



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

Welcome to the second September 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

Industry Highlights

My Viva Inc. Joins CMS ACCESS Model to Advance Technology-Enabled Chronic Care Management

My Viva Inc. announced it has been named among the accepted applicants for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Advancing Chronic Care with Effective, Scalable Solutions (ACCESS) Model.

The voluntary payment model shifts healthcare reimbursement toward measurable health outcomes, encouraging organizations to deliver coordinated, technology-supported care between visits

[Read more](#)

API receives \$21.9 million from the Government of Canada to launch the Canadian Allied Antimicrobial Supply Resilience Initiative

The Government of Canada announced a \$67 million investment in the life sciences sector through the Life Sciences Fund. As part of this investment, Applied Pharmaceutical Innovation (API) is receiving \$21.9 million toward our \$23.5 million initiative to launch the Canadian Allied Antimicrobial Supply Resilience Initiative.

[Read more](#)

Alberta Government Maintaining Covid Vaccine Fee as It Prepares for Fall Influenza Campaign

The Alberta government says its provincewide influenza, COVID and respiratory syncytial virus vaccination campaign will begin next month. The province said it's maintaining the \$100 fee it brought in last year for those seeking the COVID vaccine, though there's a long list of reasons that could see the fee be waived for people, such as having health conditions that put them at risk for severe illness.

[Read more](#)

NanoTess Co-Founders Named In Canada's Top 40 Under 40

NanoTess Co-Founders Megan Leslie and Julian Mulia have been announced as recipients of Canada's Top 40 Under 40 Award for 2026.

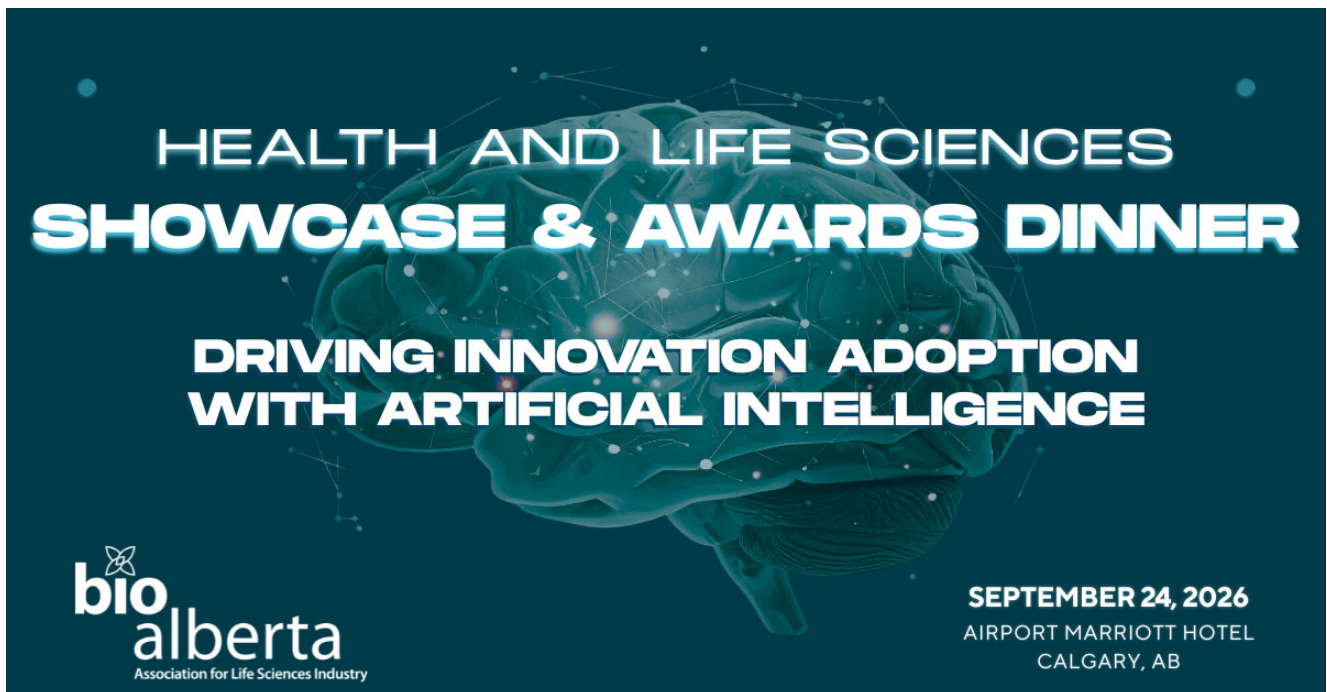
[Read more](#)

Canada mRNA Therapeutics: From Vaccine Capacity to Next-Generation Medicines

Canada is moving beyond COVID-19 vaccines. The country is building capabilities across mRNA therapeutics, cancer vaccines, RNA delivery, lipid nanoparticles, GMP manufacturing and genetic medicines.

