



CNSP - RCPS

Canadian Network of Scientific Platforms - Réseau Canadien des Plateformes Scientifiques

2026 Scientific Platform Meeting

SPM 2026 — 10th Anniversary

“Building on Our Foundation for Discovery and Innovation”

June 9–11, 2026

University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Learning Crossroads (CRX) — Sessions C-140



Venue

University of Ottawa — Learning Crossroads (CRX)
100 Louis-Pasteur Private, Ottawa, ON K1N 6N5

Learning Crossroads (CRX), 1st Floor – Sessions C-140 | Foyer (Poster Session & Registration)

Main entrance on Louis-Pasteur Private (recommended).

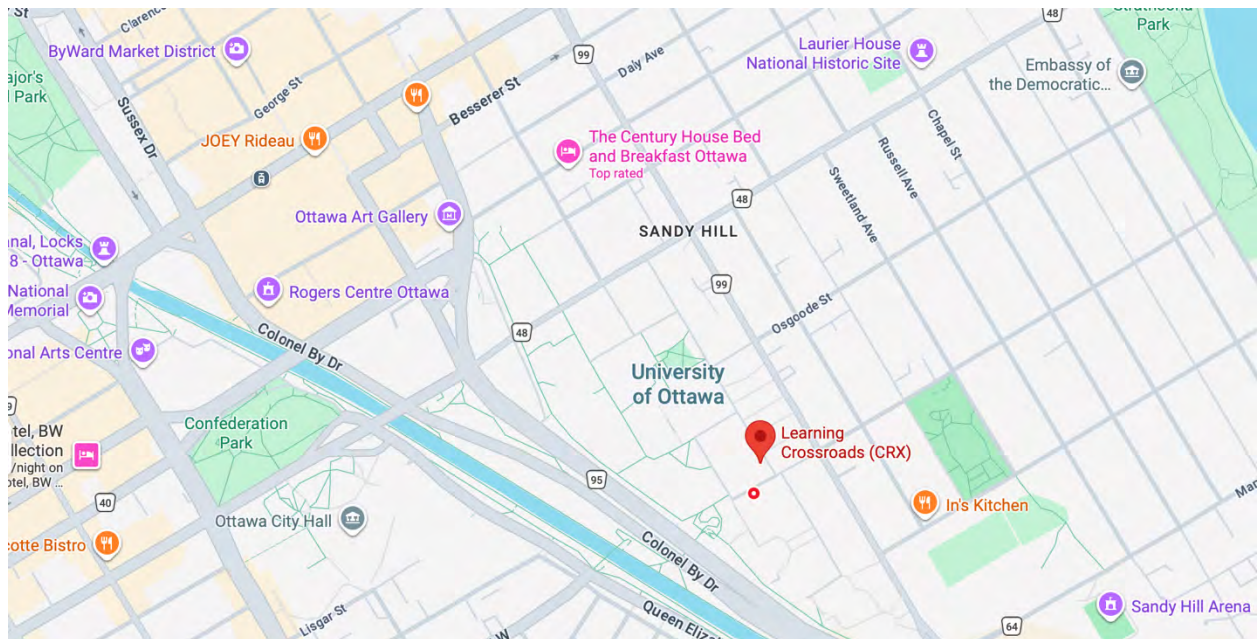
Note: University Private entrance (near CRX 140) – limited access (road work)

Building Information:

<https://www.uottawa.ca/about-us/administration-services/facilities/campus-maps/building/learning-crossroads-crx>

Campus Map:

<https://www.uottawa.ca/about-us/administration-services/facilities/campus-maps>



Parking: There is limited metered parking on the street (HotSpotMobile app)

Additional paid parking is available at 90 University Private (Lot K).

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1J8fmNjkJf_FnA0MECBCQUaNSZlg&ll=45.42225927273633%C2-75.68351756321411&z=17

Welcome

2026 Scientific Platform Meeting



Dear Research Community,

As President of the Canadian Network for Scientific Platforms, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2026 Scientific Platform Meeting (SPM 2026) in Ottawa, Ontario. On behalf of the CNSP Executive Board, thank you for joining us as we bring together scientific platform professionals, researchers, institutional leaders, funding agencies, industry partners, and technology experts from across Canada to advance the future of research infrastructure and scientific collaboration.

This year's meeting is particularly meaningful as we celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the CNSP. Over the past decade, our community has grown from a grassroots network of dedicated scientific platform professionals into a national organization that advocates for the critical role of shared research infrastructure, expertise, and collaboration in Canadian science. The success of the CNSP reflects the passion, dedication, and leadership of our members and partners across the country.

SPM 2026 also marks an exciting new chapter for the CNSP. During this meeting, we are proud to launch our new Membership Portal, an initiative designed to better connect expertise, infrastructure, institutions, and opportunities across Canada. This platform represents an important step toward strengthening collaboration and visibility within the Canadian research ecosystem and supporting a more connected national scientific platform community. Alongside this launch, we are pleased to introduce the CNSP's new Strategic Plan, which will guide our efforts to strengthen advocacy, foster professional development, support sustainability, and elevate the recognition of scientific platform professionals nationwide.

While we celebrate these milestones, we also take a moment to recognize the profound loss of our colleague and friend, Dominic Therrien. Dominic was a valued member of the CNSP Executive Board, representing Central Canada, whose passion, generosity, and commitment to the scientific platform community left a lasting impact on those who had the privilege to work alongside him. His contributions to the CNSP and the broader research community will not be forgotten, and we extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues. We are honoured to recognize him through the 'Dominic Therrien Memorial Award for Leadership in Scientific Platforms'.

I would also like to extend sincere gratitude to Dr. Claire Brown for her outstanding leadership and service as Past President of the CNSP. Claire has played a transformative role in the growth and success of our organization, and we congratulate her on her new role as Chair for Inclusion in Science and Engineering. Her continued leadership and dedication to building an inclusive and collaborative scientific community remain invaluable to the CNSP.

We are deeply grateful to the University of Ottawa for welcoming scientists and professionals from across Canada and for hosting this important national gathering. I would also like to sincerely thank our sponsors, exhibitors, speakers, volunteers, and organizing committee whose support and contributions have made SPM 2026 possible.

Most importantly, thank you to all attendees for being part of this growing national community. Your expertise, collaboration, and commitment are essential to advancing scientific platforms and strengthening Canada's research enterprise. I hope this meeting inspires new ideas, meaningful partnerships, and important conversations that will shape the future of scientific platforms in Canada for years to come.

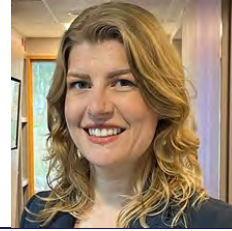
Welcome to SPM 2026!

Sincerely,

Brooke Ring, President of the CNSP

Bienvenue

Réunion des plateformes scientifiques 2026



Chère communauté de recherche,

C'est avec un immense plaisir qu'au nom du Réseau canadien des plateformes scientifiques, je vous souhaite la bienvenue à la Réunion des plateformes scientifiques 2026 (RPS 2026) à Ottawa, en Ontario. Au nom du conseil exécutif du RCPS, merci de vous joindre à nous alors que nous réunissons des professionnels de plateformes scientifiques, des chercheurs, des dirigeants institutionnels, des organismes de financement, des partenaires industriels et des experts en technologie de partout au Canada afin de faire progresser l'avenir de l'infrastructure de recherche et de la collaboration scientifique.

La réunion de cette année revêt une signification toute particulière, car nous célébrons le 10e anniversaire du RCPS. Au cours de la dernière décennie, notre communauté est passée d'un réseau de base composé de professionnels dévoués aux plateformes scientifiques à une organisation nationale qui défend le rôle essentiel de l'infrastructure de recherche partagée, de l'expertise et de la collaboration dans la science canadienne. Le succès du RCPS témoigne de la passion, du dévouement et du leadership de nos membres et partenaires à travers le pays.

