

Publications of the Week

A Microglia–Astrocyte Signaling Axis Regulates Astrocyte Piezo1 Expression and Inflammatory Responses

First Author: Yanyang Bai | Senior Author: Brian MacVicar (*pictured*)
Glia | UBC



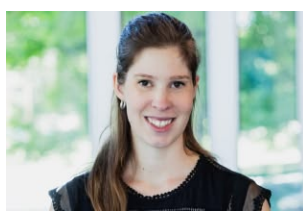
Structural tissue alterations in numerous brain disorders can initiate mechanosensory signaling pathways and influence neuropathology. Astrocytes are highly mechanosensitive cells that play essential roles in maintaining brain homeostasis. These findings demonstrate that astrocytic Piezo1 expression is regulated by microglia-derived inflammatory signals and plays a context-dependent role in modulating astrocyte reactivity and neuroinflammatory responses. [Abstract](#)

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Awards

August 2026 Award Winners

Science in Vancouver



The Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) Project Grants have been announced for Spring 2026, as well as grants from Genome BC, the Canadian Cancer Society, Health Research BC, and Terry Fox. This month, we've highlighted Dr. Kate Johnson (*pictured*). Dr. Johnson is working across departments at UBC and with SFU collaborators to investigate air pollution and COPD with new CIHR and Genome BC grants. [Read More](#)

Fifty-Nine New Fellows Elected to the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences

Canadian Academy of Health Sciences



The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS) has announced the election of 59 new Fellows for 2026, recognizing a distinguished group of leaders whose collective expertise spans the full spectrum of health sciences in Canada. From Vancouver, Drs. Mariana Brussoni, David Granville, and Aly Karsan (*pictured*) joins their ranks. Election to CAHS is among the highest honours in Canada's health sciences community. [Read More](#)

Thirty-One Projects Led by UBC Researchers Awarded Close to \$6 Million Through CFI JELF Competition

UBC Research + Innovation



The Government of Canada has announced more than \$118 million through the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) to support 357 research infrastructure projects across the country. These strategic investments are made through the CFI's John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF) and College Fund. Among the project leads is Dr. Mark Cembrowski (*pictured*). [Read More](#)

UBC Welcomes Nine World-Leading Researchers Through Eddie Goldenberg Research Chairs of Canada Program (Phase 1)

UBC News



Nine world-leading researchers, including Dr. Kathryn Whitehead (*pictured*), will join UBC as part of the inaugural cohort of the Eddie Goldenberg Research Chairs of Canada program. As part of the \$1.7-billion federal Canada Global Impact+ Research Talent Initiative, the program is providing \$1 billion over twelve years to help Canadian post-secondary institutions recruit exceptional international and expatriate Canadian researchers. [Read More](#)

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Local News

2026 Science Exposed Finalists

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada



Science Exposed is a contest organized by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and devoted exclusively to images of scientific research, in all fields of study. The 2026 finalists have been announced, including Vancouver-based researchers Dezaiah Sheena, Nicole Jung, Connor Thompson, and Dr. Aaron Dhanda. Voting for the 2026 People's Choice Award is now open. [Read More](#)

New Genomics Collaboration to Enable First Nations Sovereignty Over Salmon Data

Genome BC



A new multi-year, multi-partner collaboration aims to empower First Nations communities in BC with salmon genetic analysis tools, technology, infrastructure, and skills for fisheries management. Candace Picco and Dr. Ben Sutherland will lead the development of open-source tools to decentralize genetic stock identification of salmon. The project has secured funding for the next three years. [Read More](#)

Kardium Lands \$31M for Burnaby Manufacturing Expansion

Business in Vancouver



A BC medical device company is receiving up to \$31.25 million in federal funding to pump into a \$125-million expansion of its local manufacturing operations. Kardium announced that the money from the federal government will help the company create and maintain 1,000 high-skilled jobs in BC, and keep its intellectual property in Canada. The Burnaby-based medtech firm is best known for making devices that aim to treat atrial fibrillation. [Read More](#)

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Interesting Articles

Canada Recruits Dozens of Foreign Scientists and Researchers, Many From U.S.

Global News



Canadian universities have recruited dozens of foreign scientists and researchers, many of them poached from prestigious U.S. institutions, in the first intake of a program to attract world-leading academics. The hiring of the 64 new recruits is being funded over eight years by \$504 million from the federal government. All four of the highest-paid Eddie Goldenberg Distinguished Research Chairs, as well as dozens of others, were previously at U.S. institutions. [Read More](#)

Applications Reopen for NSERC Alliance International Collaboration Grants

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)



Canadian university researchers can once again access funding to collaborate with international research teams through the NSERC Alliance International Collaboration grants program. The program supports innovative natural sciences and engineering research projects that bring together complementary expertise from Canadian and international university researchers to deliver benefits for Canada. [Read More](#)

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Upcoming Events in Vancouver

September 9 5:00 PM	28th Annual Life Sciences BC Awards Vancouver Convention Centre West
September 9 7:00 PM	Nerd Nite v62: Springtails, Monopoly, and Psychedelics Fox Cabaret
September 17 5:00 PM	An Immense World: How Animal Senses Reveal the World Around Us The Old Auditorium
September 18 8:00 AM	BC Cancer Research Day 2026 UBC Medical Student & Alumni Centre
October 22 4:30 PM	Women Founders Meetup at UBC Robson Square UBC Robson Square

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Science Jobs in Vancouver

- Research Asst/Tech 3**
UBC
- (Senior) Director, Drug Safety and Pharmacovigilance Operations**
AbCellera
- Clinical Engineer**
Providence Health Care
- Scientist, Biomolecular Interactions (12 Month Contract)**
Amigen
- Lab Scientist, Genome Analyst**
Vancouver Coastal Health

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STEMCELL Jobs in Vancouver

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- Manufacturing Technician, Finished Goods**
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)
- Senior Scientist, Process Development (Upstream)**
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)
- Senior Scientist, Process Development (Downstream)**
[STEMCELL Technologies](#)
- Manufacturing Technician, Clean Room**
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Interview: Learning from Failure
With Drs. Lisa Corwin and Sandhya Krishnan

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