



Association for **Life Sciences** Industry

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


In this edition, we highlight key events and initiatives shaping the future of health innovation, entrepreneurship, and biomanufacturing, uncover opportunities in China's booming IVD market, gain essential fundraising insights in Alberta, and explore strategies to address the global health crisis of antimicrobial resistance. We also share details about the upcoming BioAlberta 2025 Policy Forum, the launch of CASTL's cutting-edge biomanufacturing training catalogue, and the exciting \$32 million federal funding boost for Lab2Market.

**Estimated Reading Time: 9 minutes**

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### **Upcoming Events**

# TCS Gateway into IVD Market in China

 January 21, 2025

 7:00PM EST

January 21, 2025

## **Capacity Building Webinar: TCS Gateway into IVD Market in China**

In 2023, the Chinese in vitro diagnostics (IVD) market reached USD 16.6 billion, demonstrating steady growth after the impact of COVID-19. Imported products accounted for 50% of total sales, an increase from 40% in 2022. The demand for clinical immunology grew by 15% annually, with 65% of these products being imported. This highlights significant opportunities for international players, particularly in the high-end market segment. Hosted by the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service (TCS) in Shanghai and co-organized with the China Association of In Vitro Diagnostics, this capacity-building webinar on [Tuesday, January 21st, 2025](#), provides expert insights and covers essential business topics, including market analysis, regulatory pathways, product positioning, cross-border partnerships, and IP considerations.

### **Who Will Benefit from Joining the Webinar?**

- Canadian IVD manufacturers, entrepreneurs and innovators
- Canadian lab service/solution providers and stakeholders
- Canadian organizations with footprint into/business link with IVD value chain
- Canadian business decision-makers in international sales & BD, market

access, IP protection and regulatory affairs

### Date and Time:

- Tuesday, January 21st, 2025, 4:00 PM (PST) / 5:00 PM (MST) / 6:00 PM (CST)

[Register to Save Your Seat](#)



January 23, 2025

### Capital Access: Raising Capital in Alberta

Raising capital can be a challenge. With the right knowledge, you can build a successful fundraising strategy that leverages regulatory opportunities and avoids the pitfalls.

On [January 23rd at 12:00 PM](#) attend the second installment of the Capital Access webinar series and learn the essentials of raising capital in Alberta from a regulatory perspective. Tonya Fleming, Manager, Private Markets and Innovation at the Alberta Securities Commission, will cover how to:

- Leverage provisions such as exemptions

- Avoid legal pitfalls or complications
- Optimize your fundraising efforts

Whether you're raising capital, advising entrepreneurs or investing, Tonya will discuss the tools you need to achieve long-term fundraising success.

[Register Here](#)



January 29, 2025

## **Save The Date: Advancing Prevention, A Discussion on Public Health Measures and Antimicrobial Resistance**

Start your day on [January 29th from 7:00 to 9:00 AM](#) with a thought-provoking discussion on one of the most critical global health challenges: antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

AMR is responsible for millions of deaths worldwide annually, with numbers expected to rise sharply without urgent action. This engaging session will explore the latest insights, strategies, and innovations in AMR prevention and management.

Learn how public health measures can reduce antibiotic reliance, prevent infections, and address the societal and economic impacts of this growing crisis.

This event is brought to you in partnership with Merck, Korte Consulting, Health Cities, and the Institute of Health Economics, with support from the Alberta Medical Association. Together, we're bringing forward new perspectives on this critical global health challenge.

**Speakers include:**

- **Dr. Sameeh M. Salama**, Chair | Canadian Antimicrobial Innovation Coalition
- **Dr. Kate Harback**, CEO and Executive Director | Institute of Health Economics
- **Dr. George Zhanel**, Professor and Associate Head, Max Rady College of Medicine, Medical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases | University of Manitoba
- **Robb Stoddard** (Moderator), President and CEO, BioAlberta

[Register Here](#)

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A promotional banner for the BioAlberta 2025 Annual Policy Forum. The background is a teal color with a faint image of hands holding a small object. In the top left corner is the BioAlberta logo, which includes a stylized 'b' and 'a' icon and the text 'bio alberta Association for Life Sciences Industry'. Below the logo, the text '2025 ANNUAL POLICY FORUM' is written in white. The main message 'TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW' is displayed in large, bold, white capital letters in the center. At the bottom left, a location pin icon is followed by the text 'FAIRMONT HOTEL MACDONALD, EDMONTON'. At the bottom right, a calendar icon is followed by the text 'FEBRUARY 27, 2025'.

