



Preliminary Program

Tuesday, December 1, 2026, Edmonton Convention Centre

Registration: <https://groupize.com/gz/app/e/cdtrp-2026-scientific-meeting-from-bench-to-business-workshop-7a4487>

Plenary Room – Salon 10-11

8:00 – 8:10	Opening Remarks		
	8:00-8:10	Opening Remarks	Dr. Chantal Bémeur, Dr. Jonathan Choy
8:10 - 10:00	Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in Donation and Transplantation Research		Moderator: Dr. Patricia Gongal
	8:10 - 8:15	Introductions	Dr. Patricia Gongal
	8:15 - 8:35	TBC	TBC
	8:35-8:45	Understanding First Nations Kidney Care and Transplant Pathways in Ontario: An Indigenous-Led Mixed-Methods Study	Crystal Hardy (Supervisor: Dr. Istvan Mucsi)
	8:45-8:55	Intersectionality in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to Enhance Equity in Transplantation: A Scoping Review and Exploratory Qualitative Pilot	Duy Dinh (Supervisor: Dr. Suze Berkhout)
	8:55-9:15	Panel Discussion	Crystal Hardy, Duy Dinh
	9:15-10:00	Keynote Presentation	Dr. Puneeta Tandon
10:00 - 10:30	Break		
10:30 – 12:00	Theme 5: Restore long-term health		Moderator(s): Dr. Chantal Bémeur and Sandra Holdsworth
	10:30-10:35	Introductions	Dr. Chantal Bémeur
	10:35-11:30	Bridging the Divides: Building the Evidence for eHealth Interventions Across the Transplant Continuum	Dr. Samantha Anthony, Dr. Suze Berkhout, Dr. Katherine Cardwell
	11:30-11:45	Exploring Lived Experiences of Kidney Graft Loss Through Narrative Podcasting	Dr. Anita Slominska (Supervisor: Dr. Shaifali Sandal)
	11:45-12:00	Comparative Machine Learning Approach for Predicting Primary Biliary Cholangitis Recurrence Post-Liver Transplant	Sage Kim (Supervisor: Drs. Mamatha Bhat & Yingji Sun)
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break		

****unless otherwise indicated, all sessions in the program are hybrid**



13:00 – 14:00	Poster presentations ** in-person only, held in the foyer & Salon 15-16		
14:15 – 15:15	Theme 1: Improve a Culture of Donation and Theme 2: Inform Universal Practices of Donation		Moderator (s): Dr. Sonny Dhanani, Julia St. Louis
	14:15-14:55	National Guidance on Implementation of Normothermic Regional Perfusion in Canada and Next Steps	Dr. Marat Slessarev
	14:55-15:15	TBC	TBC
15:15 - 15:45	Break		
15:45 – 17:00	15:45-15:50	Introductions	Dr. Anne Halpin
	15:50-16:20	Death One Hour After Terminal Extubation (DONATE) machine learning model	Dr. Meredith Winter
	16:20-16:50	Research to Support Living Donors	Dr. Ngan Lam Moderator: Dr. Anne Halpin
	16:50-17:00	Closing remarks	Dr. Chantal Bémeur, Dr. Jonathan Choy

Workshop room – Salon 17-18

The Duffy Null Variant; bridging transfusion medicine, transplantation, and health equity
Hosted by Dr. Warren Fingrut

12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break		
13:00 - 14:00	Poster presentations ** in-person only, held in the foyer & Salon 15-16		
14:15 – 15:15	The Duffy Null Variant; bridging transfusion medicine, transplantation, and health equity		Dr. Warren Fingrut
	14:15-14:20	Welcome and introductions	
	14:20-14:45	Presentations	
	14:45-15:05	Breakout discussions	
	15:05-15:15	Shareback	
15:15 - 15:45	Break		

****unless otherwise indicated, all sessions in the program are hybrid**



The Canadian **Donation and Transplantation** Research Program
Programme de recherche en
don et transplantation du Canada

Scientific Meeting
December 1-2 2026 | **Edmonton, AB** | Hybrid

Congrès Scientifique
1 - 2 décembre 2026 | Edmonton, AB | Hybride

SOCIAL ACTIVITY - Book Club

18:30 - 20:00	Book Club <i>Other Endings</i> is a memoir about Anita Slominska's sister's wait for a liver transplant and her death in 2004, described by the publisher as " <i>a journey through grief, loss and coming to terms with the tragic ending of a transplant story.</i> " "Other Endings: Organ Transplantation and the Burden of Hope" by Dr. Anita Slominska , is now available for purchase! **in-person only, separate registration is required	Moderator (s): Drs. Caroline Tait and Anita Slominska
---------------	--	--

****unless otherwise indicated, all sessions in the program are hybrid**



Preliminary Program

Wednesday, December 2, 2026, Edmonton Convention Centre

Registration: <https://groupize.com/gz/app/e/cdtrp-2026-scientific-meeting-from-bench-to-business-workshop-7a4487>

