



UBC Faculty of Medicine Report from the Dean

Full Faculty Meeting

Date: November 18, 2024

Strategic Plan

Overview and general updates

- The Faculty of Medicine is in the third year of its Strategic Plan [Building the Future: 2021-2026](#).
- Implementation across the strategy's research, partnership, organization and education pillars is on track. Advancements have been made in several areas, including program accessibility, inclusion and support services, leadership development, respectful learning environments, and implementing the Faculty of Medicine's [Response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action](#).
- A [mid-term report](#) features stories of how our faculty, clinical faculty, staff and learners are turning strategy into action and helping to transform health for everyone. The report also includes a list of [25 things we are proud of](#) that reflect a few of our many important impacts to date.
- In June 2024, we announced an open call for proposals, inviting submissions from the Faculty of Medicine community to access up to \$1 million per year in funding from the Strategic Investment Fund. These awards are intended to support projects that advance the strategic plan and with the potential to yield significant and lasting outcomes. Funding announcements are expected to be made in December 2024.
- For ongoing updates please refer to <https://stratplan.med.ubc.ca/strategy-to-action/stories-and-updates/>

Education

Office of Vice Dean, Education – General Updates

- **UBC Integrated Renewal Program (IRP) - Student Update:**
 - **SIS Transition** - As of September 1, 2024, UBC will fully transition from SIS to Workday as its primary System of Record for student data. Access for current staff and faculty will be changed to read-only mode to applications that utilize SIS, such as SISC and FSC, until the end of June, 2025 when all access will be removed. Students' access to SSC ended on September 1, 2024.
 - **Student Completion** - The Student Completion project was approved by the UBC Board of Governors to complete the scope that was originally part of IRP Student, but was not completed for practical reasons, or due to the maturity of the Workday Student product. Student Completion will be staffed by people from IRP Student to ensure critical expertise is retained and to help realize UBC's investment in Workday. For details



on the six work packages that will be focused on during the Student Completion project, click [here](#).

- [UBC Vancouver Fall 2024 graduation ceremonies](#) will be delivered in-person on campus at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts from Wednesday November 27th – Friday November 29th, 2024. Ceremonies #9 and #10 on November 29th are specific to the Faculty of Medicine.
- The Faculty of Medicine's 2024 [Vancouver Summer Program](#) successfully welcomed 274 international students, facilitated by the dedicated efforts of faculty, staff, and student volunteers. Students were able to select from 12 diverse course packages, encompassing subjects such as anatomical sciences, medical laboratory science, and clinical medicine. In addition to their daytime classes, students enjoyed a range of evening social activities designed to enhance their experience.

Undergraduate Medical Education (UGME)

- The UBC FoM MD Undergraduate Program (MDUP) will undergo an external review by the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS) virtually between March 10 - 12, 2025 and in-person between April 9-11, 2025.
- **MDUP incoming Class of 2028:** This year, the Faculty welcomed the largest MD class in its history - 328 medical students were welcomed at a one-week orientation at UBC Vancouver campus that included a Stethoscope Ceremony and reciting a modernized version of the Hippocratic Oath written by UBC medical students.
- **MDUP Clerkship Expansion:** Following engagement with physicians and Northern Health, the MDUP is adding nine new [Integrated Community Clerkship \(ICC\)](#) sites in rural communities across northern BC between 2024 and 2026 as part of the new Northern Regional Integrated Clerkship (NRIC) which is a blended clerkship model. Additionally, the MDUP is establishing a new ICC site in Cranbrook and Comox Valley. To better support community preceptors participating in this model, a comprehensive set of resources and workshops have been developed by the FoM Faculty Development team, [found here](#).

Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME)

- **R1 Resident Expansion:** UBC will have a record 424 R1 residency positions participating in the 2025 Canadian Resident Matching Service (CaRMS) R1 match, which will more than align to a minimum of 1.1 residency positions for each graduating MDUP UBC medical student. The [Competitive Return of Service \(ROS\) Stream](#), which was first piloted in 2024, will run again in 2025. In this stream both International Medical Graduates and Canadian Medical Graduates may apply for 20 available positions. Eight UBC residency training programs are participating in the Competitive ROS Stream in 2025.
- **FoM Clinical Fellow Training Program:** PGME are in the process of implementing (effective January 1, 2026) a new process whereby all successful clinical fellow applicants will be appointed to the FoM Clinical Fellow Training Program. In this new program, all clinical fellows will hold UBC appointments and will be employed and paid through UBC. This arrangement will provide clarity with respect to the legal bases for the relationship and status in processes related to the training. While the Health Authorities may provide funding for a Clinical Fellow's training, UBC retains sole jurisdiction over the employment and training relationship. PGME has created a new Faculty Lead position in support of this to provide leadership, advice, oversight and guidance for those Departments hiring and appointing clinical fellows.



Health Professions Programs (HP)

- **Program Expansion:** In September, 2024, eight new Speech-Language Pathology students and 20 Physical Therapy students were welcomed to UBC's new distributed education programs in collaboration with the University of Victoria on Vancouver Island in the Victoria region. Teaching faculty are in place and research faculty hires are in progress.
- **Program Review:** Three programs have undergone accreditation reviews in 2024: Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy (new Fraser site review only), and Genetic Counselling.

Graduate and Postdoctoral Education (GPE)

- The FoM [Postdoctoral Peer Mentorship Program](#) engaged 44 postdoctoral fellows in a comprehensive 10-month dynamic program, which featured mentorship, mental health literacy training, social events, and professional development. Sixteen faculty members also played a key role by offering guidance to the postdoctoral mentors.
- As a result, more than 80% of participants indicated a reduced sense of isolation and an increased sense of belonging with the UBC FoM community. Additionally, 56 graduate students in the [Graduate Peer Mentorship Program](#) built strong, supportive relationships through this peer mentorship model.
- The [Healthy Environments in Academic Research Teams \(HEART\) Program](#) pilot was concluded. Eight research teams and 89 participants engaged in a reflective and skill-building program designed to increase psychological safety, well-being and EDI competencies throughout their research teams. An evaluative report on the program's efficacy will be used to inform the program's future iteration.