La RPS 2026 marque également un nouveau chapitre important pour le RCPS. Au cours de cette réunion, nous sommes fiers de lancer notre nouveau Portail des membres, une initiative conçue pour mieux connecter l'expertise, l'infrastructure, les institutions et les opportunités à l'échelle du Canada. Cette plateforme représente une étape importante vers le renforcement de la collaboration et de la visibilité au sein de l'écosystème canadien de la recherche, et soutient une communauté nationale de plateformes scientifiques plus soudée. En parallèle de ce lancement, nous sommes heureux de présenter le nouveau Plan stratégique du RCPS, qui guidera nos efforts pour renforcer la représentation, favoriser le développement professionnel, soutenir la durabilité et accroître la reconnaissance des professionnels des plateformes scientifiques à l'échelle nationale.

Alors que nous célébrons ces jalons, nous prenons également un moment pour souligner la perte profonde de notre collègue et ami, Dominic Therrien. Dominic était un membre précieux du conseil exécutif du RCPS, représentant le Canada central, dont la passion, la générosité et l'engagement envers la communauté des plateformes scientifiques ont laissé une empreinte durable sur ceux et celles qui ont eu le privilège de travailler à ses côtés. Ses contributions au RCPS et à la communauté de recherche dans son ensemble ne seront pas oubliées, et nous exprimons nos plus sincères condoléances à sa famille, ses amis et ses collègues. Nous sommes honorés de lui rendre hommage à travers le « Prix commémoratif Dominic Therrien pour le leadership dans les plateformes scientifiques ».

Je tiens également à exprimer mon immense gratitude à la Dre Claire Brown pour son leadership exceptionnel et son dévouement en tant que présidente sortante du RCPS. Claire a joué un rôle transformateur dans la croissance et le succès de notre organisation, et nous la félicitons pour son nouveau rôle de titulaire de la Chaire pour l'inclusion en sciences et en génie. Son leadership continu et son engagement envers la construction d'une communauté scientifique inclusive et collaborative demeurent inestimables pour le RCPS.

Nous sommes profondément reconnaissants à l'Université d'Ottawa d'accueillir des scientifiques et des professionnels de partout au Canada et d'être l'hôte de ce rassemblement national important. Je souhaite également remercier vivement nos commanditaires, exposants, conférenciers, bénévoles et membres du comité organisateur, dont le soutien et les contributions ont rendu la RPS 2026 possible.

Surtout, merci à tous nos participants de faire partie de cette communauté nationale en pleine croissance. Votre expertise, votre esprit de collaboration et votre engagement sont essentiels pour faire progresser les plateformes scientifiques et renforcer l'entreprise de recherche au Canada. J'espère que cette réunion inspirera de nouvelles idées, des partenariats fructueux et des conversations importantes qui façonneront l'avenir des plateformes scientifiques au Canada pour les années à venir.

Bienvenue à la RPS 2026 !

Sincèrement,

Brooke Ring, Présidente du RCPS

SPM 2026 Awards

Inaugural Dominic Therrien Memorial Award for Leadership in Scientific Platforms



Mohamad Nasser-Eddine

Vice-President, Research, Programs and Planning
Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)

As Vice President of Programs and Planning, Dr. Mohamad Nasser-Eddine manages all aspects of CFI's research infrastructure funding programs and provides leadership on related policies. He joined the CFI in September 2023 from the University of Ottawa, where he served as Associate Vice President, Research Support and Infrastructure. He holds a Master's and PhD in chemistry from the Université de Haute-Alsace, France, and an Executive MBA from l'Université du Québec à Montréal.



Platform Scientist Award

Lars Kasper

Toronto Neuroimaging Facility (ToNI), *University of Toronto*

Lars Kasper is Lead MR Physicist and Platform Scientist at the Toronto Neuroimaging Facility (ToNI), the University of Toronto's Institutional Core Facility for human neuroimaging. He oversees day-to-day operations and supports more than 30 concurrent research studies through methods development, quality control, user training, and community-building initiatives. Lars studied Physics at the University of Göttingen before completing a PhD and postdoctoral training at ETH Zurich at the intersection of ultra-high field MRI and computational psychiatry. He is the developer of the PhysIO toolbox for physiological noise correction in fMRI and has contributed to multiple open neuroimaging software projects. A strong advocate for open and reproducible science, he co-chaired the global MRITogether 2024 workshop and serves as vice-chair of the Open and Reproducible Research Study Group of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM). His current research focuses on prospective motion correction methods in brain MRI.

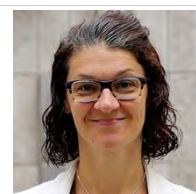


Platform Administrator Award

Patricia Savard

Research Infrastructure Coordinator, *Université Laval*

Patricia Savard is a research infrastructure coordinator at Université Laval, where she has spent more than a decade enhancing, optimizing, and expanding scientific platforms to better serve academic and industrial partners. She began her career at the Institute of Nutrition and Functional Foods (INAF), where she led the expansion of the digestion platform, making it the largest collection of simulation models in the Americas. She later coordinated all INAF platforms, contributing to major equipment acquisitions and supporting the establishment of a \$6M Excellence Chair in microbiota research. In 2021, Patricia joined the Envirotron building and the High-Performance Greenhouse Complex, where her leadership has driven innovation, sustainability, and strengthened research capacity in phytology and soil sciences. Her initiatives include modernizing growth chamber lighting systems, creating a fund to support shared equipment, securing emergency funding to develop essential greenhouse technologies, and leading major modernization projects. Most recently, she established a new analytical platform for soil, plant, and water chemistry, significantly reducing costs and turnaround times for the scientific community.



Program

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Location: Learning Crossroads (CRX) — 1st Floor Foyer and C-140

Tuesday, June 9, 2026	
12:30–13:15	Registration and Light Refreshments
13:15–13:45	Welcome, Ice Breaker, Overview of the Meeting Brooke Ring , CNSP President University of Ottawa Representative(s)
13:45–14:15	The Inaugural Dominic Therrien Memorial Award for Leadership in Scientific Platforms Moderator: Laurence Lejeune, CNSP Past Vice-President Award Winner: Mohamad Nasser-Eddine , Vice President of Programs and Planning, Canada Foundation for Innovation
14:15–14:45	"The CNSP Building on Our Foundation" Claire Brown , CNSP Past President Laurence Lejeune , CNSP Past Vice-President
14:45–14:50	<i>Pre-Recorded Tech Talk — Agilent Technologies</i>
14:50–15:15	Refreshment Break
15:15–15:20	Keynote Introduction — Claire Brown, CNSP Past President
15:20–16:05	KEYNOTE: "The Past, Present, & Future of Shared Research Facilities" Philip Hockberger , Higher Education Consultant
16:05–16:20	Q&A with Keynote
16:20–16:50	"Landscape Review of Scientific Platforms Across Canada" Brooke Ring , Queen's University
16:50–17:00	Q&A with Speaker
17:00–17:30	"Transforming Excellence in Research Through Inclusion of Academic Research Professionals" Équilibre NSERC/FRQNT Chair for Inclusion in Science and Engineering (CISE) Claire M. Brown , Professor, McGill University Marie-Ève Paquet , Associate Professor, Université Laval
17:30–17:40	Q&A with Speakers
17:40–17:45	<i>Pre-Recorded Tech Talk — Illumina</i>
17:45–17:50	<i>Pre-Recorded Tech Talk — Q-Reserve</i>
18:00–20:00	Poster Session and Reception Location: Learning Crossroads (CRX) — 1 st Floor Foyer

Poster Abstracts

Poster Session and Reception — Tuesday, June 9 | 18:00–20:00 | CRX Foyer

001. NanoFab Facility, University of Ottawa

Pierre Berini (Director, uOttawa NanoFab), Spyridon Ntais (Lab Manager, uOttawa NanoFab)

The NanoFab facility at the University of Ottawa provides users with open access to cutting-edge tools for micro and nanofabrication (photolithography, etching, deposition, etc.) and materials and devices characterization (electron microscopy, surface analysis, optical characterization, etc.). The NanoFab has been offering services since 2013 and joined the CMC Microsystems network in 2014. The facility's portfolio of services continues to expand and includes the recent addition of state-of-the-art Raman spectroscopy and a high-resolution scanning electron microscope (SEM). We will present an overview of the facility's capabilities, business model, and operational approach.