Plenary room – Salon 10-11

8:00 – 9:00	Opening Remarks and CDTRP Year in Review		
	8:00-8:15	Opening Remarks	Dr. Chantal Bémeur, Dr. Jonathan Choy
	8:15-9:00	CDTRP Year in Review	Dr. Patricia Gongal, Dr. Lori West
9:00 - 10:00	The Canadian Society of Transplantation Collaborative Session		Moderator: Dr. Fred d’Aragon
	9:00-10:00	Understanding the national capacity for Randomized Clinical Trials in donation and transplantation	Dr. Ruth Sapir-Pichhadze
10:00 - 10:30	Break		
10:30 – 12:00	Engineer and allocate better grafts and Tailor an optimal immune system for each patient		Moderator(s): Lindsay Thompson, Dr. Jonathan Choy
	10:30-10:35	Introductions	
	10:35-11:30	Therapeutic drug monitoring and precision dosing of immunosuppressants in pediatric kidney transplantation (KTR)	Drs. Tony Kiang, Yan Rong, Jenny Wichart
	11:30-11:45	Bridging scale-up to transplant: Pluripotent stem cell-derived islet encapsulation in alginate beads via a scalable emulsion-based process	Marie Billaud (Supervisor: Dr. Corinne Hoelsi)
	11:45-12:00	Complement C3 deficiency preserves renal microvasculature and attenuates fibrosis in aged kidneys following ischemia-reperfusion injury.	Louis Vanpeperstraete (Supervisors: Drs. Marie-José Hébert & Francis Migneault)
12:00 – 13:00	Alberta Transplant Institute Lunch Symposium		
	12:15-13:00	Ethical issues regarding the organ allocation process and molecular matching	Speaker: Dr. Marie-Chantal Fortin Moderator: Dr. Saeideh Davoodi
13:00 – 14:15	Engineer and allocate better grafts and Tailor an optimal immune system for each patient		Moderator: Shilpa Raju and Dr. Ana Konvalinka

****unless otherwise indicated, all sessions in the program are hybrid**



	13:00-13:05	Introductions	
	13:05-13:45	Reconsidering live attenuated viral vaccines in paediatric solid organ transplant recipients - Panel	Speakers: Dr. Hana Mitchell, Dr. Catherine Burton, Elaine Yong, Dr. Karina Top
	13:45-14:00	Engineering tacrolimus-resistant A2-CAR Tregs for use in solid organ transplantation	Robbie Wright (Supervisor: Dr. Megan Levings)
	14:00-14:15	Low HLA class II expression on regulatory T cells derived from human thymus for tolerogenic cell therapy in transplant recipients	Sarjana Alam (Supervisor: Dr. Esmé Dijke)
14:15 - 14:45	Break		
14:45 – 16:45	Network Grant Working Time		
	14:45-16:45		
16:45 – 17:00	Closing remarks		
	16:45-17:00	Concluding remarks	Dr. Chantal Bémour, Dr. Jonathan Choy

Workshop room – Salon 15-16, IN-PERSON ONLY

Funding and publishing qualitative research workshop

Hosted by Drs. Marie-Chantal Fortin, Suze Berkhout and Shaifali Sandal

12:00 - 13:00	Lunch Break and ATI Sponsored Lunch Symposium		
13:00 - 15:00	Funding and Publishing Qualitative Research Workshop		
	13:00-13:05	Welcome	
	13:05-13:15	Personal experiences on overcoming barriers to funding and publishing qualitative research	Dr. Marie-Chantal Fortin
	13:15-13:45	Breakout discussions – Challenges in funding qualitative research	
	13:45-14:05	Share back	
	14:05-14:35	Breakout discussions – Challenges publishing qualitative research	
	14:35-14:55	Share back	
	14:55-15:00	Conclusion	
15:00 - 15:30	Break		

****unless otherwise indicated, all sessions in the program are hybrid**



The Canadian **Donation and Transplantation** Research Program
Programme de recherche en
don et transplantation du Canada

Scientific Meeting

December 1-2 2026 | **Edmonton, AB** | Hybrid

Congrès Scientifique

1 - 2 décembre 2026 | Edmonton, AB | Hybride

Social Activity - Movie Night at the Muttart Theatre

Edmonton Public Library - Stanley A. Milner (Downtown), 7 Sir Winston Churchill Sq NW,
Edmonton, AB T5J 2V5

18:30 - 21:30	Thanks for the Liver Screening	
Doors open: 18:30	“Thanks for the Liver” is a first-person, Toronto-rooted documentary that follows the year before and after Fraser’s living liver transplant—donor—recipient dynamics, clinician care at Toronto General, and the recovery that follows. **in-person only, separate, paid, registration is required	Speaker: Fraser Allen Best
Doors close 19:00		Moderator: Dr. Suze Berkhout

****unless otherwise indicated, all sessions in the program are hybrid**



The Canadian **Donation and Transplantation** Research Program
Programme de recherche en
don et transplantation du Canada

