



Association for **Life Sciences** Industry

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

Welcome to the second March 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: 4.5 minutes**

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### **Industry Highlights**



## 2026 BioAlberta Annual Achievement Awards

Nominations are now open for the BioAlberta 2026 Achievement Awards! Do you know a life sciences company making an impact in Alberta? Or a leader helping to grow and strengthen our sector? Now's the time to recognize their contributions.

**Nominations close May 15, 2026.**

Let's celebrate the people and organizations moving Alberta's life sciences sector forward.

[Learn more and submit a nomination](#)

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## NanoTess Lands Embecta Deal to Put Its Tech in 14,000 Canadian Pharmacies

NanoTess, which develops technology to treat chronic wounds, announced the partnership with Embecta on Tuesday that will see Embecta distribute NanoTess's NanoSALV Catalytic, a topical gel that uses tiny, catalytic particles to accelerate healing in chronic wounds like diabetic foot ulcers, venous leg ulcers, and other difficult-to-heal sores.

[Read more](#)

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## **Biomedical Countermeasures Initiative**

The National Research Council of Canada's has announced its Biomedical Countermeasures Initiative, introduced as part of the federal government's Defence Industrial Strategy. It is an important step in strengthening Canada's domestic capacity to develop and manufacture diagnostics, vaccines, and therapeutics, and help move biomedical innovation into real-world solutions in response to biological threats.

[Read more](#)

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## **State of Readiness Progress Report**

The 2026 State of Readiness for the Consideration and Adoption of Genomic Medicine Progress Report provides a pan-Canadian assessment of whether health systems have the conditions needed to consider and implement these tests. The report highlights progress made since 2023, particularly in Ontario and Nova Scotia, and identifies persistent gaps that need to be addressed to ensure consistent, high-quality delivery.

[Read more](#)

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## **Canadian Company Seeks to Stand Out with Domestically-Made Generic Ozempic**

Vimy Pharma, a Canadian pharmaceutical company, is vying to break into the market with a generic version of one of the most well-known prescription drugs in the world: Ozempic. If approved, the drug would be mass-produced at the new critical medicines production centre in Edmonton.

[Read more](#)

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## **Mandatory Health Canada Regulatory Enrollment Process coming into effect April 1st**

As part of the Medical Devices Directorate's (MDD) digital transformation, use of the Common Electronic Submission Gateway (CESG) and the Regulatory Enrolment Process (REP) will become mandatory on April 1, 2026.

[Read more](#)

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## **Canada Invests in Genomics R&D to Accelerate Industry Growth and Technology Adoption**

The Government of Canada has announced \$20 million in federal investment in genomics research and development. Through Genome Canada and regional Genome Centres to launch 33 new genomics R&D projects across the country.

[Read more](#)

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## **New Task Force to Enhance Canada's Competitiveness and Improve Access to Innovative Medicines**

The Government of Canada has announced the creation of the Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences Sector Task Force. The Task Force will explore innovative, made-in-Canada solutions that enhance competitiveness, and long-term growth to support reliable and sustainable access to pharmaceutical products in Canada.

[Read more](#)

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# Master of Biomedical Technology

Are you a biotechnology company looking for talent? Do you want to hire students trained in developing & commercializing innovation? Have you thought of hiring MBT students for a 3 month internship?

**MBT Internship Coordinator**  
**Dr. Zenobia Ali**  
zali@ucalgary.ca

[cumming.ucalgary.ca/gse](http://cumming.ucalgary.ca/gse)



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CALGARY**

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For more information, please email Zenobia Ali at [zali@ucalgary.ca](mailto:zali@ucalgary.ca)

[Read more](#)

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## Upcoming Events

PRAIRIE BIOECONOMY GUILD

# NEW TO LIFE SCIENCES: WHAT I'VE LEARNED IN MY FIRST YEAR AT A LIFE SCIENCES STARTUP



**JASON WATT**  
CEO & CO-FOUNDER,  
FEYNMED SOLUTIONS



📅 Wednesday, April 8, 2026 • 5pm to 7pm  
📍 MKT, 8101 Gateway Blvd NW



April 8, 2026

## Bioeconomy Guild - April Event

### New to Life Sciences: What I've Learned in my First Year at a Life Sciences Startup

In this session, **Jason Watt**, CEO & Co-Founder of **FeynMed Solutions**, shares insights from his first year navigating the sector from a quasi-outsider's perspective. From shaping a business plan and crafting a compelling narrative to building a team, securing partners, and managing early-stage operations, this talk offers a candid look at the realities of starting and scaling in life sciences. It will also touch on fundraising and cap tables, lessons from JPM Healthcare Week, the realities of operating a facility without revenue, and preparing for future regulatory demands.