002. The Royal's Brain Imaging Centre: Advancing Multimodal Neuroimaging Research Through Integrated PET/MRI Infrastructure

Tram Nguyen — University of Ottawa Institute of Mental Health Research (IMHR)

Established in 2016, The Royal's Brain Imaging Centre (BIC) is home to one of only six dual-modality simultaneous PET/MRI systems in Canada. Located at The Royal Ottawa Mental Health Centre, the BIC supports clinical, translational, and basic neuroscience research focusing on psychiatric and neurological conditions. The BIC operates as an open-access shared research platform, providing expertise and access to cutting-edge neuroimaging technology. Key strengths include simultaneous PET/MRI acquisition enabling multimodal data collection, strong expertise in study design, protocol development, and data analysis.

003. The Role of Preclinical Multimodality Imaging in Translational Biomedical Research

Elahe Alizadeh,¹² Stephen L Archer¹²³ ¹ Translational Institute of Medicine (TIME), Queen's University ² Department of Medicine, Queen's University ³ Department of Biomedical and Molecular Science, Queen's University

Preclinical imaging core facilities play a critical role in translational research by providing access to advanced imaging technologies and technical expertise. The small-animal imaging Lab (SAIL) at Queen's University operates a multimodality imaging platform (VECTOr7/CT/OI; MILabs B.V.) integrating high-resolution X-ray CT (2.4 μm voxel grid) with nuclear (PET & SPECT) and optical imaging modalities. These modalities enable non-invasive, longitudinal visualization and quantitative assessment of anatomical and functional processes in small-animal models. Operating under a cost-recovery model, the facility supports multidisciplinary research in cardiopulmonary research, contrast-enhanced micro-CT, cancer biology, drug development, and neurobiology.

004. A Resolution Benchmarking Platform for Confocal and STED Microscopy

Henrietta "Henny" Bennett, Anand Matthews, Tag Yu, Wesley Walker, Judy Cathcart, Courtney McIntosh, Feng Xu (Advanced Optical Microscopy Facility, UHN), Claire Brown, Joel Ryan, Genevieve Laprade, Natalie Woo, Cesar Villa (Advanced BioImaging Facility, McGill University), Thomas Stroh, Klaudia Bednarz, Isabella Gomez (The Neuro, McGill University), James Jonkman (AOMF, UHN)

Confocal microscopes are often the tool-of-choice for high-resolution fluorescence imaging; yet the achieved resolution is rarely quantified, and its value for a given sample is rarely discussed upfront. We describe an inter-facility benchmarking platform developed in collaboration between the Advanced Optical Microscopy Facility (AOMF) at UHN and the Advanced BioImaging Facility (ABIF) at McGill University. This platform utilizes sub-diffraction fluorescent beads to provide a standardized, quantitative measure of the lateral and axial optical resolution of confocal and STED microscopes. Data is currently collected from 19 instruments and reported in a standardized format that enables direct comparison between facilities and instrument models.

005. The Canadian Centre for Computational Genomics (C3G): A National Hub for Bioinformatics, Data Science, and Secure Computing

Ryan Borotra,¹ Julia Ortiz,¹ Gerardo Zapata,¹ François Lefebvre,¹ José Héctor Gálvez,¹ Guillaume Bourque^{1,2,3} ¹ Canadian Centre for Computational Genomics (C3G) ² Department of Human Genetics, McGill University ³ Bioinformatics, McGill Genome Centre

The Canadian Centre for Computational Genomics (C3G) is a McGill University core facility delivering bioinformatics expertise, analytical pipelines, and scalable computing infrastructure to the Canadian research community. C3G supports a wide range of genomics applications through its GenPipes pipeline framework, HPC clusters, and secure computing environments compliant with provincial and national data governance standards. Its national reach enables cross-institutional collaborations, and its commitment to FAIR data principles supports reproducible and open science.

006. STTARR — Spatio-Temporal Targeting and Amplification of Radiation Response: Preclinical and Histopathology Core Facility

Naz Chaudary — University Health Network / Princess Margaret Cancer Centre

STTARR is a leading centre at UHN/Princess Margaret Cancer Centre offering access to a comprehensive suite of preclinical imaging modalities including PET, SPECT, CT, MRI, and optical imaging systems, alongside a full histopathology platform. STTARR's interdisciplinary team supports research in radiation biology, oncology, and drug development, providing expertise from experimental design through data analysis. The facility enables longitudinal studies combining functional and anatomical imaging with tissue-level validation.

007. MuSIF: An Integrated Multi-Scale Imaging Platform Bridging Research and Agri-Food Innovation

Youssef Chebli, Anja Geitmann — McGill University

The Multi-Scale Imaging Facility (MuSIF) at McGill University is an integrated scientific platform dedicated to multi-scale biological and materials imaging research. MuSIF spans scales from the nanometric to the macroscopic, offering access to confocal and super-resolution microscopy, electron microscopy, and whole-tissue/organ imaging. It serves researchers in plant biology, cell biology, materials science, and agri-food sciences, and plays a role in connecting university research with industrial partners in the food and agriculture sector.

008. Accelerating Biomedical Research Through CI2B Scientific Platforms

Normand Cyr, Armelle Le Campion, André Julien Lévesque, Ryan Richter, Nicolas Stifani — Institut Courtois d'innovation biomédicale (CI2B), Faculté de médecine, Université de Montréal

The Institut Courtois d'innovation biomédicale (CI2B) brings together advanced scientific facilities to support biomedical discovery across the Faculty of Medicine at the Université de Montréal. CI2B platforms span structural biology, mass spectrometry, genomics, and imaging, offering integrated access for researchers across the Montreal biomedical ecosystem. The institute's collaborative model links academic scientists with clinical and industry partners to accelerate translational research and innovation.

009. Seeding Micro-Impacts: Targeted Initiatives to Enhance Knowledge Exchange and Facility Development at the UBC Bioimaging Facility

Miki Fujita, Eunyoung Lee, Derrick Horne, Jesus Rodriguez, Lacey Samuels — Bioimaging Facility, University of British Columbia

The UBC Bioimaging Facility provides microscopy access, training and services to over 200 researchers annually. This poster describes a series of targeted initiatives implemented to enhance knowledge exchange, improve researcher support, and strengthen facility development. Strategies include structured onboarding programs, peer-to-peer learning sessions, and targeted outreach to under-served user groups. These "micro-impact" initiatives have collectively improved user satisfaction, increased facility utilization, and supported the development of new imaging applications.

010. Super Resolution Microscopy Core (LSI Imaging) at UBC

Guang Gao — Life Sciences Institute, University of British Columbia

The Super Resolution Microscopy Core / LSI Imaging Facility at the University of British Columbia is a shared research platform offering advanced light microscopy for life sciences research. The facility provides access to confocal, super-resolution, and live-cell imaging platforms, supported by expert staff. This poster describes the facility's operational model, instrumentation portfolio, and strategies for supporting researcher needs across UBC's life sciences community.

011. Centre for NanoScience Research (CeNSR): Connecting Research, Industry, and Future Innovators

Hoda Heli, Facility Manager — Centre for NanoScience Research (CeNSR), Concordia University

The Centre for NanoScience Research (CeNSR) at Concordia University brings together state-of-the-art characterization and fabrication tools for nanoscience and nanotechnology research. CeNSR serves as a nexus for interdisciplinary collaboration, connecting academic researchers, industrial partners, and the next generation of innovators. The poster highlights the centre's instrument portfolio, user community, industry engagement model, and initiatives to support training and workforce development in nanotechnology.

012. HTS Facility, NBCC LTRI

Mariam Iskilova — High Throughput Screening Facility, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute

The High-Throughput Screening (HTS) Facility provides automated solutions for assay development, training, and support for drug discovery and biological research. The facility offers access to liquid handling robotics, high-content imaging, and plate readers, enabling miniaturized, scalable assays for diverse research applications.

013. Responsible Innovation at the Toronto Neuroimaging Facility (ToNI): Integrating Advanced MRI Technologies into a High-Throughput Scientific Platform

Lars Kasper, Eva Han, Emily E. Davis, Morgan D. Barense — Department of Psychology, University of Toronto

The Toronto Neuroimaging Facility (ToNI) at the University of Toronto is a dedicated research MRI platform supporting high-throughput neuroimaging with a focus on responsible innovation. ToNI integrates advanced MRI hardware and software, including ultra-high field and novel acquisition protocols, into an accessible shared resource. The facility emphasizes transparent operations, researcher training, and sustainable practices, and actively contributes to open science through data sharing and methods development.