Faculty Development (Fac Dev)

- The **Research and Reflections on Teaching A Medical and Health Education Series** provides cross-cutting topics, expert speakers, and connection and networking. On September 13th, 2024, the Office of Faculty Development held a "hybrid plus" event with nine sites connecting over videoconference across the province with teaching faculty (117 in-person and 45 online) across Undergraduate and Postgraduate Medical Education and the Health Professions. The event included a keynote lecture on *Generational Othering: How popular stereotypes impact our teaching and a scientific way forward*, followed by interactive discussions, teacher appreciation elements and opportunities for connection. Nearly all participants (98%) indicated that they strengthened connections with the teaching community. The next sessions in the series will be held in January and May, 2025.

Centre for Health Education Scholarship (CHES)

- CHES is currently inviting applications for the 2025 cohorts of the [Master of Health Professions Education \(MHPE-Canada\)](#) and the [Clinical Educator Fellowship Program \(CEFP\)](#). This call includes inviting applications for the Indigenous Stream of the CEFP, following a successful, inaugural round of applications for our 2024 cohort. Fellows within the Indigenous Stream, with the support of an advisory group, will help create a vision of an Indigenous approach to educational leadership and work alongside our first cohort of two fellows in the stream, Drs. Chelsea Monell and Janelle Syring. More information on the MHPE-Canada, CEFP, and Indigenous Stream can be found [here](#).
- CHES hosted the 14th annual CHES Celebration of Scholarship on October 2, 2024. This event is an opportunity for the CHES community to showcase and share their work and celebrate the



accomplishments of the health professions education scholarship network. This year's event sold out in less than 24 hours, and was widely attended by over 140 faculty, staff, and students from faculties, schools, and centres across UBC and beyond. [Click here](#) to reference the 2024 CHES Celebration of Scholarship event program, which highlights all 50 presentations that took course over the day.

Research

CIEBH Updates

Canada's Immuno-Engineering and Biomanufacturing Hub (CIEBH), a newly formed UBC-led innovation hub, brings together a coalition of partners to accelerate the development and manufacturing of lifesaving medicine for Canada.

Four active projects have been supported by over \$172 million in direct federal and provincial investments

- **ATMF: Advanced Therapeutics Manufacturing Facility**
 - Constructing a flexible, nimble cutting-edge GMP-classified facility dedicated to rapidly developing and manufacturing advanced cell- and gene-based therapies at the scale and quality required for early-stage clinical trials.
 - Project directors: Drs. Megan Levings and Robert Holt
 - **AVENGER: Advanced LNP RNA Vaccines Engineered with Next-Generation designs to Enhance pandemic Readiness**
 - Establishing a national RNA vaccine platform and creating a library of vaccine formulations that can be custom designed and rapidly deployed against pandemic pathogens and other health threats.
 - Project directors: Drs. Pieter Cullis and Anna Blakney
 - **PROGENITER: Pathogen Response Optimization by GENERating Therapeutics Rationally**
 - Developing a rapid response platform that leverages advanced cryo-electron microscopy and AI-enabled drug discovery to build a suite of ready-to-deploy antibody treatments for pandemic pathogens and other health threats.
 - Project director: Dr. Sriram Subramaniam
 - **BRIDGE RESEARCH CONSORTIUM**
 - Building bridges across disciplines, sectors and society to reduce mis/disinformation, enhance confidence, and support public trust in, and equitable access to, vaccines and other immune-based innovations.
 - Project directors: Drs. Kelley Lee and Ève Dubé
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- The CIEBH recently co-organized the inaugural Transforming Health Symposium on Nov 4 in collaboration with UBC Academy of Translational Medicine and UBC Faculty of Medicine's Precision Health Initiative.
 - The CIEBH is Engaging with national and global partners in academia, public health organizations, and industry, and continues to seek funding to support unfunded CIEBH projects



Research Leadership Searches

- Director, Centre for Blood Research (CBR)
 - Search is in final stages
- Director, Centre for Health Services and Policy Research
 - Search is in final stages
- President's Excellence Chair in Precision Oncology
 - Search is underway
- Sunny Hill BC Leadership Chair in Child Development
 - Search in underway
- John and Penny Ryan BC Leadership Chair in Spinal Cord Research
 - Search in underway

Leadership Appointments & Reappointments

- Director, Vancouver Prostate Centre (VPC)
 - Dr. Peter Black has been appointed to the role until June 30, 2029
- Director, UBC Centre for Disease Control (UBC CDC)
 - Dr. Naveed Janjua has been appointed to the role until August 31, 2029
- Director, ICORD
 - Dr. Brian Kwon has been appointed until June 30, 2029
- Co-Directors, Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health
 - Dr. Lynn Raymond and Dr. Shernaz Bamji have been appointed until June 30, 2029
- Donald Rix British Columbia Leadership Chair in Genetic Medicine
 - Dr. Francesca Capon has been appointed until July 31, 2029
- Interim Director, W. Maurice Young Centre for Applied Ethics
 - Dr. Susan Cox has been appointed until June 30, 2026

Research Awards

2024 National Research Award Winners:

- Dr. Chew Wei Memorial Prize in Cancer Research: Dr. Cheryl Arrowsmith (University Health Network, University of Toronto)
- Margolese National Brain Disorders Prize: Dr. Michael Hill (University of Calgary)
- Margolese National Heart Disorders Prize: Dr. John Webb (University of British Columbia)

CFI John R. Evans Leaders Fund Awards

Eleven projects led by FoM researchers have been awarded funding in the latest round of the CFI John R. Evans Leaders Fund (JELF) and the British Columbia Knowledge Development Fund:

- Dr. Katrina Bouchard, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology - *Psychology, Health, and Sexuality (PHaSe) Laboratory*
- Dr. Carol Chen, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology - *Identifying Disease Drivers of Lethal Brain Cancer*
- Dr. Govind Kaigala, School of Biomedical Engineering - *Tissue Microprocessing Platform: Technologies to Unravel Heterogeneous Interactions in Cancer*



