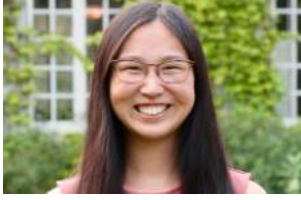


Publications of the Week

TMPRSS2 Inhibitors With Broad-Spectrum Efficacy Against SARS-CoV-2 (JN.1) and Influenza A (H1N1) Viruses Protect Mice From Influenza A Infection

First Author: Lianne Presley (*pictured*) | Senior Author: François Jean Emerging Microbes & Infections | UBC



Human TMPRSS2 is a type II transmembrane serine protease and an essential host factor for SARS-CoV-2 and influenza A virus infections. Researchers previously identified N-0385 and N-0920 as nanomolar TMPRSS2 inhibitors and demonstrated their antiviral potency against several SARS-CoV-2 variants. Here, researchers screened another twelve N-0385/N-0920 analogs with improved pharmacokinetics. [Abstract](#)

[View All Publications](#)

Awards

April 2026 Award Winners

Science in Vancouver



April showers bring May flowers and this past month, Vancouver researchers were absolutely showered with success! We've seen Canadian Institutes of Health Research announcements, Killam awards, and NSERC grants get awarded to amazing researchers who are helping amplify our life science ecosystem. This month, we've highlighted Dr. Nicole Krentz (*pictured*) who was awarded a prestigious Career Development Award from Breakthrough T1D. [Read More](#)

UBC Medicine Graduate Student and Faculty Honoured With Killam Teaching Awards

UBC Faculty of Medicine



A number of UBC Faculty of Medicine members have been honoured with Killam teaching awards for 2025/2026. The annual awards are presented to faculty and teaching assistants who demonstrate excellence in teaching. Among this year's awardees are Drs. Kelly Apostle, Angela Devlin, Kurt McBurney, and Quynh Doan (*pictured*), as well as graduate student Karina Thiessen. [Read More](#)

Dr. Pauline Johnson Receives the 2026 Gillian E. Wu Mentorship Award

UBC Life Sciences Institute



The UBC Life Sciences Institute congratulates Dr. Pauline Johnson (*pictured*), the recipient of the 2026 Gillian E. Wu Mentorship Award from the Canadian Society for Immunology (CSI). This award recognizes CSI members who have made outstanding contributions to the mentorship of scientists at all career stages, including undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral trainees, as well as early career investigators. [Read More](#)

SFU's Canada Research Chairs to Advance Study of Stem Cells, Immune Function, and AI for Public Good

SFU News



Three exceptional Simon Fraser University researchers have been named new and renewed Canada Research Chairs (CRC). Dr. Kyle Burrows (*pictured*) is a new Tier 2 CRC in Barrier Tissue Immunity and Chronic Inflammatory Disease. Dr. Lisa Julian is a renewed Tier 2 CRC in Human Neural Stem Cell Biology and Brain Modeling. [Read More](#)

[View All Featured Awards](#) | [View All Monthly Award Summaries](#)

Local News

SBME Welcomes Dr. Govind Kaigala as Director Pro Tem of the School of Biomedical Engineering

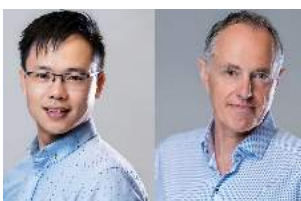
UBC School of Biomedical Engineering (SBME)



Dr. Govind Kaigala (*pictured*) has been appointed as the Director pro tem of UBC's School of Biomedical Engineering. An Associate Professor at SBME, Senior Scientist at the Vancouver Prostate Centre, and Principal Investigator at the Life Sciences Institute, Dr. Kaigala is a recognized leader in the development of miniaturized bioanalytical platforms and microfluidic technologies for clinical applications. [Read More](#)

New Research Identifies a Promising Target in Multiple Fusion-Driven Cancers

BC Cancer Research



A new multinational study led by Drs. Poul Sorensen (*pictured, right*) and Haifeng Zhang (*left*) has been published in *Cancer Discovery*. The research describes a targeted immunotherapy treatment that uses antibody–drug conjugates to specifically target cancer cells displaying IL1RAP, a protein found on the surface of multiple fusion-driven cancers including Ewing sarcoma. [Read More](#)