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

From Bench to Business
Commercial Pathways in Immunology Diagnostics
December 3, 2026 | Edmonton, AB | Hybrid

Du laboratoire au marché
Parcours commerciaux en diagnostics immunologiques
December 3, 2026 | Edmonton, AB | Hybrid

Preliminary Program

Thursday, December 3, 2026, Edmonton Convention Centre, hybrid

Registration: <https://groupize.com/gz/app/e/cdtrp-2026-scientific-meeting-from-bench-to-business-workshop-7a4487>

Plenary Room – Salon 10-11

8:30 – 8:45	Opening remarks		Speaker(s) Dr. Anne Halpin, Dr. Francis Migneault
	8:30-8:45	Opening remarks	
8:45 – 9:30	Identifying the business Value of research		
	Primary goal: Help researchers distinguish between scientific and commercial value while understanding the pathway to commercialization.		Moderator: TBC
	8:45-9:30	Translating research into commercially viable opportunities, including identifying real-world problems, articulating value propositions, assessing commercial potential and technology readiness, and understanding product-market fit.	Ron Mills
9:30 – 10:30	Planning with the end-user in mind		
	Primary goal: Ensure that end users and stakeholders are integrated early in the innovation process.		Moderator: Dr. Anne Halpin
	9:30-9:50	Understanding users and stakeholders, identifying early adopters, mapping user experiences and early adoption barriers, and developing Minimum Viable Prototypes (MVPs).	Peter Diep, Dr. Dave Lowe
	9:50-10:10	Clinical need identification and validation, stakeholder engagement, understanding early adoption barriers, and developing early-stage solutions aligned with real-world healthcare needs.	Dr. Nicole Prokopishyn
	10:10-10:30	Questions/Discussion	Peter Diep, Dr. Dave Lowe, and Dr. Nicole Prokopishyn
10:30 – 11:00	Break		
11:00 – 12:00	Understanding technology transfer		
	Primary goal: Demystify how research moves from the university to the marketplace.		Moderator: TBC
	11:00-12:00	Intellectual property and technology transfer, including commercialization pathways, invention disclosure, university IP policies, publication considerations, and	Joanna Preston



The Canadian **Donation and Transplantation** Research Program
Programme de recherche en
don et transplantation du Canada

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

From Bench to Business
Commercial Pathways in Immunology Diagnostics
December 3, 2026 | Edmonton, AB | Hybrid

Du laboratoire au marché
Parcours commerciaux en diagnostics immunologiques
December 3, 2026 | Edmonton, AB | Hybrid

		the transition from research discoveries to licensing or startup creation.	
		Intellectual property and technology transfer, including commercialization pathways, invention disclosure, university IP policies, publication considerations, and the transition from research discoveries to licensing or startup creation.	Darren Fast
		This "Fire-side Chat" session will address common concerns around IP, publication and commercialization with a technology transfer team expert.	TBC
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch Break		
13:00 – 14:00	Developing a business plan		
		Primary goal: Position the business plan as a strategic and evolving tool rather than a static document.	Moderator: TBC
	13:00-13:20	Developing viable business models, including defining revenue streams, tailoring business plans to different audiences, setting milestones, identifying resource and skill gaps, and adapting plans as the venture evolves.	TBC
	13:20-13:40	Developing viable business models, including defining revenue streams, tailoring business plans to different audiences, setting milestones, identifying resource and skill gaps, and adapting plans as the venture evolves.	TBC
	13:40-14:00	Questions/Discussion	TBC
14:00 – 14:30	Implementing quality management systems		
	14:00-14:30	The proposed speaker will cover basics of quality systems and how these impact not only the needs at the time of commercialisation but also all stages of innovation	TBC
14:30 - 15:00	Break		
15:00 – 16:00	Navigating regulatory pathways		
		Primary goal: Build early awareness of regulatory requirements and their impact on commercialization timelines. + Introduce quality systems as a foundational component of successful commercialization.	Moderator: TBC
	15:00-15:20	Navigating regulatory requirements and quality systems, including understanding their impact on commercialization timelines, mapping regulatory pathways, implementing quality systems, and engaging	TBC



The Canadian **Donation and Transplantation** Research Program
Programme de recherche en
don et transplantation du Canada

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

From Bench to Business
Commercial Pathways in Immunology Diagnostics
December 3, 2026 | **Edmonton, AB** | Hybrid

Du laboratoire au marché
Parcours commerciaux en diagnostics immunologiques
December 3, 2026 | **Edmonton, AB** | Hybrid

		with regulatory, quality, and clinical trials considerations.	
	15:20-15:40	Preparing for quality inspections, including understanding inspection requirements, readiness planning, and addressing common compliance considerations.	TBC
	15:40-16:00	Questions/Discussion	TBC
16:00 – 16:30	Closing Remarks		
	16:00-16:30	Closing Remarks	Dr. Anne Halpin, Dr. Francis Migneault