- Dr. Aly Karsan, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine - *Overcoming Therapy Resistance in Leukemia*
- Dr. Genelle Lunken, Department of Pediatrics - *Nutrition and Microbiome Precision Health (N&M Precision) Lab*
- Dr. Marco Marra, Department of Medical Genetics - *Multi-omic Analysis of Treatment Resistance and Cancer Heterogeneity (MATCH)*
- Dr. Graziano Oldani, Department of Surgery - *Immune Suppression-Free Xenotransplantation*
- Dr. Dena Shahriari, Department of Orthopaedics - *Implantable Smart Biomaterials and Sensors*
- Dr. Syam Somasekharan, Department of Urologic Sciences - *Advanced RNA Translatome Profiling Facility to Identify Therapeutic Targets and Biomarkers for Prostate Cancer (ART-PC)*
- Dr. Adi Steif, Department of Medical Genetics - *Single Cell Analysis of Chromosomal Instability in Cancer using Machine Learning*
- Dr. Cheryl Wellington, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine - *Facility for Neurology Fluid Biomarker Innovation*

Canada Research Chairs

The following three researchers from the FoM are among UBC's newly nominated or renewed Canada Research Chairs:

- **New Canada Research Chairs**
 - Dr. Corinna Schindler, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology / Chemistry - *Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Synthetic Solutions for Bioactive Compounds*
- **Renewed Canada Research Chairs**
 - Dr. Liam Brunham, Department of Medicine - *Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Precision Cardiovascular Disease Prevention*
 - Dr. Annie Ciernia, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology - *Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Understanding Gene Expression in the Brain*

CIHR Update

Spring 2024 Project Grant

- CIHR awarded 373/2,443 submissions for a total of \$325M. In addition, 68 Priority Announcement (PA) grants were awarded for a total of \$7.6M, as well as 5 supplemental prizes were awarded for a total of \$210K. There were no bridge awards.
- UBC was awarded 39/233 submissions and received \$34.2M in new grant funding: \$32.9M for 39 full-term grants, and \$1.3M for 13 Priority Announcements.
- FoM researchers were awarded a total of 38 full awards (total: \$25.7M), including 9 PAs (total: \$900K), from a total of 172 submissions.

Fall 2024 Project Grant

- The latest Fall 2024 competition deadline was September 11, 2024
- There was a total of 242 UBC submissions, 80% of which were from the Faculty of Medicine (194 applications).
- Results are anticipated to be announced January 2025.

Spring 2025 Project Grant

- The Spring 2025 competition registration deadline is February 5, 2025.

Michael Smith Health Research BC

2024 Scholar Award & Health Professional-Investigator Program



- MSHRBC announced the 2024 Scholar recipients, out of a total of 23 recipients, 13 were from UBC and 5 were from the Faculty of Medicine (out of 11 FoM applicants).
- There was a total of 14 announced Health Professional-Investigator Program recipients, which included 7 UBC recipients and 4 Faculty of Medicine recipients (out of 13 FoM applicants).

2025 Scholar Award & Health Professional-Investigator Program

- The 2025 Scholar and HPI programs have launched, with the LOI deadline of November 19 for both programs, and the application deadline of January 23.

Order of Canada

Dr. Nadine Caron (Professor, Dept of Surgery, Special Advisor on Indigenous Health, and Director, Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health) was recently appointed to the Order of Canada.

Two FoM emeriti faculty members were appointed to the Order of Canada this June:

- Dr. Jack Edward Taunton – Professor Emeritus, Department of Family Practice
- Dr. John Allan Cairns – Dean Emeritus, Department of Medicine

Additionally, Dr. Lindsay MacHan, Associate Professor, Department of Radiology, was appointed as an Officer of the Order of Canada

The Royal Society of Canada

UBC Faculty of Medicine scientists have been elected to the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) as part of the RSC College 2024 cohort:

- Dr. Torsten Nielsen – Professor, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
- Dr. Gina Ogilvie – Professor, School of Population and Public Health
- Dr. Manish Sadarangani – Associate Professor, Department of Paediatrics

Gairdner Foundation

Dr. Laura Evgin, Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Genetics have been awarded a 2024 Gairdner Early Career Investigators (EDI) Award, including an invitation to present her research during the Gairdner Science Week 2024 in Toronto.

Administration and Operations

Facilities

- **Work(place) Evolution: Hybrid Work-Shared Workspace:**
Since 2023, the Faculty of Medicine has been rolling out a shared workspace model: 125 workspaces within the Dean’s Office at two UBC Vancouver campus locations, IRC 3rd floor and DMCBH 3rd floor, and 75 workspaces for Education Programs at the Diamond Health Care Centre, VGH site. Adopting a shared space model allows the Faculty to flexibly adapt and change existing workplace footprints to better meet the needs of individuals and teams in a hybrid environment. The initiative continues to be rolled out with Education Programs and Administrative Units at other Faculty of Medicine worksites this year. If you are interested in learning more about Hybrid Work – Shared Workspace, please visit [Mednet](#).