014. The INSPIRE Laboratory: A Facility for Multimodal Human Behaviour Research

Stefanie Gard, Kaitline Fournier, Justin Duncan, PhD — INSPIRE Laboratory, University of Ottawa

The INSPIRE Laboratory is a shared multidisciplinary research facility at the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Social Sciences. INSPIRE supports human behaviour research across clinical, cognitive, and social domains by providing access to biosignal recording, eye tracking, motion capture, and immersive VR environments. The facility is designed to support diverse methodological approaches and serves interdisciplinary research teams across the university and affiliated hospitals.

015. Benefits of Low Voltage Electron Microscopy for Scientific Cores

Jared Lapkovsky — DeLong America / DeLong Microsystems

Scientific core facilities are increasingly challenged to provide high-quality electron microscopy access while managing constraints on space, cost, and sample preparation complexity. This poster presents the case for low voltage electron microscopy (LVEM) as a complementary approach for scientific cores. LVEM systems offer significant advantages including reduced sample preparation requirements, improved contrast for soft biological materials, and a compact bench-top footprint — making them highly suitable for shared core facility environments.

016. Reimagining an Economic Framework for Core Facilities

Nhu Trieu — Microscopy & Microanalysis Facility, University of New Brunswick

This poster invites participation in an interactive proposal: what if we utilized a structured voucher or credit-based system to reimagine how core facilities are funded and accessed? The poster explores an alternative economic model for core facilities that could improve access equity, reduce administrative burden, and better align facility revenues with institutional research priorities. Attendees are invited to engage with the proposal and contribute perspectives from their own institutional contexts.

017. A Core in Transition: The Evolution of the RITS Lab

Melissa Wette — Research Instrumentation and Technical Support (RITS) Laboratory, Department of Chemical & Petroleum Engineering, University of Calgary

Originally established to centralize infrastructure needs within the Chemical and Petroleum Engineering department at the University of Calgary, the RITS Lab has evolved into a broader shared resource serving multiple faculties and external collaborators. This poster traces the facility's development, describing the challenges and opportunities encountered in transitioning from a departmental support unit to a multi-user scientific platform, including lessons learned in governance, cost recovery, and user engagement.

Program

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Location: Learning Crossroads (CRX) — 1st Floor Foyer and C-140

Wednesday, June 10, 2026	
08:00–09:00	Breakfast: Bagels and Coffee
09:00–09:05	Keynote Introduction — Nhu Trieu, CNSP Eastern Canada Representative
09:05–09:45	KEYNOTE: "Lessons Learned from European Research Infrastructure Consortia" Antje Keppler , Director, Euro-Biolmaging ERIC Bio-Hub
09:45–10:00	Q&A with Keynote
10:00–10:05	<i>Pre-Recorded Tech Talk — Idea Elan</i>
10:05–10:30	Light Refreshment Break: Coffee
10:30–11:00	"The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)'s 2027 Innovation Fund Stream for Core Facilities" Sandra Zohar , Senior Programs Officer, Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)
11:00–11:15	Q&A with Speaker
11:15–12:15	Panel Discussion #1: "Securing the Future of Scientific Platforms" Moderator: Brooke Ring, CNSP President Panelists: Olivier Gagnon (CFI) Philip Hockberger Marie-Ève Paquet (Université Laval) Cindy Gillet (UNB)
12:15–12:30	Platform Scientist/Administrator Award Presentation Moderator: Colleen Sunderland, CNSP Western Canada Representative
12:30–12:35	<i>Pre-Recorded Tech Talk — Element Biosciences</i>
12:35–13:30	Group Photo / Lunch Break
13:30–15:00	Panel Discussion #2: "Unlocking Impact: Connecting Stakeholders Across the Research Infrastructure Ecosystem" Moderator: Vidhu Sharma, CNSP Vice-President Panelists: Chris Lannon (MITACS) Shannon Quinn (NRC) Jeffrey LeDue (UBC)
15:00–15:05	<i>Pre-Recorded Tech Talk — Evident Canada MIS</i>
15:05–15:30	Refreshment Break / Posters and Exhibits tear down
15:30–17:00	Panel Discussion #3: "Industry Engagement, Collaboration and Innovation" Moderator: Nhu Trieu, CNSP Eastern Canada Representative Panelists: Tyler Lalonde (RI-MUHC/CTB) Antje Keppler (Euro-Biolmaging) Lyanne Betit (NSERC) Vahid Dehnavi (Western)
17:00–17:15	Platform Scientist/Administrator Award Presentation Moderator: Jeffrey LeDue, CNSP Secretary
17:15–17:20	<i>Pre-Recorded Tech Talk — DeLong Instruments</i>
17:20–17:25	<i>Pre-Recorded Tech Talk — Oxford Nanopore Technologies</i>
17:25–17:35	Closing Remarks
19:00–21:00	CNSP SPM Dinner — Sidedoor Contemporary Kitchen and Bar, 18B York Street, Ottawa, ON K1N 5T5