**bio alberta**  
Association for Life Sciences Industry

**2025 ANNUAL  
POLICY FORUM**

**TICKETS ARE  
AVAILABLE NOW**

**FAIRMONT HOTEL  
MACDONALD, EDMONTON**

**FEBRUARY 27, 2025**

February 27, 2025

## 2025 Policy Forum

Tickets are now available for the BioAlberta 2025 Policy Forum, Alberta's premier event for health innovation and policy leadership. Join us on [February 27th from 10:30 AM to 6:00 PM](#), for a day of engaging discussions with prominent speakers, addressing the province's strategies for overcoming challenges, fostering collaboration with federal and provincial governments, and driving transformative outcomes in the life sciences sector.

### Panel Topics:

- The Emerging Role of Diagnostics in Health Innovation
- It's Not About Time: How Federal and Provincial Systems Are Health Delaying Investments in Health Innovation
- Alberta's AMR Advantage: Is Alberta Positioned to Lead Canada's Battle Against Antimicrobial Resistance?

The event will feature a keynote address from the Hon. Adriana LaGrange, Alberta Minister of Health, during the luncheon, followed by an afternoon of insightful panel discussions. The day will conclude with a premier networking reception for life science professionals.

[Register Here](#)

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**Don't Miss Out**





## **CASTL Launches 2025 Training Catalogue**

CASTL is excited to announce the launch of our 2025 Biomanufacturing Course Catalogue! Whether you're upskilling, reskilling, or seeking custom solutions for your team, CASTL has the training courses you need to stay ahead in the dynamic biomanufacturing industry.

### **Here's What's Inside:**

- Customized Training Solutions: Tailored to your processes, delivered at your convenience
- Open Courses: Explore hands-on workshops and engaging lectures at our facilities in Charlottetown, Montreal, or Vancouver—or online.
- CASTL Online Academy: Access NIBRT-certified courses anytime, anywhere.

### **What's New in 2025?**

- Training now offered at our newest state-of-the-art facility in Vancouver, BC.
- BioWorks Upskilling Program: Save 50% on customized training for your team.
- Exciting new courses, including:
  - Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) Workshop
  - Contamination Control Workshop
  - Core Lab Skills

- Aseptic Transfer Best Practices

Download your copy of the 2025 Course Catalogue today and easily register for the training that fits your goals.

**BONUS:** Use discount code **NEWYEAR15** at checkout for **15% off** all Open Courses. [Valid until February 3rd, 2025.](#)

[Download Catalogue](#)

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**Strengthen Alberta's biosciences workforce: share your insights in a short survey**

Your leadership in the biosciences sector plays a vital role in shaping the future of Alberta's workforce. With a significant talent shortage, recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce contributes to ensuring your organization's resiliency. BioTalent Canada invites you to take 20 minutes to participate in a survey that will not only



highlight your organization's efforts but also contribute to building a stronger, more inclusive biosciences community.

[Link to Survey Here](#)

Please complete by [February 7th, 2025](#).

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## Alberta News

# Lab2Market Awarded Government of Canada Grant

Canada's National Network for Innovation, Commercialization, and  
Entrepreneurship Skills Training Receives Over \$32 Million Over 5 Years



## Big News for Canadian Innovation and Entrepreneurship!

Lab2Market, Canada's national network for innovation, commercialization, and entrepreneurship skills training, has been awarded \$32 million in funding from the Government of Canada through the Lab to Market grants, administered by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) in collaboration with the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). This investment will propel our mission to transform academic research into real-world solutions, startups, and impact across the country.

Since 2020, Lab2Market, in partnership with Mitacs, has supported over 1,000 researchers and students from 40+ academic institutions, resulting in 133+ startups, \$34.1M in follow-on funding, and countless stories of innovation—like battery breakthroughs now powering Tesla or revolutionary cancer treatments earning global recognition.

With this new funding, we're scaling nationally with six regional hubs and a health-focused hub to empower Canada's brightest minds to tackle society's biggest challenges. From idea validation to venture creation, we're helping build Canada's innovation ecosystem and fostering talent for the future.

Learn more about Lab2Market's programs and the impact we're creating:

[Learn More](#)

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## **Alberta Enterprise Corporation invests \$5 million into Pender Ventures Fund II**

Alberta Enterprise Corporation (AEC) announced on [January 16, 2025](#), that it has invested CAD \$5 million into Pender Ventures' CAD \$100-million Pender Technology Inflection Fund II to expand access to early-stage capital for technology businesses and health technology startups in Alberta. Pender Ventures has also established a full-time presence in the province, with a new team member in Calgary.

[Read More](#)

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# PLATINUM

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& Johnson



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