**NOTE:** this event will be at our new 2026 location: **MKT, 8101 Gateway Blvd. Free parking available.**

[Register today](#)

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# Join the Conversation



Get Your Tickets Now  
[www.dilwalk.ca](http://www.dilwalk.ca)

## PRECISION HEALTH & LONGEVITY SUMMIT

April 25 - 26, 2026

April 25-26, 2026

### **Precision Health & Longevity Summit 2026**

The Summit brings together leaders across precision medicine, longevity science, AI, genomics, digital health, microbiome research, nutrition, and health-system innovation to explore the future of health and collaborative solutions.

[Register today](#)

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### **WORKSHOP: Advancing Computational Drug Design: New Mathematical Approaches from Multiscale to AI**



Banff International Research Station  
for Mathematical Innovation and Discovery

**MAY 3-8, 2026**



Limited free ONLINE seats

May 3-8, 2026

## Workshop: Advancing Computational Drug Design

This workshop aims to explore cutting-edge mathematical approaches that are transforming the field of computational drug design. By bringing together diverse experts from academia, industry, and innovation support organizations, this workshop will foster interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation.

- Computational Methods in Modern Drug Design
- Artificial Intelligence as an Accelerator in Drug Discovery
- Multiscale Modelling of Molecular and Biological Systems
- Statistical Mechanics and Molecular Simulation Applications
- Emerging Computational Paradigms in Drug Discovery
- Commercialization Strategy and Financing Opportunities

[Read more](#)

[Request an invite for a virtual seat](#)

**THE ART OF LEADERSHIP WOMEN** | Presented by **OSLER**

Canada's #1 Women's Leadership Conference

 MARCI IEN	 ASHLEY HERD	 NIDHI TEWARI	 DR. LESLIE JOHN
OTTAWA May 13	TORONTO May 14	VANCOUVER June 11	CALGARY June 12

**JOANNA GRIFFITHS**

Register Today - [TheArtOf.com](http://TheArtOf.com)

June 12, 2026

## The Art of Leadership Women

Elevate your leadership with The Art of Leadership Women conference, returning to Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, and **Calgary!** Develop your leaders, engage your talent, and build high-performing teams.

Use code **BIOAB45** to save \$50 per pass or \$100 per pass for groups of 5+.

[Register today](#)

[Learn more](#)

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## Industry Support



### **BIO International Discount for BioAlberta Members**

BIOTECCanada has arranged a special discount for our members for Premier Access registration to BIO International, which will be held in San Diego June 22-25, 2026. Premier Access includes all convention content and access plus use of the BIO partnering platform. The special pricing saves \$650 off the registration cost.

To obtain your discounted Premier Access Registration for BIO International Convention, simply [complete this form](#) to receive an electronic invoice for payment.

For more information, contact **Shaely Williams** - Director, Membership & Events  
BIOTECCanada [shaely.williams@biotech.ca](mailto:shaely.williams@biotech.ca).

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# Partnering to simplify Life Sciences travel.

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## Let Corporate Traveller Simplify Your Business Travel

Planning your travel for the year ahead? BioAlberta members have exclusive access to Corporate Traveller's expertise in managing business travel with ease and efficiency. Through our partnership, you can streamline your trips, reduce costs, and enjoy personalized support tailored to the life sciences industry.

Whether you're heading to major industry events like the BIO International Conference or travelling to expand your business, Corporate Traveller is here to help.

Learn more about [Corporate Traveller's experience with the life sciences industry](#) or [BioAlberta's membership benefits](#).

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# Cultivate your environmental STEM team

[biotalent.ca/ScienceHorizons](https://biotalent.ca/ScienceHorizons)



This project was undertaken with the financial support of:  Environment and Climate Change Canada / Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

## Science Horizons Youth Internship Program

Important notice: The Science Horizons Youth Internship Program has new additional openings for the 2025-2026 year and is now accepting application submissions! Receive up to \$25,000 in funding support to provide post-secondary graduates with paid internship opportunities in an environment-related STEM field.

[Read more](#)

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## BioTalent Canada is Accepting Applications for the Winter 2026 Term Student Work Placement Program

The Student Work Placement Program (SWPP) is a paid internship/Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) initiative to provide students on-the-job training to increase their job-readiness after graduation.

The program gives employers the freedom to:

- Access to support to hire students for a paid internship
- Leverage a pool of workers eager to enhance their skills
- Provide on-the-job experience for young talent

- Develop new talent for future recruitment needs

[Read more](#)

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## **BioInnovation Scientist (BIS) Program**

CASTL's BioInnovation Scientist (BIS) Foundations program is for anyone interested in a drug discovery role who already has a scientific background or is in the early stages of a life sciences career.

CASTL's BioInnovation Scientist (BIS) Industry Essentials program is for those considering an entry-level role supporting drug discovery — no scientific background required.

**Registration deadline:** April 6, 2026

[Read more](#)

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## **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](#)

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## **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](#)

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## **NIHR Funding Opportunities**

The following new funding opportunities are available:

- [Shaping and supporting the health, public health and social care workforce of the future](#)
- [Themed Calls](#)

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

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