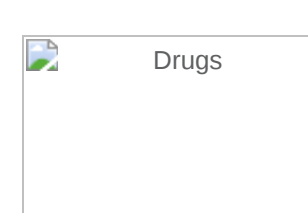
Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research



The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) and the BC Academic Health Science Network (BC AHSN) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to join forces to create a dynamic and integrated health research organization that will support the growth and evolution of BC's research and life sciences sectors. [Read More](#)

#### Chinook Receives Rare Pediatric Disease Designation from U.S. Food and Drug Administration for CHK-336 for Treatment of Primary Hyperoxaluria

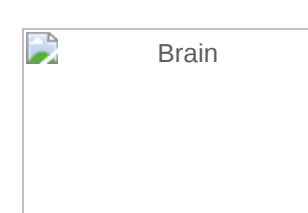
Chinook Therapeutics



Chinook Therapeutics, a biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery, development, and commercialization of precision medicines for kidney diseases, has announced that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has granted rare pediatric disease designation for CHK-336, an investigational oral small molecule inhibitor of lactate dehydrogenase A for primary hyperoxaluria. [Read More](#)

#### Bright Minds Biosciences Announces Listing on Canadian Stock Exchange

Bright Minds Biosciences via GlobeNewsWire



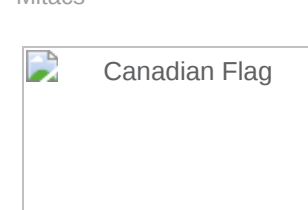
Bright Minds Biosciences, a biosciences company focused on creating the next generation of psychedelic and related therapies for the treatment of mental health and central nervous system disorders, announced that the company's common shares have commenced trading on the Canadian Securities Exchange as of Monday, February 8, 2021, under the ticker symbol "DRUG." [Read More](#)

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### Interesting Articles

#### Mitacs Creates New Opportunities for Canada's COVID-19 Generation Thanks to \$40M

Mitacs



Thanks to an injection of government funding, 5,000 new internships mean opportunities for students, and pivots for companies during COVID-19. The purpose of the additional internships created midway through the federal budget cycle was to help post-secondary students and businesses across Canada during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Read More](#)

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### Upcoming Events in Vancouver

February 16 1:00 PM	<b>BCDRN Meet the Researcher Series</b> Online
February 19 12:30 pm	<b>Digital Research Infrastructure Showcase</b> Online
February 22 9:00 am	<b>Language Science Talks: Talking Genetics</b> Online
February 23 10:00 am	<b>Women's Health Research Cluster Seminar: Traumatic Brain Injury</b> Online
February 24-25 8:30 am	<b>Access to Innovation 2021</b> Online

[View All Events](#) | [Submit an Event](#)

### STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver

- Research Technologist, Pluripotent Stem Cells**  
STEMCELL Technologies
- Senior Research Associate, Bioengineering**  
STEMCELL Technologies
- Product Manager, Pluripotent Stem Cell Biology**  
STEMCELL Technologies
- Product Manager, Immunology**  
STEMCELL Technologies
- Sales Development Representative**  
STEMCELL Technologies

[View 56 Other STEMCELL Jobs](#)

### Other Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Research Scientist, Immunology**  
Aspect Biosystems
- Sr. Scientist, Translational Medicine**  
Chinook Therapeutics
- Research Assistant/Technician 2**  
UBC Faculty of Medicine
- Associate, Functional Biomaterials**  
Notch Therapeutics
- Laboratory Technician**  
Renaissance BioScience

[View 74 Other Science Jobs](#) | [Submit a Job](#)

[Dr. Kristina McBurney and Leanna Bedell discuss how you can use social media to advance your scientific career. Watch now.](#)

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