- Ongoing participation in Academic Space design and construction is taking place at the following clinical sites:
 - New St. Paul's – Station Street site
 - Burnaby Hospital
 - Royal Columbian Hospital, New Westminster
 - New Surrey Hospital and Cancer Centre
 - Richmond Hospital
 - Mills Memorial Hospital, Terrace
 - Dawson Creek and District Hospital
 - Cariboo Memorial Hospital, Williams Lake
 - Cowichan District Hospital, Duncan

Faculty Affairs

Leadership Appointment Announcements

- Dr. Jan Friedman extended as Interim Head, Department of Medical Genetics, from April 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024
- Dr. Christopher West appointed as Assistant Dean, Research, Southern Medical Program, from April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025
- Dr. Darryl Knight extended as Associate Dean, Providence Health Care Research Institute, from July 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024
- Dr. Anita Palepu extended as Head, Department of Medicine, from July 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024
- Dr. Peter Choi extended as Head, Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics, from July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024
- Dr. Poul Sorensen extended as Director, Academy of Translational Medicine, from July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024
- Dr. Paul Winwood extended as Regional Associate Dean, Northern BC, from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027
- Dr. Kim Chi reappointed as Special Advisor to the Dean, Academic Oncology, from July 1, 2024 to October 31, 2028
- Dr. Joseph Anthony reappointed as Associate Dean, Health Professions, from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2029
- Dr. Aslam Anis appointed as Director, School of Population and Public Health, from August 1, 2024 to June 30, 2029
- Dr. Sarah Bartlett appointed as Interim Associate Dean, Student Affairs, from September 1, 2024 to February 28, 2025
- Dr. Laura Farrell appointed as Regional Associate Dean, Vancouver Island, from September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2029
- Dr. Dean Jones appointed as Vice Dean, Health Engagement, from September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2029
- Dr. Dean Regier extended as Associate Director, Academy of Translational Medicine, from October 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024



- Dr. Clarissa Wallace appointed as Interim Associate Dean, Fraser, from October 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025
- Dr. Jorg Gsponer appointed as Head, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, from October 1, 2024 to June 30, 2029
- Dr. Lakshmi Yatham reappointed as Head, Department of Psychiatry, from October 1, 2024 to June 30, 2029

Current Leadership Searches

- External search for Head, Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology, and Therapeutics
- External search for Head, Department of Surgery
- Internal search for Head, Department of Medical Genetics
- Internal search for Vice Dean, Research
- Internal search for Associate Dean, Student Affairs, MD Undergraduate Program

Upcoming Department/School Reviews

- Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (External): November 19, 28, and 29th, 2024
- Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (External): Early 2025
- Department of Orthopaedics (External): Early 2025
- Department of Cellular and Physiological Sciences (External): Spring 2025

Completed Department/School Reviews

- Department of Family Practice (External): April 2024
- Department of Physical Therapy (External): September 2024

Organizational Development

- A Recognition Guide for Managers is currently being finalized and includes recognition guiding principles, framework and resources, as well as expense guidelines. In the next few months, we will be working on dissemination and promotion of the guide through workshops, meetings and broad communications.
- As recommended by the recognition working group, we have implemented a program to recognize service milestones at 5-year increments.
- The 2025 Staff Mentoring Program will begin in January 2025 and run until December 2025. Mentors have been recruited and mentees will be invited to join this month. We will work to match the pairs by end of November, and will run the Mentorship Foundations series of workshops during the year and a goal-setting workshop for mentees.
- The Faculty Emerging Leaders Program was paused for this year to allow for an update to the program based on participant feedback. Applications for the fifth cohort will open in October 2024 with a start date of January 2025.

Digital Solutions

- The Learning Platform Transformation Project – an initiative to replace the current on-campus Elentra platform - is underway. A Request for Information was completed during summer of



2024, and a steering committee struck to recommend a path forward and to oversee the selection and implementation of the chosen solution. We are still targeting the 2026/27 academic year for the new platform(s) to be in place.

- In 2024, Digital Solutions completed the tech installation of the new educational center Victoria, supporting the expansion of the Masters programs in Physical Therapy and Speech & Language Pathology. This new facility is equipped with the latest technology to facilitate distributed learning across the province. Ed Tech supported the development of pedagogical models to support SLP in its new distributed teaching model.
- The Faculty of Medicine Simulation Vision and Strategy and the Simulation Advisory Council, chaired by Dr. Ravi Sidhu and Gary Rosborough, developed a series of recommendations to address outstanding challenges related to simulation as a pedagogical tool.
- Centralized support has been extended to Ophthalmology and Occupational Therapy, and work is underway to enhance support offerings at the LSI and BCCDC
- During the first half of F24/25, FoMDS supported 92 clinical research, 4 clinical trials, 17 quality improvement. 4 Biobanks with 4478 patients and 121707 samples
- FoM Data platforms are supporting multiple research projects including the Road 2 Recovery, Planetary Health and the Hematology Cell Bank & Metabolic Disease Clinic initiatives and continue to grow services for FOM Research.
- Enhancements continue to be made to the Teaching Tracking and Payment System (TTPS) to cover all relevant UGME and PGME teaching.
- FoM IT Governance and Security policy/procedures have been rolled out alongside the UBC Privacy and Information Security Management (PrISM) led initiatives: The 'Compliance Support Program' (CSP) and the 'Privacy Matters Champions Program'. These programs are designed to increase the adoption of UBC security policy and standards, and to establish unit oversight across the faculty. All 49 in-scope units have completed the CSP program. Remediation activities, supported by Digital Solutions Security team will be completed during the remainder of FY24/25, and validation activities undertaken through FY25/26
- The IT@FOM program was launched in April 2024, with the establishment of reporting lines between distributed IT groups and the Office of the Deputy CIO Medicine and the launch of IT@FOM in October 2024
- Digital Solutions Governance Strategy & Planning Group are leading change initiatives including the rollout of Multi-Factor Authentication to students & learners, on-boarding of Ophthalmology and Occupational Therapy and are in the process of facilitating the Faculty's migration to M365 and MedNet re-design.

