# **BioBrief**



April 2023

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**Genome-Based Precision Medicine** 

**BIO International Convention 2023** 

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Health Gamechangers

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**Tell Your Story** 

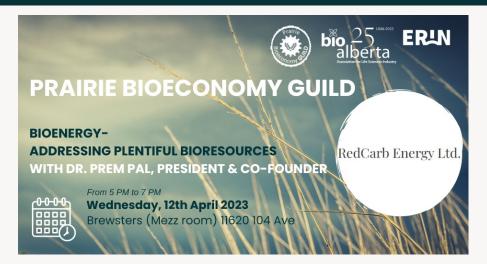
**Talent Hub** 

Member Focal Point: Raft Brew Labs

In the news...

#### **New Members**

### **BioAlberta Upcoming Events**



#### April 12, 2023

#### **Prairie Bioeconomy Guild**

Join us on April 12th for our next Prairie Bioeconomy GUILD event. We'll hear from Dr. Prem Pal, President & Co-founder of RedCarb Energy Ltd. He will speak on "Bioenergy- Addressing Plentiful Bioresources."

Register here now.



#### **Genome-Based Precision Medicine**

On May 1st and 2nd, join **Don Husereau** to learn how Alberta is positioned to take advantage of Genome-Based Precision Medicine.

We will host a reception in Calgary on May 1st at the Life Sciences Innovation Hub and breakfast on May 2nd at the University Club of the UofA in Edmonton.

Register here for Calgary.

Register here for Edmonton.



June 5-8, 2023

#### **BIO International Convention 2023**

BIO is the world's largest trade association representing biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers and related organizations across the United States and in more than 30 other nations.

BioAlberta is coordinating the Alberta delegation. If your company is interested in attending the convention in Boston or for more information, please get in touch with Robb Stoddard at robb@bioalberta.com.



September 28, 2023

#### Health and Life Sciences Showcase & Awards Dinner

BioAlberta is thrilled to be celebrating our 25th anniversary this year! To celebrate 25 years of success, we will be having a grand celebration at our annual Health and Life Sciences

Showcase & Awards Dinner.

Join us on September 28th at the Fairmont Hotel McDonald in Edmonton.

More details are coming in a few weeks!

### **Upcoming Life Sciences Events**



#### April 13, 2023

#### Leveraging the Experience of Nature

Speakers will share insights on the value of nature-based solutions and, through case studies, comment on the learnings, success and impact of leveraging nature to address water challenges.

#### Speakers:

- Vic Adamowicz, Professor and Vice Dean; University of Alberta, Faculty of Agricultural, Life & Environmental Sciences
- Danah Duke, Executive Director; Miistakis Institute
- Alvin First Rider, Environmental Technician; Blood Tribe Land Management
- Roy Brooke, ED; Municipal Natural Assets Initiative

Register here now



Gouvernement du Canada

#### **Canada's Economic Immigration Programs**

#### February 25 - April 13, 2023

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada will be offering a free virtual learning 8 week series for employers. Each week will feature a new topic and provide employers with an opportunity to ask questions.

The goal of this 8-week series is to help employers learn more about Canada's economic immigration programs. Employers can choose to attend one or all of the sessions based on their interest and needs.



#### April 13, 2023

#### CELS VR Cohort Applications - Spring 2023

CELS's is looking for Canada's most innovative Life Science companies to join the upcoming CELS Valley Ready (VR) program - 6th Edition. Full with curriculum-based activities, this combination virtual and live program helps companies from Pre-Seed to Series A navigate the best of Silicon Valley. The selected startups will benefit from their unique network of influencers, investors, legal and finance partners, and corporate executives.

See details here.



April 26, 2023

#### Biohubx Expert Corner: Implementing Your IP Strategy

The Biohubx Expert Corner series is a virtual interview-style webinar designed to learn useful strategies and to raise awareness of novel innovations in our ecosystem. In addition to raising awareness, the purpose of this event is to contribute to the growth of the life sciences industry in Calgary and beyond.

See details here.



#### April 26 - 27, 2023

#### Health Gamechangers: The Impact of Digital Technologies in Research

This two-day event will showcase Alberta Innovates' powered research advances in digital health solutions to realize personalized health benefits in priority areas of prevention, diagnosis, and therapeutics. Alberta researchers and innovators will gather to discuss challenges and opportunities for translation and commercialization of digital health innovations.

See details here.



May 1, 2023

#### **NEW UCalgary Biomedical Engineering**

There are some great students in the first Biomedical Engineering undergraduate class looking for internship positions for 12-16 months starting May 1.

They are finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> year and have a wealth of skills and classes under their belts. These Biomedical Engineering students are ready to Start Something.

Visit their **website** or the Schulich Internship office to learn more.

## **BIOTECHGATE** DIGITAL PARTNERING

Virtual business development event May 18 – 20, 2020

#### May 18 - 20, 2023

#### **BioTechGate Digital Partnering**

Biotechgate Digital Partnering is designed to support the business development & licensing of Pharma, Biotech, Medtech and Digital Health companies. Join five days of virtual partnering and establish new global connections thanks to pre-arranged one-on-one Zoom meetings in our business forum.

BioAlberta members get complimentary Premium Access, including the Marketing Package worth (\$498 USD). To get the promo code, please get in touch with Nisarg Patel at **nisarg@bioalberta.com**.

