

Publications of the Week

Molecular and Imaging Biomarker Responses to Brain Mutant HTT Lowering in a Mouse Model of Huntington Disease

First Author: Nicholas Caron (*pictured*) | Senior Author: Michael Hayden
Molecular Therapy Nucleic Acids | BC Children's Hospital Research Institute, Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics, SFU, and UBC



Therapies targeting mutant huntingtin (mHTT) reduction in the brain hold promise as disease-modifying treatments for Huntington disease (HD), necessitating biomarkers that accurately reflect treatment response. The authors evaluated candidate molecular and imaging biomarkers after mHTT reduction in YAC128 HD mice, with equal numbers of males and females per group. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

November 2025 Award Winners

Science in Vancouver



As November rains arrived, so did big wins for Greater Vancouver's scientific community! This month, many researchers were honoured for their discoveries and work that brought plenty of bright spots to the grey skies. We're pleased to highlight Dr. Lalitha Raman-Wilms (*pictured*), who received the Distinguished Leadership Award from the India Canada Culture and Heritage Association. [Read More](#)

\$11.5M Study Aims to Bring Precision Heart Care to Every Corner of B.C.

Isabelle Korchinski



A new research effort at UBC is reimagining how heart disease is detected and treated across the province, and it starts with meeting patients closer to home. Led by Dr. Teresa Tsang (*pictured*), the project unites three powerful data streams that are rarely combined at the same time in clinical practice: heart ultrasound imaging, blood-based biomarkers, and genetic information. [Read More](#)

UBC AI and Health Network Funds 11 New Projects Advancing Responsible AI-Powered Health Research for B.C.

UBC AI and Health Network



Launched earlier this year, the UBC AI and Health Network unites UBC's strengths in AI, health research, and biomedical innovation to support health system transformation through AI-driven innovation. The Network's Fellows Program enables principal investigators to recruit, mentor, and support postdoctoral and clinical fellows conducting interdisciplinary research at the nexus of AI and health. [Read More](#)

UBC's 2025 Distinguished University Scholars

UBC Provost & VP Academic



The Distinguished University Scholar awards recognize exceptional members of faculty who have distinguished themselves as scholars in research and/or teaching and learning. This year's recipients include Dr. Lori Brotto (*pictured*), Professor in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, whose research focuses on developing safe and accessible treatments for prevalent sexual concerns in women. [Read More](#)

2025 Alumni UBC Achievement Awards Recipients

UBC Magazine



Nine inspiring members of UBC's global alumni community, whose extraordinary endeavours are helping to advance UBC's commitment to healthy lives, a healthy planet, and healthy societies, have been honoured with UBC Achievement Awards. This includes Dr. Shelina Babul (*pictured*), who created the Concussion Awareness Training Tool, an online resource used globally to minimize the risk of head injury. [Read More](#)

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Local News

Reclaiming Genomic Medicine

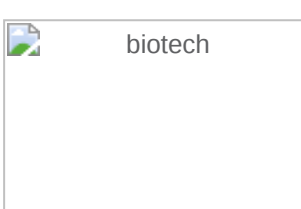
Genome BC



What happens when the right test exists, but the relevant reference data doesn't? For too many Indigenous people in Canada, a rare disease goes undiagnosed—not because medicine lacks the tools, but because those tools weren't built with them in mind. In partnership with Indigenous researchers and communities, Silent Genomes launched the Indigenous Background Variant Library in early 2025. [Read More](#)

How AbCellera Grew from a UBC Lab to a Global Biotech Company

UBC News



As part of the Canada's Immuno-Engineering and Biomanufacturing Hub led by UBC, AbCellera is helping establish British Columbia as a centre for next-generation drug development. "Vancouver has a real presence in biotechnology, and much of that has its roots at UBC," Dr. Carl Hansen said. "I would say that if you look across the country, there isn't a comparable centre of strength that has as much potential as we have here." [Read More](#)

CereCura Nanotherapeutics Closes \$1.4 Million Seed Financing Round

T-Net



CereCura Nanotherapeutics has announced the successful closing of a \$1.4 million seed financing round to accelerate their mission of "revolutionizing the treatment of brain disorders". This funding marks a pivotal milestone for CereCura Nanotherapeutics as they continue to advance therapeutic programs using their proprietary lipid nanoparticle-mRNA 'Brain Bioreactor' program. [Read More](#)

Fraser Health and Simon Fraser University Launch Pilot Project to Decode Superbug's Genetic Secrets

Fraser Health



Clostridioides difficile infection is one of the most common causes of infectious diarrhea in hospitals and long-term care facilities. To better understand how patients acquire and transmit *C. difficile*, Fraser Health and SFU researchers are analysing the genetic makeup of *C. difficile* via whole genome sequencing—a process that involves extracting and decoding the DNA of the bacteria. [Read More](#)

Genomics Projects Tackle Climate Threats to BC Fish and Marine Ecosystems

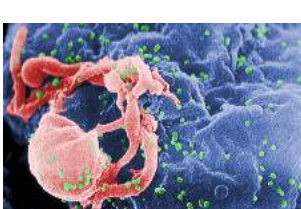
Genome BC



As ocean temperatures continue to rise, the stress of climate change is affecting marine life and their food sources and throwing fragile ecosystems into crisis. Genome BC is funding four targeted genomics research projects in response to this challenge. These projects use genetic information as a powerful predictive tool to enable proactive management and targeted conservation efforts. [Read More](#)

New Genome BC Funded Project Aims to Bring BC Closer to Ending HIV Transmission

Genome BC



British Columbia has made remarkable progress in reducing HIV transmission and researchers now believe the province is closer than ever to achieving sustained control of new infections. To support this next stage, Genome BC is funding a new project that employs advanced genomic and artificial intelligence enabled tools to better understand how transmission patterns are changing in new HIV diagnoses in BC. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| December 13
2:30 pm | Salish Skies: Indigenous Sky Stories
H.R. MacMillan Space Centre |
| December 17
5:00 pm | Life Sciences BC's Holiday Party
Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle Downtown Hotel |
| December 18
5:00 pm | Beaty Nocturnal
Beaty Biodiversity Museum |
| January 23
9:00 am | Life Sciences BC's 7th Annual Career Connect Day 2026
Vancouver Convention Centre East |
| January 28
8:00 pm | Kiuryaq
Chan Centre |

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Postdoctoral Fellow in Drug Development**
UBC
- POG Project Manager**
Canada's Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre
- Principal Immunoengineer, Translational Human Immunology**
Amgen
- Research Projects Coordinator**
BC Cancer
- Biomedical Test Engineer**
Kardium

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