



Association for **Life Sciences** Industry

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

Welcome to the December edition of BioBuzz! In this issue, we cover upcoming events, industry highlights, news, and more. Stay informed about the latest advancements and opportunities shaping Alberta's life sciences sector.

**Estimated Reading Time: 4 minutes**

---

### **Industry Highlights**

#### **New Machine Learning Model Reveals Unexpected Protein-Sugar Interactions**

A team of GlycoNet researchers at the University of Alberta has contributed to a major step forward in computational glycomics with a new study published in Science Advances, introducing MCNet, a machine learning model that predicts how strongly proteins (lectins) interact with sugars (glycans).

[Read more](#)

---

## **LUPRON DEPOT® New Strength Receives Health Canada Approval for the Treatment of Advanced Prostate Cancer**

AbbVie: LUPRON DEPOT® is a hormonal medication first approved by Health Canada in 1989 for advanced prostate cancer, and later for various conditions, including endometriosis, uterine fibroids, and central precocious puberty

[Read more](#)

---

## **Medtech Canada Pushes for Stronger CUSMA Commitments to Protect Patients in Canada**

Medtech Canada, the national association representing Canada's medical technology industry, has formally submitted its recommendations to Global Affairs Canada as part of the consultation process for the upcoming 2026 joint review of the Canada–United States–Mexico Agreement (CUSMA).

[Read more](#)

---

## **Government of Canada Launches Suite of Recruitment Measures to Attract International Researchers**

This one-time initiative will support breakthroughs that transform bold discoveries into innovative products, ideas, policies, and solutions that build a strong and resilient Canada.

[Read more](#)

---

## **2025 Mitacs Innovation Awards**

The 2025 Mitacs Innovation Awards, presented at National Arts Centre and streamed online to a global audience, brought together government, industry, and academic

leaders to celebrate Canada's top research and innovation talent.

[Read more](#)

---

## Upcoming Events

**PRAIRIE BIOECONOMY GUILD**

# TOUR OF THE BIO PROCESSING INNOVATION CENTRE

**Prairie Bioeconomy GUILD**

**bioalberta**  
Association for Life Sciences Industry

**MNP**

Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2026 • 5pm to 7pm

BPIC, 5520 36 St NW

**Alberta**  
Government

January 14, 2026

### Tour of the Bio Processing Innovation Centre

Join BioAlberta for a tour of the Bio Processing Innovation Centre! BPIC is a 10,000 sqft pilot facility providing essential product development and scale-up support to the growing bioeconomy.

**Capacity is limited to 25 spots for this tour.** Please register only if you're able to attend.

[Register today](#)

---

**BECOME A  
SPONSOR!**

**SECURE YOUR PLACE,  
ELEVATE YOUR  
VISIBILITY AND BE  
RECOGNIZED AS AN  
INDUSTRY LEADER!**

 **THE WESTIN EDMONTON**



**MARCH 5, 2026**

March 5, 2026

## **Annual Policy Forum**

BioAlberta's Policy Forum on **March 5, 2026** at the Westin Edmonton will bring together leaders from across Alberta's life sciences ecosystem to discuss trade, talent, and patient-centred innovation.

Sponsorship is a powerful way to secure your place in the conversation, elevate your visibility, and be recognized as an industry leader in Alberta's health innovation community.

[Learn more](#)

---

**Industry Support**



# REGIONAL GAPP

Genomic Applications  
Partnership Program

## **NEW Funding Available for Public-Private R&D to Advance Commercialization of Genomics Technology**

Genome Alberta is now accepting applications for the Regional Genomic Applications Partnership Program (R-GAPP). This program supports public-private R&D collaborations aiming to develop, de-risk and commercialize biotech innovations across Alberta's strategic sectors, including health, agriculture and agri-food, environment and energy, forestry, and technology platforms.

**Application deadline:** February 11, 2026

See [genomealberta.ca](https://genomealberta.ca) for program details.