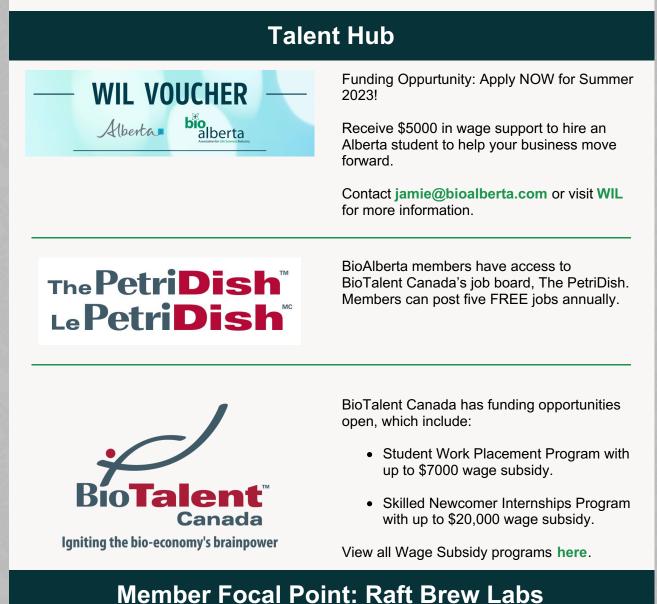


#### May 26, 2023

#### **Tell Your Story**

DiscoveryLab offers events where 10-30 teams pitch plans to a panel of investors and advisors. Scalable innovations in any sector, location or stage of development are presented as are transformative technologies for diagnostics, medical devices, therapeutics, biotech, agtech, AI, cleantech, edtech, fintech, food/drinks, materials, energy, environment and resources.

See details here





#### **Company Overview**

Raft Brew Labs supports the craft beverage industry with cutting-edge lab testing and analysis. Our analytical and consulting services help our clients reach their flavour targets, improve their products, gain efficiency in their facilities, and ensure that their products are free of microbial contaminants, allowing them to keep their products shelf-stable for their lifetime in the market. As a result, our clients can grow their market share, save on costs and distribute products confidently without fear of recall, or facility shutdowns.

#### **Major Developments**

Raft Brew Labs has just launched their client dashboard, a cutting-edge database and data visualization platform that allows their clients to visualize trends over time through graphs and tables. The dashboard can alert their clients to small drifts away from their targets so they can make corrections before any issues arise. This tool will be integral to their clients' quality management programs and will be used to develop the first industry benchmarking reports.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Raft Brew Labs is in planning stages of an ongoing off-flavour detection series for brewers and taproom staff across Calgary's local beer scene.

#### **Overcoming Challenges**

- Winning community support of the year for the Alberta Small Brewer's Association in 2021.
- Supporting all three of the top award winners at the 2021 and 2022 Alberta Beer Awards as Raft clients.
- Named one of 10 I.D.E.A.L. Bioscience Employers in Canada by Biotalent Canada.
- Achieving break-even within 1 year of operation with the ability to begin capital investments.
- Guided several clients to overcome facility-wide spoilage events.
- Leading a national coalition of 200 businesses to drive effective policy change to address the drug poisoning crisis and community safety.
- Gained recognition as a provincial leader in equitable substance use policy development

through a comprehensive workplace substance use policy that has been shared nationally.

- Delivered over 50 interviews to the media as a thought leader on compassionate business approaches to community health and safety.
- Developed a comprehensive strategy to address 17 Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action and 8 Calls for Justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.
- Collaboratively developed a code of conduct handbook to promote inclusivity, diversity, equity, accessibility, and safety at the workplace and within the organization.

To learn more about how Raft Brew Labs can bring bring big brewing science to your brewing facility, check their website at https://raftbrewlabs.ca.

Raft Brew Labs was also a part of our WIL Voucher Program. Read their success story here.

### In the news... INVESTMENTS TO SUPPORT ACCESS TO DRUGS FOR RARE DISEASES As part of this overall investment, the Government of Canada will make available up to \$1.4 billion over three years to provinces and territories through bilateral agreements. This funding will help provinces and territories improve access to new and emerging drugs for Canadians with rare diseases, as well as support enhanced access to existing drugs, early diagnosis and screening for rare diseases.

Read their complete press release here.

### Alberta becomes the first province to list Trodelvy for triple-negative breast cancer



Trodelvy is used for the treatment of adult patients with unresectable locally advanced or metastatic triple-negative breast cancer (mTNBC) who have received two or more prior therapies, at least one of them for metastatic disease

This is great news for women's health. Also, a win for Alberta's biomanufacturing sector as Alberta's Gilead Sciences facility produces the linker for the antibody drug conjugate.

Read more about the AHS Outpatient Cancer Drug program, where Trodelvy is now included and reimbursed in Alberta **here**.

### CLICK&PUSH ADDS CAMERON LIBRARY TO "THE ATLAS"

Recently, the University of Alberta Library (UAL) partnered with local startup,

Click&Push Accessibility Inc. (C&P), to create an indoor accessibility map of Cameron Library on North Campus. The Atlas was built to help pedestrians navigate the outdoor built environment, and is a community-sourced, voice-interactive navigation app.

Read their complete press release here.



### Institute of Health Economics Announces New CEO

After an extensive search the Institute of Health Economics (IHE) Board of Directors has appointed Dr. Katherine (Kate) Harback as the new CEO and Executive Director for the IHE. Dr. Harback brings to the position significant applied economic expertise, not only in health, but in transportation and other industries with a high degree of public



and private interface and broad impact on the economy. She has been serving as Interim CEO for the IHE over the past year.

Read their complete press release here.

### New Members



**Our Partners** 