Faculty of Medicine Award Recipients

Bill and Marilyn Webber Lifetime Achievement Award

- Dr. Clive P. Duncan, Professor Emeritus, Department of Orthopaedics

Award for Excellence in Mentoring Early Career Faculty

- Dr. Rebecca Warbuton, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Surgery
- Dr. Amina Zoubeidi, Department of Urology

Applegarth Staff Service



- Management and Professional
 - Mr. David Tsukada, Student Services Manager, Department of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy
- Secretarial/ Clerical
 - Ms. Tracey Mason, Administrative Coordinator (Former), Department of Family Practice, Midwifery Program (Former)
- Non-Union Technician/Research Assistant
 - Mr. Sahil Kanani, Non-Union Research Assistant/Technician 3, Department of Psychiatry

Dean's Staff Awards

- Leadership
 - Dr. Sarah Fletcher, Senior Manager – Primary Care Transformation, Department of Family Practice
- Respectful Environment, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion
 - Ms. Waheeda Esmail, Director of Administration, Island Medical Program
- Creativity/Innovation
 - Ms. Genevieve MacMillan, Director of Administration, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Clinical Faculty Awards

- Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Clinical Teaching
 - Early Career
 - Dr. Katie Wiskar, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine
 - Dr. Richard Alexander, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology and Therapeutics, Island Medical Program
 - Mid-Career
 - Dr. Ashutosh Singhal, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Surgery
 - Dr. Barry Chan, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Medicine
 - Late Career
 - Dr. Francine Tessier, Clinical Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology
 - Dr. Henry Broekhuysen, Clinical Professor, Department of Orthopaedics
- Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Leadership/Service
 - Early Career
 - Dr. Mia Remington, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics
 - Mid/Late Career
 - Dr. Jennifer Balfour, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Island Medical Program
- Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentorship
 - Mid/Late Career
 - Dr. Brian Westerberg, Clinical Professor, Department of Surgery
 - Dr. Debbie Rosenbaum, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Medicine
- Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Research
 - Early Career



- Dr. Karen Tran, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine
- Mid/Late Career
 - Dr. Anna McGuire, Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Surgery
- Clinical Faculty Award for Excellence in Advancing Equity, Diversity, and Inclusiveness
 - Dr. Sara Jassemi, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics

Continuing Medical Education/Continuing Professional Development (CME/CPD) Awards

- Award for Distinguished Service to CME/CPD
 - Dr. Nelson Greidanus, Assistant Professor, Department of Orthopaedics
- Award for Innovation in CME/CPD
 - Indigenous Specific Anti Racism Training (ISART) Team
 - Dr. Chirs Morrow, ISART Director and Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, Island Medical Program
 - Mr. Darin Abbey, Simulation Facilitator
 - Mr. Chris Austin, Indigenous Standardized Patient
 - Ms. Chelsey Branch, Course Developer and Facilitator
 - Ms. Rain Daniels, Course Developer and Facilitator
 - Ms. Nicole Esligar, Education Manager
 - Dr. Lauren Jerke, Indigenous Standardized Patient Lead and Case Developer
 - Ms. Leah Johnston, Administrative Assistant
 - Mr. Alain Mickelson, Indigenous Standardized Patient
 - Ms. Valeria Frances Oliver, Indigenous Standardized Patient
 - Ms. Sarah Petreny, Administrative Assistant
 - Ms. Addie Taylor, Indigenous Standardized Patient
 - Ms. Tamara Young, Clinical Nurse Educator

Distinguished Achievement Awards

- Excellence in Education
 - Dr. Angela Devlin, Professor, Department of Pediatrics
 - Dr. Lindsay Rogers, Associate Professor of Teaching, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- Excellence in Basic Science Research
 - Dr. Eric Jan, Professor, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
 - Dr. Stephanie Sellers, Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine
- Excellence in Clinical or Applied Research
 - Dr. Chris Carlsten, Professor, Department of Medicine
 - Dr. Sam Wiseman, Professor, Department of Surgery
- Excellence in Service to the University and Community
 - Dr. Mariana Brussoni, Professor, Department of Pediatrics and School of Population and Public Health
 - Dr. Kendall Ho, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine
- Excellence in Advancement of Equity, Diversity and Inclusiveness
 - Dr. Annie Ciernia, Assistant Professor, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
 - Dr. Diane Lacaille, Professor, Department of Medicine
- Overall Excellence – Early Career



- Dr. Ali Bashashati, Assistant Professor, School of Population and Public Health and the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
- Dr. Brian Grunau, Assistant Professor, Emergency Medicine
- Overall Excellence – Mid-Career
 - Dr. Manish Sadarangani, Association Professor, Department of Pediatrics
 - Dr. Jackie Whittaker, Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy
- Overall Excellence – Senior Faculty
 - Dr. Samuel Aparicio, Professor, Pathology and Laboratory Medicine
 - Dr. Lori Brotto, Professor, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Department of Psychiatry

REDI Respectful Environments, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

REDI provides leadership, consultation, capacity-building, and education across the Faculty of Medicine (FoM) in support of the Strategic Plan objectives and the commitment to transform our culture and to create inclusive and respectful learning and work environments.

[REDI's education platform](#) adopts a targeted approach to inclusion, anti-oppression, Indigenization, decolonization and equity by promoting self-reflection, embedding knowledge into practice, and harnessing the power of the group. REDI provides consultations, and organizes and co-facilitates events, that support skill development, and empowers members of the FoM community to participate in systemic and behaviour change.

REDI Activities Since May 2024:

Consultations and Advice:

- 39 new consultations across 28 units (including 1 Centre, 9 Departments and Schools, 5 Administrative Offices, 9 UBC units, 1 Health Authority, and 3 Educational programs)
- 123 ongoing consultations with 55 units (including 3 Centres, 14 Departments and Schools, 10 Administrative Offices, 13 UBC units, 6 Health Authorities, and 9 Educational programs)
- A major focus of consultations and advisory services has been on building partnerships with teams and units that have extensive reach and an ability to amplify the work we do across the FoM learning and working environments, including efforts with Faculty Development, Human Resources, Student Affairs and Admissions.

Development of Educational Resources:

- 8 new [best practices documents](#) to help units integrate EDI principles in their teaching, research and service work;
- 1 new module on implicit bias to support undergraduate admissions, in accordance with best practices and accreditation requirements; almost 400 interviewers have completed this training;
- REDI is collaborating with Faculty Development on anti-racism modules, scheduled for completion in the spring.

Workshops and Presentations (organized and/or co-facilitated):



- 28 workshops to departments, divisions, centres and administrative units across the faculty, with a major focus on fostering inclusive environments, engaging across differences, and resolving conflicts;
- 10 presentations to FoM faculty and staff recruitment committees.