Register for the [Information Session](#) on Jan 8, 2026

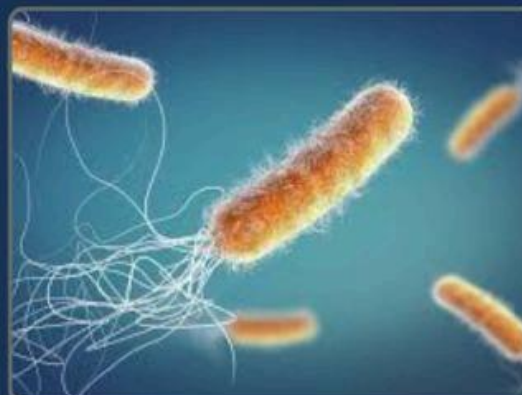
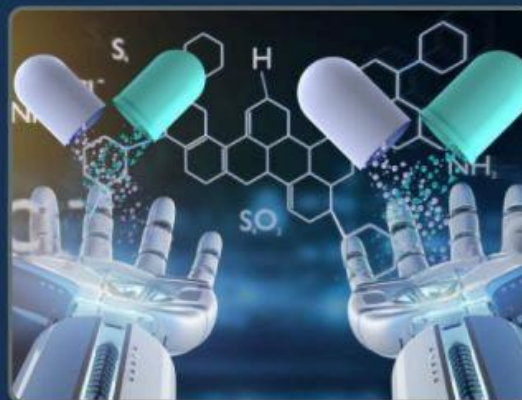
Register for the [Information Session](#) on Jan 12, 2026

---

**Antibiotic Drug  
Discovery:  
From AI-Enabled  
Discovery to Successful  
Commercialization**  
Comprehensive Training

12 Virtual Sessions  
Wednesdays  
January 21 - April 15, 2026  
11:00 am - 12:30 pm MT

For More Information &  
To Register:  
[canamrnet.org](http://canamrnet.org)



**Antibiotic Drug Discovery: From AI-Enabled Discovery to  
Successful Commercialization - Comprehensive Training**

The course is designed for graduate students, post-doctoral fellows (PDF), researchers, and professionals in pharmaceutical sciences, microbiology, computational biology, and related fields who wish to gain a thorough understanding of modern approaches to addressing the global challenge of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) through innovative antibiotic development.

- Wednesdays, January 21 – April 15, 2026
- 12 live sessions via Zoom

**Registration deadline:** January 7, 2026

[Read more](#)

---

## **Save 50% on Customized Biomanufacturing Training**

Thanks to the CASTL BioWorks subsidy (funded by Upskill Canada and the Government of Canada), companies can save 50% on CASTL's customized training programs.

[Read more](#)

---



## **Applications for Fall SWPP Term Now Open**

BioTalent Canada's Digital Skills for Youth (DS4Y) program boosts an organization's capacity to advance digital innovations and accelerate Canada's position as a world leader in the ever-evolving knowledge economy by helping underemployed post-secondary graduates enhance and develop digital and soft skills through work and training opportunities.

**Eligible employers receive 80% in employer supports, up to a maximum amount of \$24,000** (a combination of paid internship and training support).

[Contact BioTalent to get started](#)

---

## **Alberta Export Expansion Program**

The Alberta Export Expansion Program (AEEP) supports Alberta's small- and medium-sized enterprises, industry associations, Indigenous organizations, economic development organizations that promote Alberta exports through international travel to formal outbound trade events.

[Read more](#)

---

## Call for Proposals: Non-Dilutive Funding Available

VITAL is an accelerator hub in the U.S. Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) Accelerator Network (BAN). The BAN fosters the growth of the global health security innovation ecosystem by supporting early-stage companies to overcome their business, marketing, and operational hurdles.

[Read the program overview](#)

[Read the one-pager](#)

[Read more](#)

---

## NIHR Funding Opportunities

The following new funding opportunities are available:

- [Early action and prevention within Health and Social Care Services](#)
- [Pre-Application Support Fund \(Cohort 7\)](#)
- [Shaping and supporting the health, public health and social care workforce of the future](#)
- [Themed Calls](#)

For more funding opportunities with NIHR [click here](#)

---

# CORPORATE MEMBERS

## PLATINUM



## GOLD



## SILVER



[View email in browser](#)

[update your preferences or unsubscribe](#)