[Read more](#)

Upcoming Events



September 24, 2026

2026 Health and Life Sciences Showcase & Awards Dinner

See you at HLSS on Thursday!

This premier event will bring together industry leaders, innovators, and stakeholders for a day of insightful discussions, expert panels, and strategic networking, followed by an evening celebrating excellence in Alberta's life sciences community at the Awards Dinner.

[Register and read more](#)

PRAIRIE BIOECONOMY GUILD

FROM BIOFUELS TO BIOSTIMS: SIXRING'S JOURNEY TO COMMERCIALIZATION



RON HOFFMANN
VICE PRESIDENT
SIXRING INC.



📅 Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2026 • 5pm to 7pm
📍 The Ampersand, 4th Avenue SW, Calgary



October 13, 2026

Calgary Bioeconomy Guild Night - October

Join Ron Hoffmann, Vice President of SixRing Inc., at our Calgary Guild night as he discusses the challenges bio-industrial technology developers face across the landscape. These include raising risk capital for a first-of-kind scaled facility, navigating a complex and dynamic policy environment, securing product offtakes (especially in a conservative Canadian market), and ultimately emerging through the technology valley of death to commercial sustainability and societal impact.

[Read more](#)

PRAIRIE BIOECONOMY GUILD

SAFETY AS A GROWTH STRATEGY



JULIUS FRU CHE
FOUNDING PARTNER,
VIGIQUEST



📅 Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2026 • 5pm to 7pm
📍 MKT, 8101 Gateway Blvd NW



October 14, 2026

Bioeconomy Guild Night - October

Can safety monitoring be more than a regulatory requirement for regulated health products? Join Julius Fru Che, Founding Partner of VigiQuest, as he takes a look at what the evidence says about how safety shapes consumer trust, brand resilience, and growth, and why the answer is not what the industry usually tells itself. Drawing on how companies actually perceive the value of safety monitoring, and on the experiences of some well-known brands, the talk examines what this means for regulated products in a market where scrutiny is rising and trust is hard-won.

[Read more](#)

Health & Life Sciences Industry Collaboration Initiative



September 22, 2026

UCalgary Health & Life Sciences Industry Collaboration Initiative

The UCalgary Health & Life Sciences Industry Collaboration Initiative brings together startups, SMEs and MNEs, researchers, foundations, and agnostic sectors for a day of collaboration and exploring new possibilities.

[Read more](#)

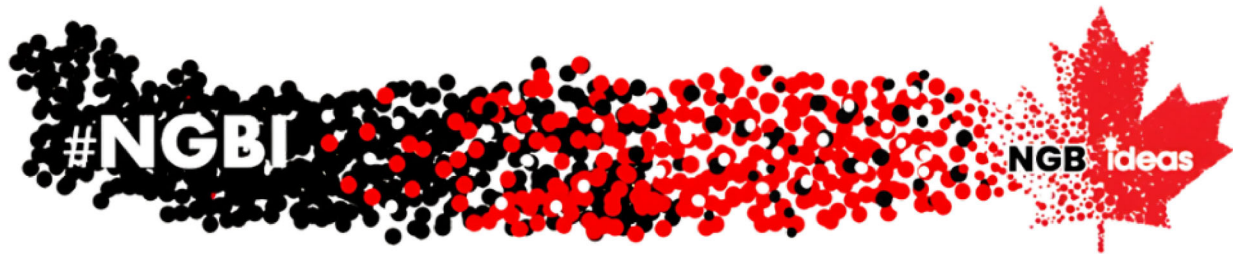


September 22-23, 2026

BIONATION 2026

BIOTECANADA members, biotechnology leaders, policymakers, elected officials, investors, and sector partners will come together at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa for two days of focused discussion about the future of Canadian biotech.