Conference Dinner

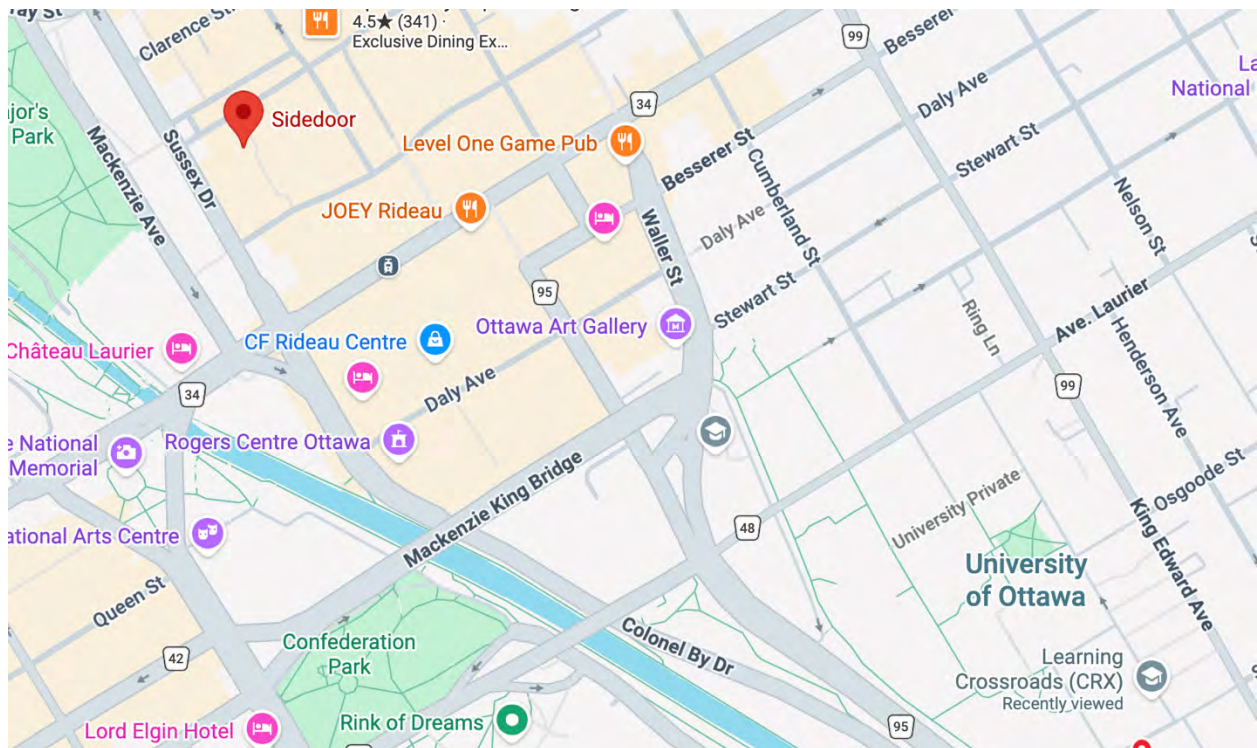
Wednesday, June 10, 2026 | 19:00–21:00

Ticketed Event

Sidedoor Contemporary Kitchen and Bar

18B York Street, Ottawa, ON K1N 5T5

<https://www.sidedoorrestaurant.com>



Program

Thursday, June 11, 2026

Light Breakfast and Tour Meet-up: Learning Crossroads (CRX) — 1st Floor Foyer

Scientific Platform Tours

Thursday, June 11, 2026 – Tours	
08:30–09:00	Breakfast: Light Continental and Coffee
09:00–12:00	Scientific Platform Tours — Rotations in Groups #1–4 (45 min per facility) André E. Lalonde AMS Facility (25 Templeton Street) https://www.uottawa.ca/research-innovation/national-ael-ams-facility Cyber Range (STEM Complex, 150 Louis-Pasteur Private, 5th Floor) https://www.uottawa.ca/faculty-engineering/spaces/cyber-range NMR Core Facility (Department of Chemistry, 10 Marie Curie Private) https://www.uottawa.ca/research-innovation/nuclear-magnetic-resonance INSPIRE Core Facility (Vanier Building, Room 5074, 136 Jean-Jacques Lussier) https://www.uottawa.ca/research-innovation/inspire
12:00–13:30	Lunch Break

Platform Scientists and Administrators Workshop

"Creating and Delivering Your Value Proposition"

Thursday, June 11, 2026 — Workshop	
12:00–13:30	Lunch Break
13:30–14:00	Workshop Welcome and Introductions Claire M. Brown, Marie-Ève Paquet, Susanne Kaitna, Laurence Lejeune
14:00–15:30	Values, Mission, Vision — Interactive Sessions
15:30–16:00	Refreshment Break
16:00–16:45	Building for Purpose — Group Ideation
16:45–17:20	Individual Reflection and Practical Planning
17:20–17:30	Wrap Up and Event Survey

Biographies

SPM Speakers and CNSP Executive Board

(In alphabetical order by last name)

Lyanne Betit

Manager, Alliance Program

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC)

Panel 3: "Industry Engagement, Collaboration and Innovation" — Wednesday, June 10

Lyanne holds a Master of Science in Chemistry and a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from the University of Ottawa. She began her career at NSERC in 2016 as a Program Officer within the Research and Technology Partnerships directorate and has since progressed through multiple managerial roles. Over the course of her career, she has developed extensive expertise in the administration of research grants, having worked across more than seven distinct funding programs. Her experience includes supporting colleges and universities in collaborative projects with external partners, working with a range of granting stakeholders, as well as developing new grant opportunities and revitalizing existing programs.



Claire M. Brown

Director, Advanced BioImaging Facility (ABIF) | Professor & NSERC/FRQNT Équilibre Chair for Inclusion in Science and Engineering (CISE)

McGill University

Presenter: "The CNSP Building on Our Foundation" — Tuesday, June 9

Presenter: "Transforming Excellence in Research Through Inclusion of Academic Research Professionals" — Tuesday, June 9

Workshop Facilitator, Platform Scientists & Administrators Workshop — Thursday, June 11

Dr. Claire M. Brown is a full Professor in the Department of Physiology at McGill University, Director of the Advanced BioImaging Facility (ABIF) and a member of the Order of Quebec for Excellence in Education. As an internationally renowned microscopist, principal investigator and researcher, she applies advanced bioimaging tools to uncover the molecular mechanisms driving cell migration in normal and diseased systems. Prof. Brown has played an important role in establishing, growing and sustaining national and international networks to bring communities together around common challenges and co-design solutions. Through these networks she has fostered global conversations focused on the expert scientists who play critical roles around infrastructure management, training and education to enable discovery and innovation.

The Équilibre Chair program focuses on three key goals: 1) understanding barriers and promoting diverse career paths for Academic Research Professionals (ARPs), 2) empowering ARPs through targeted training and mentorship and 3) developing frameworks for career paths and equitable recognition.



Yves De Koninck

Director of Research, CIUSSS-Capitale-Nationale | Scientific Director, CERVO Brain Research Centre

Université Laval

Panel: "Strategies to Harness the Full Potential of Research Infrastructure and Expertise,"

National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Yves De Koninck, PhD, FCAHS, FRSC, is Professor of Psychiatry & Neuroscience and Anesthesiology & Intensive Care at Université Laval, Director of the CERVO Brain Research Centre, and Director of Research at the Quebec Integrated University Health and Social Services Centre. He founded the Quebec Pain Research Network and dedicated his career to understanding the mechanisms underlying chronic pain. He founded several transdisciplinary initiatives, including the Neurophotonics Centre and Sentinel North, aimed at harnessing the power of light for the benefit of health, the environment and sustainable development. He received numerous national and international accolades, including the Distinguished Career Award from the Canadian Pain Society, the Brockhouse Canada Prize, the Wilder-Penfield Prize, the Emily Gray Award from the Biophysical Society, the Award for Education in Neuroscience from the Society for Neuroscience, the King Charles III Coronation Medal and, most recently, the Unité Guerra Prize from the Institut de France.



Vahid Dehnavi

Senior Research Scientist, Surface Science Western
Western University

Panel 3: "Industry Engagement, Collaboration and Innovation" — Wednesday, June 10

Dr. Vahid Dehnavi is a Senior Research Scientist and Team Lead in Materials, Metallurgy, and Failure Analysis at Surface Science Western, Western University, and an Adjunct Research Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering at Western University. He has over two decades of experience in materials characterization, corrosion science, protective coatings, and failure analysis across academic, industrial, and nuclear-related applications. He has authored more than 30 peer-reviewed publications, contributed to books and conference proceedings, and produced over 350 industrial technical reports. Dr. Dehnavi is actively involved in collaborative research projects, mentoring graduate students, and training researchers in advanced materials characterization.

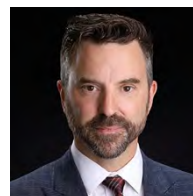


Eric Flaim

Director, nanoFAB Fabrication & Characterization Centre
University of Alberta

Panel: "Best Practices in Centralized Management & Operations," National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Dr. Eric Flaim is the Director of the University of Alberta nanoFAB, a core facility supporting semiconductor fabrication and materials characterization through an open access model. Since 2008, Dr. Flaim has led and overseen over \$60M in awarded operating and infrastructure funding, growing revenue from under \$150,000 to over \$2.6M annually. The nanoFAB serves over 50 industry partners, more than 150 academic research groups, and over 500 unique users per year across \$120M in shared equipment and infrastructure.

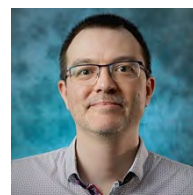


Olivier Gagnon

Associate Director, Innovation Fund and Special Funds
Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)

Panel 1: "Securing the Future of Scientific Platforms" — Wednesday, June 10

Olivier Gagnon is Associate Director of Innovation Fund and Special Funds at the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). His team is responsible for the design and delivery of research infrastructure funding programs for Canadian universities, colleges and research hospitals, currently including the Innovation Fund, the Biosciences Research Infrastructure Fund and the Northern Fund. At the CFI since 2006, he has been involved in the creation, design and delivery of all CFI programs. A physicist by training, he completed the McGill-HEC EMBA program in 2023.

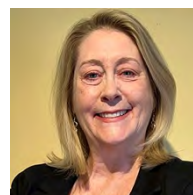


Cindy Gillet

Strategic Grants Advisor, CFI Liaison
University of New Brunswick

Panel 1: "Securing the Future of Scientific Platforms" — Wednesday, June 10

Cindy Gillet is the Strategic Grants Advisor at the University of New Brunswick, where she has contributed for nearly 20 years across a range of roles. Throughout her career, though, she has been responsible for the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) in some capacity, building deep expertise in research infrastructure funding and strategy. In 2013, she assumed responsibility for the institution's CFI portfolio and became the official CFI Liaison for UNB. In her current role, Cindy provides strategic advice to the President and Vice President Research, guiding the effective and forward-looking use of UNB's CFI allocations. Her work supports institutional priorities, strengthens research capacity, and enables impactful infrastructure investments that advance the university's research goals and societal impacts.