EDI Joint Interest Group

- REDI continues to evolve and support the EDI Joint Interest Group which supports information exchange and empowerment of people leading EDI initiatives across the FoM. This group now has 150 members.

REDI FoM-wide Events:

- “It Starts with Us” event titled “[Managing Fragility and Saviourism Reactions in EDI work](#)”, included 224 participants who joined live or viewed the post-event recording;
- Symposium titled “[Beyond Diversity: Embedding a Culture of Inclusive Excellence in Medicine.](#)” Included 196 participants who joined live or viewed the post-event recording;
- Indigenous Speaker Series sessions title “Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami: The National Voice of All Inuit in Canada” in May and “Unbroken: My Fight for Survival, Hope, and Justice for Indigenous Women and Girls” in October, including a total of 283 registrants across both sessions;
- National Day for Truth and Reconciliation in-person Indigenous Speaker Series session titled ‘[Coming Home: Honouring the Resiliency of All Survivors of the Indian Residential School Experience](#), including 35 individuals in leadership positions at UBC and 374 participants in total.

Learner’s Experience/Mistreatment Reporting Process

- REDI continues to oversee the Learner Mistreatment/Learning Environment reporting and response process, including 44 disclosures since May 15, 2024 and supporting decision makers in education programs, departments and administrative units to respond to mistreatment disclosures.
- REDI continues to work to improve the disclosure and response process, including revising the website and developing resources to support people who are engaged in responding to disclosures. Examples of resources include a summary of [support units across UBC and FoM](#) in [disclosure situations](#) and [how to provide feedback](#) related to racism, sexism etc.

Development and Alumni Engagement

Development Update

- **The Faculty of Medicine has raised \$25,161,022 since April 1, 2024**
 - To date, there have been six gifts over \$1 million, and among these gifts, 71% supported research, 19% funded various learner awards, and 10% supported honorifics.
- On May 5th, a small group of key donors and research partners attended the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade (GVBOT) luncheon, which featured remarks from UBC President Benoit-Antoine Bacon sharing the university’s priorities and future plans in areas including biomedical innovation, new technologies, Indigenous engagement, sustainability, and expanded housing.
- In partnership with the Dean’s office, Development hosted 23 emeriti at the second annual Emeriti Tea on June 4th. In addition to an update on Faculty of Medicine priorities and



achievements from Dean Dermot Kelleher, guests heard from a panel of three faculty and one learner showcasing innovative research and emerging initiatives within their respective fields.

- Over the last six months, our team has hosted several high-profile donors for visits and tours, and we thank the PIs and their teams in supporting these important donor touchpoints.
- In collaboration with the UBC Ceremonies and Events office, our team is planning for the opening of the UBC School of Biomedical Engineering's new building, scheduled for April 2025. Plans include an opening ceremony and symposium, as well as various donor recognition pieces.
- Special donor-focused communications highlights:
 - Our e-newsletter, *Aspire*, was sent to all donors to Medicine in the past year, plus our endowment contacts and emeriti community (~4,600 recipients in total). We featured a [video about the Biodevice Foundry](#) in SBME (supported by the Conconi Family Foundation), the [Medicine News story about federal funding](#) of projects associated with *Canada's Immuno-Engineering and Biomanufacturing Hub*, and the story from the strategic plan [mid-term report about the Drone Transport Initiative](#) (supported by a TD Ready Challenge Grant and featured in the FORWARD brand & giving campaign for UBC).

Alumni Engagement Update

- The Vancouver **Medical Student & Alumni Centre** welcomed new and returning MD students and has had a busy fall with external and internal bookings.
- The Alumni Engagement team continued to build community and alumni connections by travelling across the province to host Summer Socials at all distributed sites, hosting the **Medical Alumni Association's** Wellness Week, and supporting the final set of 17 reunions, a record number since the post-pandemic period.

Health Engagement and Partnerships

Vice Dean, Health Engagement

- Dr. Dean Jones has been named the Vice Dean, Health Engagement, for a five-year term effective to August 31, 2029.
- Dr. Jones is a clinical associate professor in the Department of Anesthesiology, Pharmacology & Therapeutics. Most recently, he served as Associate Dean, Fraser, where he supported the successful implementation of medical and health professions distribution to the Fraser region, including the MD Undergraduate Program's Fraser Medical Cohort and the Master of Physical Therapy program. Dr. Jones previously served as Regional Medical Director of Anesthesiology at Fraser Health, and currently practices at Delta Hospital.
- As Vice Dean, Health Engagement, Dr. Jones will work in partnership with the provincial health authorities, health system organizations, government, First Nations and Indigenous peoples, communities and industry to advance our shared priorities and further the goals of the Faculty's strategic plan.



Indigenous Engagement

- On September 25th, Derek K. Thompson – *Čaabat' Bookwilla / Suhiltun*, Hereditary Chief and Faculty of Medicine Director of Indigenous Engagement, hosted a powerful and transformative ceremony and panel between generations of Survivors of the Indian Residential School experience. Hundreds of participants bore witness to a deeply impactful ceremony welcoming survivors home from Musqueam Elder and Knowledge Keeper Shane Pointe – *Ti'te-in (Sound of Thunder)*, after removal from their communities decades ago. The event highlighted how First Nations communities approach this important work within the context of their culture, ceremonies, spiritual practices, and the unique ways that First Nations uphold these traditions in our communities. A video of the session is available on the [REDI website](#).
- Upcoming Indigenous Speaker Series sessions:
 - *Through the Lens: Portraits of Who We Are and Where We Come From*. Tuesday, Nov 26th, 2024 from 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM. A conversation with Melody Charlie, a Nuu-Chah-Nulth photographer and guest curator of the Matriarchs Seen and Unseen exhibition at the Bill Reid Gallery.
 - *We Are What We Eat: Digesting the Merits of Indigenous Food Systems & Sovereignty*. Thursday, December 12, 2024, from 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM. A conversation with Jared Williams – Qwustenuxun, an Indigenous Foods Educator from Quw'utsun (Cowichan Tribes) about you will learn about Indigenous food sovereignty and security.
 - Registration is available [here](#) for these virtual sessions