Alternative First-Line Treatment Proves Effective for Persistent Atrial Fibrillation

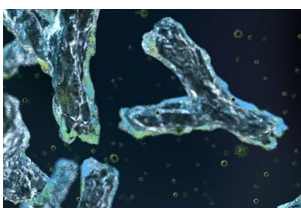
Vancouver Coastal Health Research Institute (VCHRI)



Affecting roughly 170,000 British Columbians, atrial fibrillation (AFib) is an irregular heartbeat that doubles the risk of death and increases the likelihood of stroke or heart failure five-fold. A decades-long research journey led by VCHRI researcher Dr. Jason Andrade is reshaping how clinicians approach AFib, one of the world's most common and consequential heart rhythm disorders. [Read More](#)

VoxCell BioInnovation and adMare BioInnovations Partner to Advance Novel Antibody Therapies in a Human-Relevant Vascularized Tissue Platform

adMare BioInnovations



VoxCell BioInnovation and adMare BioInnovations announced a research partnership to validate the scientific and commercial potential of a novel antibody-based immune-modulating therapy using VoxCell's human-relevant vascularized cancer tissue models. VoxCell BioInnovation is a developer of bioprinted vascularized human tissue models for preclinical drug development and adMare BioInnovations is a life sciences company creation engine. [Read More](#)

Addressing Forced Resilience: Indigenous Experiences With Genomic Medicine in British Columbia

BC Cancer Research



A new study published in *Genetics in Medicine* examines how systemic barriers in health care shape Indigenous families' views about genomic medicine in British Columbia. The research finds that physical and relational barriers to access, experiences of racism and persistent demands for self-advocacy impose resilience as a condition of care for Indigenous families. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Government of Canada Invests Over \$168 Million in Canada's Research Ecosystem

Government of Canada



It was recently announced that the federal government is investing over \$168 million in research funding. Investing in world-class researchers and research teams at Canadian institutions helps drive solutions for society's most pressing challenges. Nearly \$140 million will support 165 new and renewed Canada Research Chairs. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

May 21 4:30 PM	McCarthy Spotlight Speaking Series McCarthy Tetrault LLP
May 26 8:30 AM	Bio Essentials: Foundational Science BCIT Downtown Campus
May 27 9:30 AM	Deciphering and Re-Engineering the Immune Response to Cancer Van Dusen Gardens
May 27 7:00 PM	May Nerd Nite North Van "Wonder Women of STEM" Jack Lonsdale's Public House
June 4 5:00 PM	Summer Social Zymeworks

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

Science Jobs in Vancouver

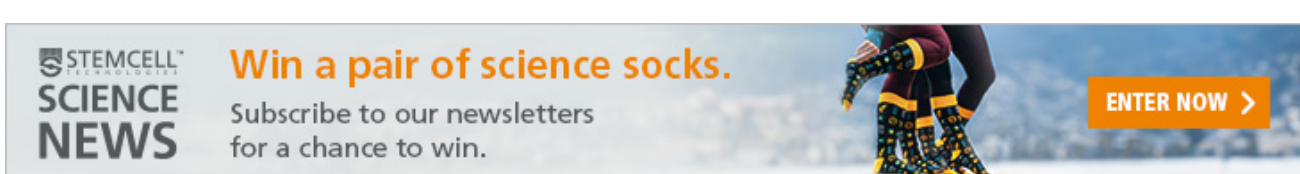
- Wet Assay, Laboratory Technician**
Bureau Veritas Canada
- Research Coordinator**
UBC
- Scientist, Thymus-Based Therapeutics**
United Therapeutics
- Scientist, Molecular Immunology**
Amgen
- Microscopy & Imaging Technician**
SFU

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STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver

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STEMCELL Technologies
- Senior Scientist (Stem Cell Engineering)**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Senior Customer Success Consultant**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Scientific Support Specialist, Immunology**
STEMCELL Technologies
- Senior Laboratory Operations Assistant**
STEMCELL Technologies

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