[Read more](#)



September 28-29, 2026

NEXT GREAT BIG IDEAS

The NextGreatBigIdeas Summit is an annual, national networking event for Canada's Life Sciences community. As an independently organized, not-for-profit fundraising event, we proudly support MacKids—the fundraising arm of Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation dedicated to McMaster Children's Hospital.

[Read more](#)



One Six 8 Ventures

GLOBAL MEDTECH SHOWCASE

VIRTUAL: SEPTEMBER 29TH 11 AM EST

OUR PANELISTS:



JENNIFER JOE

ABBOTT
VP, Business Development
& Strategy



ALEX SAUTER

STRYKER
Corporate Business
Development Director



HIRAK PARIKH

JOHNSON & JOHNSON
Venture Investments
Principal



GEOFF DACOSTA

PHILIPS
Head of Business
Development (IGT)



JAMES DURONIO

HOLOGIC
Sr. Director of Business
Development



DEV DASH

STANFORD MEDICINE
Emergency Medicine
Faculty

OUR SPONSORS



September 29, 2026

Global MedTech Showcase

Showcase your life-saving technology to a global virtual audience. We're looking for visionary founders ready to revolutionize healthcare by tackling critical inefficiencies in the industry.

[Read more](#)



October 14, 2026

Health Data Connect

Health Data Connect, hosted by the University Hospital Foundation and Alberta Innovates, returns for its second year, bringing together the people and ideas shaping the future of health care through data, AI and innovation.

[Read more](#)

Industry Support



Health Innovation Lab Funding

The Health Innovation Lab is designed to help promising health innovations move from idea to real-world implementation. Successful applicants can access:

- Up to \$300,000 in funding
- Expertise from Amii's world-class machine learning researchers and scientists
- Access to administrative health data
- Support to help advance commercialization and adoption

Deadline: September 28

[Read more and apply here](#)



CIHR Funding

Calling all researchers! Are you interested in applying for CIHR funding?

Closing soon:

- Operating Grant: Data Analysis Using Existing Canadian Databases and Cohorts
- Operating Grant: Aging in the Community
- Catalyst Grant: Analysis of CLSA Data

[Read more and apply here](#)



Recruit the right talent. Accelerate your projects.

Looking for skilled talent to help your company advance a key business development or data science initiative or project? Genome Alberta, with support from Alberta Advanced Education, offers Work Placement Programs that connect Alberta-based companies with talented recent graduates.

Become a host organization and gain:

- Access to highly skilled talent
- Additional capacity to advance key initiatives
- Fresh perspectives on business development and innovation
- A runway with talented potential future employees
-

Your company must be working in the space of health, energy, environment, or agriculture and agri-food **with a genomics/omics component**.

As a host organization, your company will provide a meaningful work placement that supports participants' skill and career growth through mentorship and supervision.

Interested in becoming a host company?

[Read more and apply here](#)

Northern and Regional Economic Development Program Now Open

You are invited to join us to learn more about the Northern and Regional Economic Development (NRED) Program.

NRED funds initiatives led by Alberta municipalities, Indigenous communities and non-profit organizations that promote regional economic development and diversification.

During this session, we will provide information about the NRED program, which is accepting applications for its fifth intake from **August 24, 2026**, until 4 pm on November 19, 2026.

Multiple dates and times available for info sessions.

[Read more](#)

\$150-million Life Sciences Venture Fund by BDC

Life sciences are a strategic pillar of Canada's economic resilience, public health, and long-term competitiveness, yet remain underfunded despite strong performance and global potential. BDC's \$150 million Life Sciences Venture Fund is designed to strengthen Canada's life sciences ecosystem by addressing critical capital gaps throughout a company's growth journey.