Memorandum of Understanding with Australia National University's College of Health & Medicine

- In June 2024, UBC Medicine and the Australian National University signed an historic agreement to collaborate on efforts to help improve the health and wellness of Indigenous populations. The MOU represents a joint commitment to working together on efforts related to Indigenous medical education, health and wellness research, and advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Drone Transport Initiative

- The first phase of the Drone Transport Initiative (Oct 2021-22) explored whether drone technology could be used to improve access to physically necessary health care supplies for rural and remote Indigenous communities.
- Planning is underway for Phase 2 and we're looking to expand the types of cargo transported, including laboratory samples and blood products, and to expand to include more communities.
- The project is now co-led with Dr. Anurag Singh, Director of Northern Centre for Clinical Research, Dr. John Pawlovich, Rural Doctors' UBC Chair in Rural Health and Director, Rural Education Action Plan (REAP) for RCCbc), Dr. Terri Aldred, Medical Director for Primary Care, First Nations Health Authority and Site Director, UBC Indigenous Family Practice Program, and Dr. Mike Allard, Professor, UBC Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine.

Provincial Academic Clinicians Project

- Work continues toward the goal of developing provincially applicable models that integrate clinical and academic activities and that enable increased dedicated time for academics



(teaching, research and academic service and administration) for BC clinicians. Although beginning with physicians, the intent is to broaden the work to other health professions.

Office of Creative & Communications

Vision: *Ignite the wonder of medicine*

Goal: *To promote the Faculty of Medicine's transformational impact on the health and well-being of patients and communities through excellence in education, research and innovation — thereby strengthening its reputation in British Columbia, Canada and beyond.*

Key Highlights:

2024 Strategic Plan Mid-term Report

- A special mid-term report "[Strategic Plan in Action](#)" was developed in collaboration with the Dean's Executive team to recognize and celebrate the monumental progress the Faculty has made since the launch of its strategic plan, *Building the Future*.
- After the initial release of the digital report in mid-May, many of the stories were prominently showcased as marquees on the homepage of med.ubc.ca and republished on UBC.ca, the top-level web presence of the University.
- Since the launch, many of the mid-term report stories have also been promoted across the Faculty's and university's social media channels, helping to further amplify the report's reach and demonstrate to key audiences how faculty, staff and learners across the province are turning strategy into action and helping to transform health for everyone.

Announcing \$140M for Canada's Immuno-Engineering and Biomanufacturing Hub (CIEBH):

- In May 2024, the Faculty hosted a media event with representatives of the federal government to announce [\\$140M for four research projects](#) through the UBC-led hub. The announcement was shared broadly by CIEBH partners, government agencies and news media, including a top-tier story in [The Globe and Mail](#).

Launching Pathways Issue 8: The Resilient Brain

- The [eighth issue of Pathways](#), the Faculty of Medicine's digital and print magazine, launched online in early November 2024 with a focus on brain health and neuroscience. From Alzheimer's disease to mental health disorders, one in three Canadians will experience a neurological issue during their lifetime. **How can we create better brain health at every age?**
- The issue showcases how UBC researchers, clinicians, staff and learners – with support from our health partners – are finding innovative ways to increase the brain's resiliency at each stage of life and translating discoveries into new and better tools and treatments for neurological issues.



- The first wave of promotion included broadcast and stakeholder emails, marquee placement on the Faculty of Medicine website homepage, paid and organic social media campaigns, syndication through other UBC channels, as well as a multi-pronged media strategy. A second wave of promotion will follow the publication of the print version in the early new year.

International and National Awards

- In the past six months, the Office of Creative & Communications won several national and international awards for [Pathways Issue 7: Future-proofing health in a changing climate](#):
 - Gold, Best Publication, National Awards of Excellence, Canadian Public Relations Society
 - Award of Excellence, Publication, Gold Quill Awards, International Association of Business Communicators
 - Award of Merit, Creative Design, Gold Quill Awards, International Association of Business Communicators
 - Bronze, Canadian Advocacy and Social Marketing Campaign of the Year, Canadian Public Relations Society

Education Story Highlights

- [Graduating more doctors and health professionals for B.C.](#): How UBC's distributed medical education program continues to transform education and health across the province and beyond.
- [Creating a medical program that is equitable and accessible to all](#): A Q&A with UBC's Meghan MacGillivray and Donnell McNab on how UBC's Indigenous and Black Student MD Admissions Pathways are transforming medical education and health.
- [Tuum Est! Spring Graduation 2024](#): Hundreds of new graduates — from across a wide range of Faculty of Medicine programs — celebrated their achievements and looked ahead to the next stage of their careers as doctors, researchers, midwives and more.
- [Crossing the threshold](#): In a ceremony filled with culture and tradition, eight Indigenous medical students and two Indigenous midwifery students graduated from UBC's Faculty of Medicine.
- [Back to School Series](#): This year, the Faculty welcomed the largest MD class in its history. Meet the next generation of health care professionals and researchers based in communities across B.C.
- [UBC welcomes health profession students to new training facility in Surrey](#): UBC and the Government of B.C. welcomed health profession students in the Fraser to the new academic year and education facility in Surrey.

Faculty Media Relations: High impact stories

In the first half of 2024, the Faculty of Medicine had the **second highest share of media mentions among all UBC faculties**:

- We received **802 media mentions** across priority outlets. This includes **46 mentions in top-tier outlets** like the New York Times, the Guardian, Forbes and the Globe & Mail.
- The Office facilitated **207 media requests** and produced **34 media releases, Q&As, expert advisories and pitches**.
- UBC continues to be second in the country in terms of “share of voice” across the media landscape in terms of mentions and number of stories when compared to other universities.



Website: News, marquee and feature stories

In the past six months, the Office produced 18 marquee stories for the Faculty's website med.ubc.ca, highlighting the impact of research, education, innovation and commitment to community.