Philip Hockberger

Higher Education Consultant (Associate VP for Research, Retired)

Northwestern University

Keynote: "The Past, Present, & Future of Shared Research Facilities" — Tuesday, June 9

Panel 1: "Securing the Future of Scientific Platforms" (panelist) — Wednesday, June 10

Philip Hockberger is internationally recognized for his contributions to research in cellular neuroscience, cell-based imaging, cellular migration, and ultraviolet photobiology, as well as the administration of shared research facilities. He has held leadership roles including Associate Vice President for Research at Northwestern University, and positions with FASEB's Task Force on Shared Research Resources, Euro-Biolmaging's Scientific Advisory Board, the Executive Board of Biolmaging North America (BINA), and the Canada Foundation for Innovation's Special Multidisciplinary Assessment Committee (S-MAC). Dr. Hockberger holds a PhD in neuroscience from the University of Illinois.



Susanne Kaitna

Senior Advisor, Core Facilities

McGill University

Workshop Facilitator, Platform Scientists & Administrators Workshop — Thursday, June 11

Susanne Kaitna is Senior Advisor for Core Facilities at McGill University, where she provides strategic guidance on the development, sustainability, and operations of shared research platforms across all Faculties. She supports major infrastructure and core facility grant applications, advises on business planning and best practices in facility management. She holds a PhD in Genetics from the Institute of Molecular Pathology (IMP) in Vienna, Austria.



Lars Kasper

Director, Toronto Neuroimaging Facility (ToNI)

McGill University

Workshop Facilitator, Platform Scientists & Administrators Workshop — Thursday, June 11

Lars Kasper is Lead MR Physicist and Platform Scientist at the Toronto Neuroimaging Facility (ToNI), the University of Toronto's Institutional Core Facility for human neuroimaging. He oversees day-to-day operations and supports more than 30 concurrent research studies through methods development, quality control, user training, and community-building initiatives. Lars studied Physics at the University of Göttingen before completing a PhD and postdoctoral training at ETH Zurich at the intersection of ultra-high field MRI and computational psychiatry. He is the developer of the PhysIO toolbox for physiological noise correction in fMRI and has contributed to multiple open neuroimaging software projects. A strong advocate for open and reproducible science, he co-chaired the global MRITogether 2024 workshop and serves as vice-chair of the Open and Reproducible Research Study Group of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM). His current research focuses on prospective motion correction methods in brain MRI.



Antje Keppler

Director

Euro-Biolmaging ERIC Bio-Hub

Keynote: "Lessons Learned from European Research Infrastructure Consortia" — Wednesday, June 10

Panel 3: "Industry Engagement, Collaboration and Innovation" (panelist) — Wednesday, June 10

Antje Keppler is Director of the Euro-Biolmaging ERIC Bio-Hub, hosted by EMBL in Heidelberg, Germany. She leads an international team coordinating Euro-Biolmaging's pan-European services for biological imaging, including open access to advanced imaging technologies, expertise, training, and image data services. She also coordinates Global Biolmaging, an international network connecting imaging communities and research infrastructures across more than 70 countries. Since 2026, Antje has served on the Board of Directors of the EOSC Association. She trained as a biochemist at Ruhr University Bochum and obtained her PhD in chemical biology from EPFL.



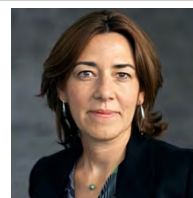
Ekat Kritikou

Vice-Dean, Research and Development

Université de Montréal

Panel: "Best Practices in Centralized Management & Operations," National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Ekat Kritikou holds a PhD in developmental and cancer biology from the University of Cambridge and continued postdoctoral studies in developmental genomics at the University of Zurich. Following a career as an editor in Nature Publishing Group, she held key positions at the Montreal Heart Institute and the CHU Ste-Justine Research Center. She currently holds the position of Vice-Dean, Research and Development, at the Faculty of Medicine, Université de Montréal, leading flagship initiatives including the creation of the Institut Courtois d'innovation biomédicale.



Tyler Lalonde

Lead, Centre for Translational Biology (CTB) Business Relations

Research Institute of the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC-RI)

Panel 3: "Industry Engagement, Collaboration and Innovation" — Wednesday, June 10

Tyler Lalonde is the Lead of the Small Animal Imaging Laboratory (SAIL) and Business Development Lead for the Centre for Translational Biology (CTB) Technology Platforms at the RI-MUHC. His work focuses on advancing translational preclinical research through multimodal imaging, strategic industry collaborations, and integrated technology platform development. Tyler works closely with academic, biotech, and pharmaceutical partners across oncology, neuroscience, cardiovascular disease, metabolic disorders, radiotheranostics, and drug development.



Chris Lannon

Director, Strategic Partnerships

MITACS Canada

Panel 2: "Unlocking Impact: Connecting Stakeholders Across the Research Infrastructure Ecosystem" — Wednesday, June 10

Dr. Lannon is the Director of Strategic Partnerships at Mitacs. Prior to joining Mitacs, Chris served as Director of Industry & Partnership Services at Carleton University. He holds a PhD from the University of British Columbia in cancer biology and an MBA from McGill University. He has held previous roles in the Canadian biotech sector, where he successfully commercialized several stem cell technologies. He has also held senior leadership roles at McGill University and within the not-for-profit sectors focused on health and nutrition science.



Jeffrey LeDue

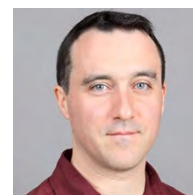
Managing Director, NeuroImaging and NeuroComputation Core (NINC) | Secretary, CNSP

University of British Columbia

Panelist, Panel 2: "Unlocking Impact" — Wednesday, June 10

Moderator, Award Presentation — Wednesday, June 10

Jeff manages the NeuroImaging and NeuroComputation Core (NINC), the DMCBH's core facility focused on advanced preclinical imaging and microscopy as well as computation and data analysis. He also coordinates the Dynamic Brain Circuits and Connections in Health and Disease research cluster. Jeff holds a BSc (Hon) in Physics and did his graduate work on optical instrumentation at the University of Victoria and National Research Council Herzberg Astronomy and Astrophysics Research Centre.



Laurence Lejeune

Program Manager, ÉQUILIBRE | Project Manager, NSERC Chair for Inclusion in Science and Engineering (CISE)

UQAM

Moderator: Dominic Therrien Memorial Award — Tuesday, June 9

Co-presenter: "The CNSP Building on Our Foundation" — Tuesday, June 9

Panel Moderator: "Best Practices in Centralized Management & Operations," National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Workshop Facilitator, Platform Scientists & Administrators Workshop — Thursday, June 11

Laurence Lejeune, MSc, is Program Manager of the ÉQUILIBRE initiative of the NSERC Chair for Inclusion in Science and Engineering. With more than twenty years of experience across academia, industry, and consulting, she has led scientific platforms in cytometry at the Lady Davis Institute and the CHUM Research Centre, worked at Beckman Coulter as a sales specialist and project manager. She is a founding member of the Canadian Cytometry and Microscopy Association and co-founded the Canadian Network of Scientific Platforms (CNSP), serving as Vice President until 2022.



Guillaume Lesage

Treasurer, CNSP | Grants Officer, Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Vice-President, Research & Innovation

McGill University

A founding member and Treasurer of the CNSP, Guillaume Lesage has overseen the organization's finances since its creation in 2016. He holds a PhD in Biochemistry from the Université de Montréal and completed postdoctoral training in yeast genomics at McGill University. From 2006 to 2015, he managed the Cell Imaging and Analysis Network at McGill. Since 2015, he has been a Grants Officer in McGill's Strategic Initiatives team, specializing in the administration of CFI and other institutional funding programs.



Mohamad Nasser-Eddine

Vice-President, Research, Programs and Planning

Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)

Inaugural Dominic Therrien Memorial Award for Leadership in Scientific Platforms — Tuesday, June 9

As Vice President of Programs and Planning, Dr. Mohamad Nasser-Eddine manages all aspects of CFI's research infrastructure funding programs and provides leadership on related policies. He joined the CFI in September 2023 from the University of Ottawa, where he served as Associate Vice President, Research Support and Infrastructure. He holds a Master's and PhD in chemistry from the Université de Haute-Alsace, France, and an Executive MBA from l'Université du Québec à Montréal.