[Read more](#)

BioTalent Canada is Accepting Applications for the Student Work Placement Program

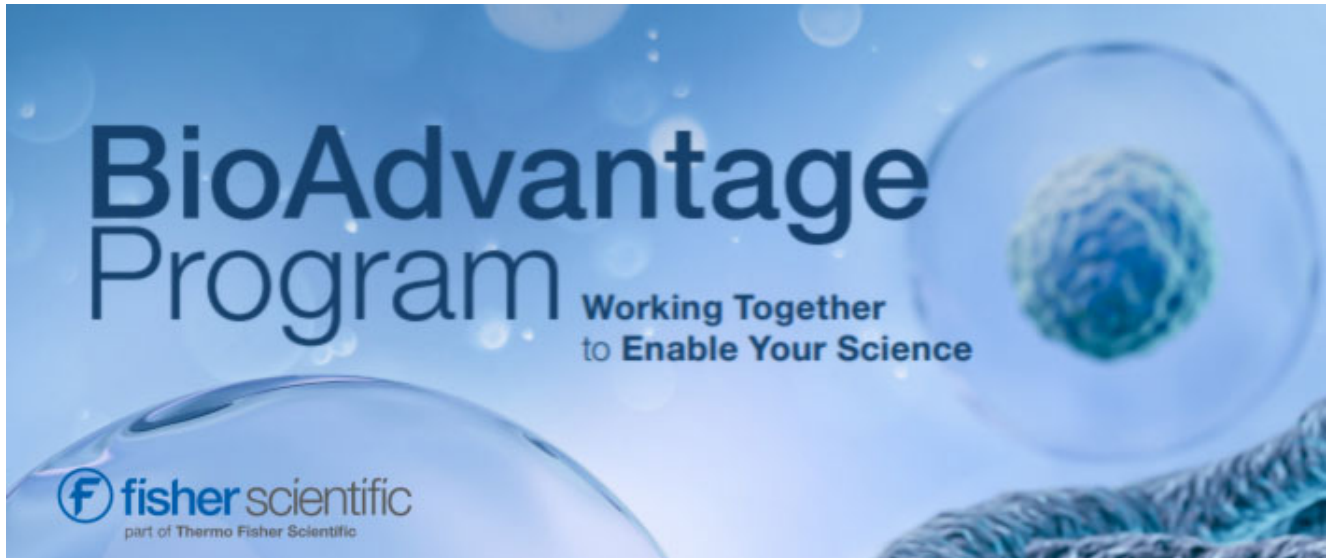
The Student Work Placement Program (SWPP) is a paid internship/Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) initiative to provide students on-the-job training to increase their job-readiness after graduation.

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](#)



BioAdvantage Program by Fisher Scientific

Through the BioAdvantage Program in partnership with BioAlberta, our members gain access to discount pricing on an extensive catalogue of laboratory and safety products, backed by customer support.

View all [BioAdvantage Program benefits](#).

For more information, contact **Sarah Sarkissian**, Industry Director, Clinical, Biotech & Pharma segments sarah.sarkissian@thermofisher.com

Avantor® and BioAlberta: Together, Advancing Scientific Innovation

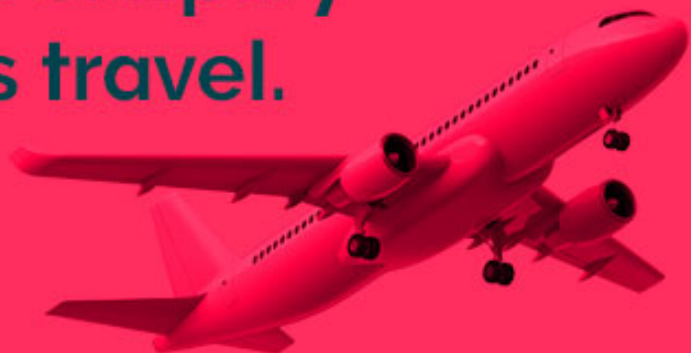
BioAlberta Program by Avantor

With Avantor® as the convenient purchasing channel, Avantor® provides single-source access for all the solutions you need to set science in motion. Partnered with BioAlberta, we have created a highly competitive research and life science program that offers members exclusive access to contracted pricing from the leading distributor in life science research

For more information, contact your local sales representative or all our dedicated customer service line at **1-800-932-5000**.

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with ease.



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**bio
alberta**
Association for Life Sciences Industry

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](#).

CASTL's BioInnovation Scientist (BIS) Program

Canada's life sciences sector is growing fast, and it needs professionals ready to lead in biomanufacturing, therapeutic innovation, and drug development. Whether you're a scientist looking to break into industry or a non-scientist supporting R&D teams, the CASTL BioInnovation Scientist (BIS) Program, developed by adMare, offers two targeted learning pathways to help you thrive.

[Read more](#)

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:

- [EME/HTA-Postdoctoral Award: Building clinical trials experience funding opportunity](#)
- [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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