

**Publications of the Week**
**A Widespread Coral-Infecting Apicomplexan with Chlorophyll Biosynthesis Genes**

 First Author: Waldan Kwong | Senior Author: Patrick Keeling *(pictured)*  
 Nature | UBC


Apicomplexa is a group of obligate intracellular parasites that includes the causative agents of human diseases such as malaria and toxoplasmosis. The authors used community surveys, genomics and microscopy analyses to identify an apicomplexan lineage—which they informally name ‘corallicolids’—that was found at a high prevalence across all major groups of corals. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

**Multi-Platform Discovery of Haplotype-Resolved Structural Variation in Human Genomes**

 First Author: Mark Chaisson | Contributing Author: Peter Lansdorp *(pictured)* | Senior Author: Charles Lee  
 Nature Communications | BC Cancer and UBC


The incomplete identification of structural variants from whole-genome sequencing data limits studies of human genetic diversity and disease association. The authors applied a suite of long-read, short-read, and strand-specific sequencing technologies, optical mapping, and variant discovery algorithms to comprehensively analyze three trios to define the full spectrum of human genetic variation in a haplotype-resolved manner. [Profile](#) | [Abstract](#)

**Splicing, Genome Stability and Disease: Splice Like Your Genome Depends on It!**

 First Author: Annie Tam | Senior Author: Peter Stirling *(pictured)*  
 Current Genetics | Terry Fox Laboratory and UBC


The spliceosome has been implicated in genome maintenance for decades. Recently, a surge in discoveries in cancer has suggested that the oncogenic mechanism of spliceosomal defects may involve defective genome stability. The authors review different models, highlighting their discovery in different model systems, and describing their potential impact on human disease states. [Abstract](#)

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**Local News**
**New Research Illuminates Preterm Babies' Response to Infections**

UBC Faculty of Medicine



Dr. Pascal Lavoie *(pictured)*, neonatologist at BC Women's Hospital and Health Centre and investigator at BC Children's Hospital, has dedicated his research to finding ways to reduce the threat of infections in preterm babies to give the tiny patients the best possible chance to grow and thrive. He has found that the earlier a baby is born, the lower the activity of mTOR, a protein responsible for suppressing the immune system. [Read More](#)

**BC Cancer Researchers Demonstrate the Promise of a Novel Radiation Treatment for Metastatic Cancer Patients**

BC Cancer



Research led by Dr. Robert Olson *(pictured)* at BC Cancer has found that the use of Stereotactic Ablative Radiotherapy (SABR) technology may improve survival rates for patients with limited metastatic cancer. These findings are the result of the world's first randomized clinical trial of SABR as it relates to cancer that has already spread to other parts of the body. [Read More](#)

**SFU Grad Student Develops Technology to Impact Patient Care and Improve Health**

SFU News



SFU PhD candidate Caresa Liu's research focuses on relatively small areas of the brain, but her view of science and technology is much bigger. Liu's passion is developing technologies that impact patient care and improve patient health. At NeuroTech Lab, where many SFU researchers are testing and developing technology solutions, Liu studies the brain's awareness of the environment as part of its “vital signs.” [Read More](#)

**LifeSciences BC Announces New President and CEO to Lead Organization**

LifeSciences BC



Wendy Hurlbert *(pictured)* is the new President and CEO of LifeSciences BC. Hurlbert, a senior executive who brings more than 20 years of global finance, operations and compliance leadership experience in healthcare and technology sectors, has held leadership positions at Johnson & Johnson, the Heart & Stroke Foundation and Lexmark International. [Read More](#)

**Scientists Join UBC as New Canada Excellence Research Chairs**

UBC News



Two internationally recognized researchers join UBC as Canada Excellence Research Chairs, bringing international talent in the fields of forest bioproducts and precision cancer drug design. Orlando Rojas has accepted the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Forest Bioproducts, while Sriram Subramaniam *(pictured)* will hold the Gobind Khorana Canada Excellence Research Chair in Precision Cancer Drug Design. [Read More](#)

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**Interesting Articles**
**Inspired by Terry Fox's Legacy, Canadian Cancer Centres Join Forces for the First Time**

The Terry Fox Research Institute



Inspired by the legacy of Terry Fox *(pictured)*, the Terry Fox Research Institute and partners have launched a new national network to bring together, for the first time, leading cancer hospitals and research universities across Canada to accelerate precision medicine for cancer patients. The Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres network is named in honour of Terry's journey to raise funds for cancer research, which began in St. John's 39 years ago. [Read More](#)

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**Upcoming Events in Vancouver**

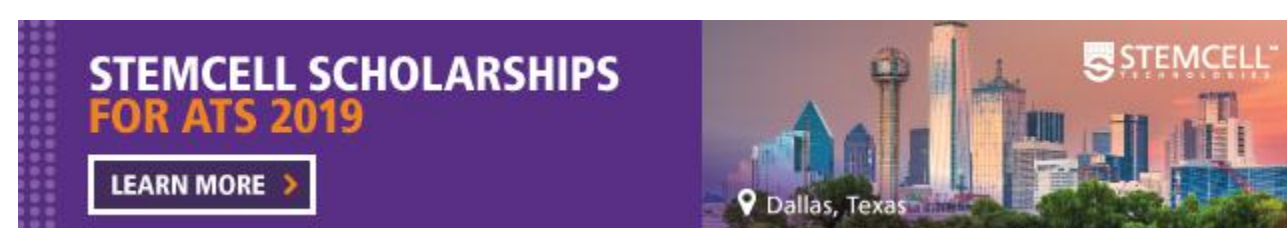
- April 23**  
 6:00 PM  
**STEMminist Bookclub Vancouver**  
 Hycroft Manor
- April 25**  
 4:00 PM  
**McCarthy Spotlight Speaking Series: Global Clinical Trials – Genomics**  
 McCarthy Tetrault LLP
- May 3 - 4**  
 6:00 PM  
**Creating Connections 6.0 Conference**  
 Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle Downtown
- May 5**  
 2:00 PM  
**SciCATs' Fundamentals of Science Communication**  
 HR MacMillan Space Centre
- May 7**  
 5:00 PM  
**Health XChange 2019**  
 Federico's Supper Club

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