Kristina Öhrvall

Assistant Vice-President, Research Development

McGill University

Panel: "Strategies to Harness the Full Potential of Research Infrastructure and Expertise,"

National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Kristina Öhrvall is Assistant Vice-President, Research Development at McGill University, where she leads institutional support for major research initiatives across the funding lifecycle, including large-scale national and international programs. She advises on research strategy, governance, and infrastructure planning. With over 20 years of experience in research administration, she is a member of the Vice-President (Research and Innovation) senior leadership team. Trained as an environmental engineer, she holds a Master of Science from Luleå University of Technology (Sweden).



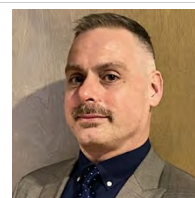
Cameron Orovan

Senior Manager, Research & Innovation Cores

University Health Network

Panel: "Best Practices in Centralized Management & Operations," National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Cameron Orovan is a results-driven operations and innovation leader with over 15 years of experience in healthcare, research, and life sciences organizations. Currently serving as Senior Manager of Business Operations for Research & Innovation Core Facilities at UHN Research, Cameron oversees strategic and day-to-day operations that support core laboratories and biobanking services. He holds an MBA and certifications in project and change management.



Marie-Ève Paquet

Associate Professor, CERVO Brain Research Centre | NSERC/FRQNT Équilibre Chair for Inclusion in Science and Engineering (CISE)

Université Laval

Presenter: "Transforming Excellence in Research Through Inclusion of Academic Research Professionals" — Tuesday, June 9

Panel 1: "Securing the Future of Scientific Platforms" (panelist) — Wednesday, June 10

Panel Moderator, National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Workshop Facilitator, Platform Scientists & Administrators Workshop — Thursday, June 11

Marie-Ève Paquet runs the Canadian Neurophotonics Platform viral vector core at the CERVO Brain Research Center. Her group provides services in gene transfer technologies, molecular biology and viral vectors, with extensive expertise in AAV cassette optimisation. Her research interests include AAV serotype identification from environmental sources, AAV characterisation and methods development for AAV production and quality control. She is also involved in a multidisciplinary project understanding the link between gut microbiota and brain development in the zebrafish model.



Shannon Quinn

Secretary General

National Research Council of Canada (NRC)

Panel 2: "Unlocking Impact: Connecting Stakeholders Across the Research Infrastructure Ecosystem" — Wednesday, June 10

Shannon Quinn has served as Secretary General of the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) since September 2021. She is an experienced executive with a background in science and technology across both the public and private sectors. Previously, she was Vice-President, Science, Technology and Commercial Oversight at Atomic Energy of Canada Limited and held senior roles at Natural Resources Canada. She holds a B.Sc. in Biochemistry and B.A.Sc. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Ottawa, a PhD in Chemical Engineering from Queen's University, and an MBA from the University of Ottawa.



Brooke Ring

President, CNSP | Associate Director of Operations, Translational Institute of Medicine (TIME)

Queen's University

Welcome & Overview of the Meeting — Tuesday, June 9

Presenter: "Landscape Review of Scientific Platforms Across Canada" — Tuesday, June 9

Moderator, Panel 1 — Wednesday, June 10

Welcome, National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Brooke Ring is the Associate Director of Operations for the Translational Institute of Medicine (TIME) at Queen's University, where she oversees the operations, scientific staff, partnerships, and strategic growth of one of the institution's largest biomedical core facilities. With 15 years of clinical and basic research experience, she has developed expertise in biomedical research infrastructure, core facility operations, and scientific leadership. Brooke also serves as President of the Canadian Network of Scientific Platforms (CNSP). Her current PhD research focuses on the best practices, operational models, and impacts of biomedical core facilities in Canada.



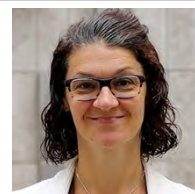
Patricia Savard

Research Infrastructure Coordinator

Université Laval

Platform Scientist/Administrator Award — Wednesday, June 10

Patricia Savard is a research infrastructure coordinator at Université Laval, where she has spent more than a decade enhancing, optimizing, and expanding scientific platforms to better serve academic and industrial partners. She began her career at the Institute of Nutrition and Functional Foods (INAF), where she led the expansion of the digestion platform, making it the largest collection of simulation models in the Americas. In 2021, Patricia joined the Envirotron building and the High-Performance Greenhouse Complex, where her leadership has driven innovation, sustainability, and strengthened research capacity in phytology and soil sciences. Most recently, she established a new analytical platform for soil, plant, and water chemistry.



Vidhu Sharma

Strategic Advisor, Research & Innovation | Vice-President, CNSP

University of British Columbia

Moderator, Panel 2: "Unlocking Impact: Connecting Stakeholders Across the Research Infrastructure Ecosystem"

— Wednesday, June 10

With over 15 years of experience across academia, biotech, healthcare, and the non-profit sector, Dr. Vidhu Sharma works at the intersection of research, strategy, and collaboration. Drawing on a background in biomedical research, shared research platforms, and organizational leadership, Vidhu has contributed to ecosystem building, research development, and advocacy initiatives that strengthen research capacity and partnerships.



Julie St-Pierre

Vice-President, Research and Innovation | Professor, Faculty of Medicine

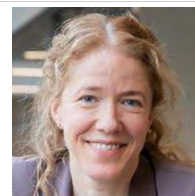
University of Ottawa

Presenter: "Opportunities and Challenges of Centralized Platform Management & Operations,"

National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Panelist, National Conversation — Thursday, June 11

Julie St-Pierre was appointed Vice-President, Research and Innovation in June 2025. Dr. St-Pierre earned degrees from Laval University and the University of Cambridge, completed postdoctoral research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and was Associate Professor at McGill University (2008–2017) before being recruited by the University of Ottawa. Her research focuses on metabolomics, particularly metabolic vulnerabilities in breast cancer. She previously served as Interim Vice-President and Associate Vice-President, Research Support and Infrastructure.



Colleen Sunderland

Manager, Core Research Facilities | Western Canada Representative, CNSP

University of Alberta

Moderator, Award Presentation — Wednesday, June 10

With over a decade of experience in research operations, Colleen Sunderland serves as the Manager of Core Research Facilities for the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry at the University of Alberta. She provides strategic, financial, and administrative oversight for seven core facilities, ensuring researchers can effectively leverage state-of-the-art infrastructure. Her interest in research technologies is grounded in her training as a scientist, including an MSc in Virology.



Nhu Trieu

Director, Microscopy & Microanalysis Facility | Eastern Canada Representative, CNSP
University of New Brunswick

Keynote Introduction — Wednesday, June 10

Moderator, Panel 3: "Industry Engagement, Collaboration and Innovation" — Wednesday, June 10

Nhu Trieu is Director of the Microscopy and Microanalysis Facility (MMF) at the University of New Brunswick — one of Canada's longest-standing centralized imaging platforms, established in 1966. As the fourth-generation director, she leads facility operations, strategic development, and national and international collaborations, supporting over 950 internal clients and 400+ external partners. She serves as Eastern Canada Representative for the CNSP and is an inaugural Canadian Intern on the BioImaging North America Executive Board.



Sandra Zohar

Senior Programs Officer

Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI)

Presenter: "The CFI 2027 Innovation Fund Stream for Core Facilities" — Wednesday, June 10

Sandra is a Senior Programs Officer at the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI), where she supports the development and delivery of national research funding programs. She brings more than 25 years of experience with Canadian funding organizations, including NSERC and the CFI. Sandra holds a PhD in parasitology from the University of Alberta and is committed to advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility (EDIA) in research and innovation.



