



Stay Updated on News and Events in Alberta's Life Sciences Scene with BioBuzz!

Explore a range of exciting news and opportunities in this edition of BioBuzz, including the QuickFire Challenge Promoting Pivotal Progress, a limited chance to pitch to global investors, and initiatives advancing Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) in Alberta's bio-economy. Dive in to learn about these and more!

Estimated Reading Time: 8 minutes

Industry News

Announcing the BLUE KNIGHT™ Resident QuickFire Challenge: Promoting Pivotal Progress

Johnson & Johnson Innovation, in partnership with the Biomedical Advanced Research & Development Authority (BARDA), have launched the BLUE KNIGHT™ QuickFire Challenge: Promoting Pivotal Progress.

This new challenge offers current or alumni Blue Knight residents and their early-

stage collaborators the chance to receive award funding to help advance their technology and achieve pivotal commercialization milestones.

To be eligible, you must partner with a Blue Knight resident, who will act as the lead applicant for your partner track submission. If you're interested, submit your company information and partnership goals for potential collaboration.

[Read More and Submit Your Interest Here](#)

BioTalent Canada Announces Research Project to Strengthen Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility in Alberta's Bio-economy

BioTalent Canada has announced a new project, funded in part by the Province of Alberta and the Government of Canada, aimed at improving inclusivity, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA) in Alberta's bio-economy.

Partnering with industry stakeholders, the project will conduct a labour market study to identify employment trends and barriers faced by equity-deserving groups, with the goal of developing resources to support companies in adopting IDEA best practices.

BioTalent Canada will conduct a survey starting in mid-October to gather input from bio-economy employers. Interested organizations can participate by reaching out to info@biotalent.ca.

[Find More Information About Biotalent Canada](#)

NIHR | National Institute for
Health and Care Research

bio
alberta
Association for Life Sciences Industry

Hosted by BioAlberta, the NIHR's first **Virtual Office**

Delivering Net Zero in the NHS

The NHS is committed to delivering high-quality healthcare for all, both now and in the future. This includes addressing the immediate health emergency brought on by COVID-19, as well as the long-term threat of climate change. The impact of climate change—such as severe storms, heatwaves, and the spread of infectious diseases—threatens to reverse decades of health progress. Taking action can lead to significant public health improvements, including saving thousands of lives annually through better air quality, increased physical activity, and healthier diets. This report details the NHS's journey to achieve net zero emissions, outlining the modeling, expert guidance, and actions required to meet this critical goal. Read the full report and learn more about the NHS's climate ambitions.

[Read the full report](#)

Sustainable Supplier Assessment in the NHS

The Evergreen Sustainable Supplier Assessment is an online tool designed to help NHS suppliers align with the NHS's net zero and sustainability goals. By completing this self-assessment, suppliers can share sustainability information directly with the NHS and receive a maturity score based on NHS priorities, helping them understand their current position and how to progress. This tool is a valuable resource for suppliers on their sustainability journey and does not impact procurement evaluations. Click below to take the assessment and support the NHS's commitment to a greener future.

[Take the assessment here](#)

Beyond The Books Animation (By Amino Labs)

Amino Labs is dedicated to making genetic engineering and biotechnology accessible to learners, artists, and educators worldwide. As part of their efforts, they collaborated on a project through the DS4Y internship via BioTalent last spring. The result was an animation titled Beyond the Books, which highlights the vital role of mentorship in student success. It tells the story of a passionate young student who overcomes challenges in traditional school environments, with the unwavering support of their father and teacher. Beyond the Books emphasizes that with the right guidance and tools, every student can discover their unique path and make a meaningful impact in the world of biotechnology.

[Watch the animation here](#)

Industry Events



Oct 15-19, 2024

Edmonton Start Up Week

Edmonton Startup Week is returning from October 15-19, 2024, offering five days of workshops, networking events, and social gatherings that highlight the city's unique entrepreneurial identity and culture of innovation.

This event provides a platform for founders, industry leaders, and aspiring entrepreneurs to connect, share insights, and build momentum within Edmonton's thriving startup community. It's an opportunity to celebrate innovation and foster collaboration, making it a must-attend for anyone involved in the local startup ecosystem.

[Read more and register here](#)



2025 OBIO® Investment Summit

FEBRUARY 5 – 7 • TORONTO

**Submit your application
to pitch in person to global investors!**

obioinvestmentsummit.com

February 5-7, 2025

Pitch to Global Investors at the 2025 OBIO® Investment Summit

OBIO® invites Canadian health science companies specializing in therapeutics, medical devices, diagnostics, digital health, and health IT to apply for a chance to pitch to global investors at the OBIO® Investment Summit in Toronto, February 5-7, 2025.

This exclusive, invite-only event offers a unique opportunity for companies to engage in one-on-one meetings and build relationships with venture capitalists, strategic partners, and investors in the health science space. At the previous Summit, 40% of presenting companies were from outside Ontario.

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, and only those demonstrating strong growth potential for venture capital investment will be considered. With limited presentation spots available, early submission is encouraged.

Apply before November 1 for the first round of review.

[Submit Your Application Here](https://obioinvestmentsummit.com)

In Case You Missed It



Where the world of healthcare meets

Don't miss the 50th edition of Arab Health next year! As the healthcare industry's most important event, Arab Health plays an instrumental role in connecting regional and international policy leaders, thought leaders, and healthcare professionals through trade and innovation.

Save the date: 27 - 30 January 2025

Register your interest →

Book a stand →

January 27-30, 2025

Arab Health 2025: Join the Alberta Delegation

Join the Government of Alberta, Edmonton Global, and CED at Arab Health, taking place January 27-30, 2025, in Dubai, UAE. This is a key event for the Middle East and North Africa healthcare industry, attracting over 130,000 visitors and 3,300 exhibitors from 76 countries.

The event will feature:

- A Virtual B2B Program with limited spots.
- Healthcare Industry Briefing open to all Canadian participants
- Exclusive Networking Opportunities.

The B2B program will run from November to mid-January and is limited to companies attending in person. Confirm attendance by contacting Nicole Ng-Muk-Yuen at nicole.ngmukyuen@gov.ab.ca. Application opens in October.

[Read more about this event](#)

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