We produced more than **60 news, awards and honours stories** for med.ubc.ca that aligned with the strategic priorities of the Faculty of Medicine. Many of our stories were also syndicated across other UBC communications and brand channels, helping to extend our reach and impact with internal and wider global audiences.

Here are some of the top stories that were featured between May and October:

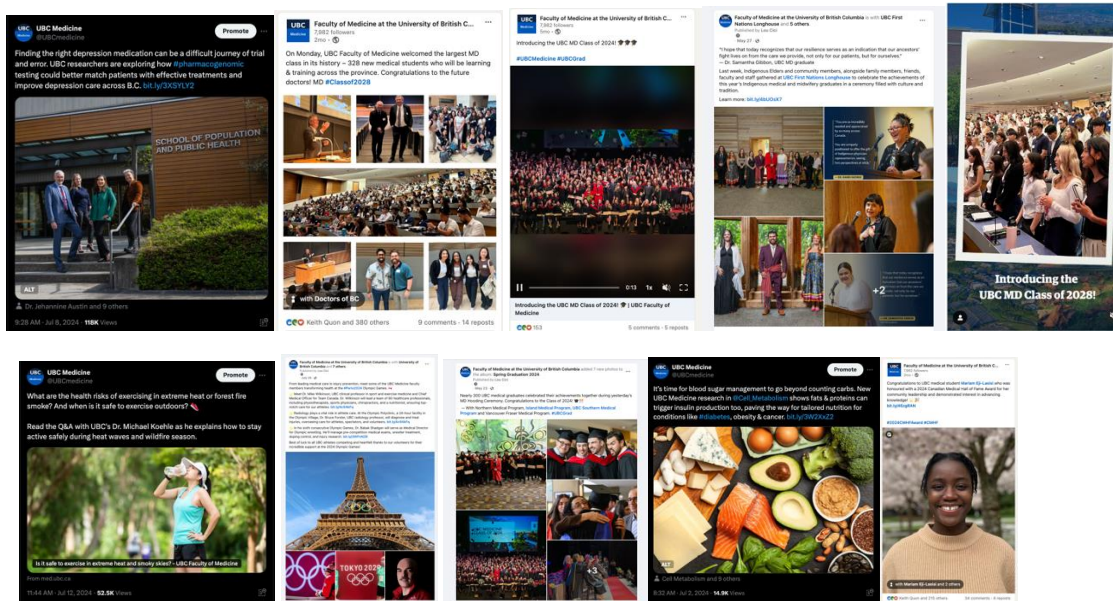
1. [Helping kids overcome food allergies](#): New research by UBC's Dr. Edmund Chan promises to help older and high-risk children with a history of severe reactions.
2. [\\$140M for UBC-lead research hub to accelerate drug development and biomanufacturing](#): Federal investment in Canada's Immuno-Engineering and Biomanufacturing Hub projects will bolster the domestic biotech sector and readiness to respond to future health threats
3. [UBC researchers lead world-first organ matching project](#): With \$5.8 million in new funding, UBC researchers are leading a first-of-its-kind project to reduce kidney transplant rejections.
4. [Centering Indigenous voices in the culture of medicine](#): How the Indigenous Speaker Series is helping to transform culture inside the Faculty of Medicine — and beyond.
5. [Walking the path of reconciliation together](#): UBC Medicine and the Australian National University signed a historic agreement to collaborate on efforts to help improve the health and wellness of Indigenous populations.
6. [Scientists discover high-risk form of endometrial cancer — and how to test for it — using AI](#): A discovery by Drs. Jessica McAlpine and Ali Bashashati will help patients with high-risk endometrial cancer get the care they need.
7. [Expanding clinical research in northern B.C.](#): The Northern Centre for Clinical Research is creating more opportunities for biomedical research and clinical trials — in a uniquely northern context.
8. [Proteins and fats can drive insulin production for some, paving way for tailored nutrition](#): New research shows how insulin-triggering nutrients vary from person to person.
9. [Tailoring depression treatment](#): UBC researchers are exploring how genetic testing could better match patients with effective medications and improve depression care across B.C. and beyond.
10. [Virtual care on the front lines](#): How Real-Time Virtual Support is transforming healthcare for remote, rural and Indigenous communities.
11. [Your summer health questions answered](#): From protecting your lungs from wildfire smoke to choosing the right sunscreen, UBC experts shared how to stay healthy during the summer.
12. [Bringing AI to the heart of cardiac care](#): UBC's Dr. Teresa Tsang is leveraging the power of AI to enhance access to cardiac imaging for rural, remote and Indigenous communities across B.C.
13. [Drug discovery could prevent spread of childhood bone cancer](#): Dr. Poul Sorensen and his team identified a drug that could stop osteosarcoma from spreading to the lungs.
14. [Mpox outbreak underscores urgent need for rapid-response capability in Canada](#): An editorial by Dr. Dermot Kelleher, which originally appeared in [The Vancouver Sun](#).

15. [Faculty of Medicine Awards](#): Meet this year’s recipients of the Faculty of Medicine Awards, which recognize faculty and staff members for excellence in teaching, research, administration, innovation and public service.
16. [Anchored To All That Is Good](#): In the lead up to the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Derek Thompson — Čaabał Bookwilla | Suhiltun, Director, Indigenous Engagement, reflected on family, community and the responsibility passed from one generation to the next.
17. [Using drones to bring lifesaving medical supplies closer to home](#): How a partnership between Stellat’en First Nation, the Village of Fraser Lake and UBC’s Faculty of Medicine is improving access to healthcare in rural, remote and Indigenous communities
18. [Increasing awareness and understanding of disability in the workplace](#): How a new workshop developed by Dr. Jon Breen and Dr. Susan Forwell is helping to reframe disability and increase inclusion at UBC and beyond.

Social Media

We continue to grow our social community – over the past six months, we gained **3,070 new followers**, which brings us to **more than 44,000** followers across our channels. LinkedIn and Instagram saw the highest increases.

A snapshot of a few highlights on our social media channels between May and October:



Connect with UBC Medicine

Remember to stay connected and follow us @UBCmedicine.