SPM Participants

(alpha by last name)

Alexis Achim

Forêt Montmorency, Université Laval

Elahe Alizadeh

Translational Institute of Medicine (TIME),
Queen's University

Brian Amsden

Queen's University

Corey Arnold

Serology and Diagnostics High Throughput Facility,
University of Ottawa

Nicholas Audet

Imaging and Molecular Biology Platform,
McGill University

Dassine Azouaoui

Metabolomics Core Facility, University of Ottawa

Sharon Barden

University of Ottawa

Ida Marie Bejelia

University Health Network

Bob Berno

The Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Facility,
McMaster University

Lyanne Betit

Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
of Canada (NSERC)

Amanda Biernacka-Larocque

Oxford Nanopore Technologies

Christopher Bonham

Western University

Ryan Borotra

Canadian Centre for Computational Genomics

Vivian Bradaschia

The Centre for Phenogenomics,
Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute

Claire Brown

Advanced BiImaging Facility (ABIF), McGill
University

Graeme Brown

Q-Reserve

Tracey Campbell

Centre for Microbial Chemical Biology (CMCB),
McMaster University

Pierre Chagnon

Element Biosciences

Naz Chaudary

STTARR Innovation Core, Princess Margaret Cancer
Centre/University Health Network

Youssef Chebli

MultiScale Imaging Facility, McGill University

Sidhanth Chirukandath

Atorvia Health technologies

Michelle Chretien

Toronto Metropolitan University

Jean-François Cloutier

McGill University

Charlene Clow

University of Ottawa Heart Institute

Karen Colwill

Sinai Health Research

Normand Cyr

Université de Montréal

Agata D'Innocenzo

Brock University

Tim Daoud

Agilent Technologies

Hussein Daoud

Illumina Canada

Yves De Koninck

University Laval & CIUSSS de la Capitale-Nationale

Vahid Dehnavi

Western University

Raymond Deschamps

University of Regina

Vincent Desrosiers

Centre de Recherche du CHU de Québec,
Université Laval

Roberto Diaz-Rodriguez

X-Ray Core Facility, University of Ottawa

Sylva Donaldson

The Centre for the Analysis of Genome Evolution and Function (CAGEF), University of Toronto

Anick Dubois

Centre de recherche, Institut de Cardiologie de Montréal (ICM)

Justin Duncan

INSPIRE Laboratory; Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa

Darryl Dyck

Nano and Cell Imaging Facility, University of Manitoba

Ken Dyson

ICONIC - Montreal Children's Hospital

Ksenia Egorova

The Canadian Centre for Computational Genomics (C3G), McGill University

Masilamani Elangovan

Idea Elan LLC

Eric Flaim

nanoFAB; Fabrication & Characterization Centre, University of Alberta

Kaitline Fournier

INSPIRE Laboratory, University of Ottawa

Danielle Fremes

Canadian Foundation for Innovation

Jolene Friedman

Idea Elan LLC

Miki Fujita

Bioimaging facility, University of British Columbia

Olivier Gagnon

Canadian Foundation for Innovation

Guang Gao

LSI Imaging Facility, University of British Columbia

Melina Garcia

Evident Scientific

Stefanie Gard

INSPIRE Laboratory, University of Ottawa

Ana Giassi

Louise Pelletier Histology Core Facility, University of Ottawa

Cindy Gillet

University of New Brunswick

Elena Godbout

Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

David Gu

LabGiant

Katie Harris-Howard

UTM Imaging Facility (Mississauga), University of Toronto

Hoda Heli

Centre for NanoScience Research, Concordia University

Eva Hemmer

University of Ottawa

Charles Hindmarch

Translational Institute of Medicine (TIME), Queen's University

Vaughn Hinrichs

Agilent Technologies

Philip Hockberger

Northwestern University

Mariam Iskilova

High Throughput Screening, Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute

James Jonkman

Advanced Optical Microscopy Facility (AOMF), University Health Network

Susanne Kaitna

Office of the Vice- President (Research and Innovation), McGill University

Amin Karim

University of Alberta

Lars Kasper

Toronto Neuroimaging Facility (ToNI), University of Toronto

Brian Kendall

University of Waterloo

Antje Keppler

Euro-BioImaging ERIC Bio-Hub

Ekat Kritikou

Université de Montréal

Judith Lacoste

MIA Cellavie Inc.

Tyler Lalonde

Research Institute of the MUHC, CTB

Chris Lannon

MITACS Canada

Jared Lapkovsky

DeLong Microsystems

Jeff LeDue

CNSP, Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health,
University of British Columbia

Laurence Lejeune

Équilibre, UQAM

Guillaume Lesage

CNSP, Office of the Vice-President, Research and
Innovation, McGill University

Andree Lessard

Université de Sherbrooke

Chen Li

LabGiant

David Litchfield

Western University

Andrew Macklin

Proteomics Core Facility,
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute (OHRI)

Emmerson MacNeil

Electron Microscopy Facility, Queen's University

Mariana Marquez Machorro

Advanced BioImaging Facility (ABIF),
McGill University

Anand Mathews

Research and Innovation Cores,
University Health Network

Fanrui (Ray) Meng

Evident Scientific

Kassandre Messier

Canadian Institutes of Health Research |
Government of Canada

Zoran Minic

Proteomics and Mass Spectrometry Core,
University of Ottawa

Xavier Misonne

Zef Scientific Inc.

Christine Misquitta

Research and Innovation Cores,
University Health Network

Majid Mohajerani

Douglas Research Centre, McGill University

Audrey Morin

Centre for Applied Synthetic Biology,
Concordia University

Leila Mostaco-Guidolin

Carleton University

Nooshin Movahed

Electron Microscopy Core Facility, Ottawa University

Nicole Nagy-Watson

Core Molecular Biology and Genomics Laboratory,
University of Ottawa

Mohamad Nasser-Eddine

Canadian Foundation for Innovation

Shama Naz

Metabolomics Core Facility, University of Ottawa

Tram Nguyen

The Royal's Brain Imaging Centre,
University of Ottawa

Spyridon Ntais

NanoFab, University of Ottawa

Lauryl Nutter

McGill University

Kristina Öhrvall

McGill University

Cameron Orovan

Research and Innovation Cores,
University Health Network

Marie-Ève Paquet

CERVO Brain Research Center, Université Laval

Tom Pfeifer

The High Throughput Biology Facility, Biofactorial
(Bio!), University of British Columbia

Roland Pilgram

University of Ottawa

Henrique Piva

issue Engineering and Applied Materials Hub Core
Facility, Carleton University

Christopher Porter

Ottawa Bioinformatics Core Facility,
Ottawa Hospital Research Institute

Shannon Quinn

National Research Council of Canada (NRC)

Dhaarmini Rajshankar
CAMiLoD, University of Toronto

Naghmeah Rastegar
UHN Biospecimen Services,
University Health Network

Ryan Reshke
University of Ottawa

Brooke Ring
CNSP, Translational Institute of Medicine (TIME),
Queen's University

Melanie Rioux
University of Ottawa

Hicham Saad
Nikon Canada Inc.

Patricia Savard
Université Laval

Juliana Serroul
University of Regina

Vidhu Sharma
CNSP, Research & Innovation,
University of British Columbia

Alvin Shrier
McGill University

Shawn Martin Simpson
Oxford Nanopore Technologies

Mohamad Sobh
University of Ottawa

Scott Southern
Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Core Facility,
University of Ottawa

Julie St-Pierre
University of Ottawa

Gilda Stefanelli
University of Ottawa

Sherri Strong
CREAIT Network, Memorial University

Colleen Sunderland
CNSP, University of Alberta

Caitlin Taylor
Illumina Canada

Wendy Therrien
Cabinet du Recteur, Université de Sherbrooke

Nhu Trieu
CNSP, Microscopy & Microanalysis Facility,
University of New Brunswick

Cindy Umutoni
Q-Reserve

Kerstin Ure
Animal Behaviour and Physiology Core,
University of Ottawa

Patrice Vaillancourt
Centre for Translational Biology

Chloë Van Oostende-Triplet
Cell Biology and Image Acquisition (CBIA) Core
Facility, University of Ottawa

Caroline Vergette
Stemcore Laboratories (Genomics and
Transcriptomics) Core Facility, OHRI

Valerie Villeneuve
Université de Montréal

Jing yun Wang
Clinical Biological Imaging and Genetic Repository,
Montreal Neurological Institute

Pauline Wang
The Centre for the Analysis of Genome Evolution and
Function (CAGEF), University of Toronto

Melissa Wette
RITS Laboratory, University of Calgary

Andrew Wu
LabGiant

Sandra Zohar
Canadian Foundation for Innovation

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