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UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Oct. 2026

one child every child

Explore Two New Chapters in the Inclusive Research Excellence Learning Suite

Calling all members, trainees and research staff! The **Inclusive Research Excellence Learning Suite** brings together research, expert perspectives, and reflections from our learning community, offering opportunities to explore Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility (IDEA) at your own pace and revisit concepts as they become relevant to your work.

Chapter 2: Expert Panel: Equitable Pathways and GenAI
Drawing on a multidisciplinary expert panel chaired by Dr. Malinda Smith, with Dr. Laleh Behjat, Dr. Nadia Delanoy, and Dr. Jessalyn Holodinsky, this micro-learning invites us to think critically about GenAI beyond what it can do.

Chapter 3: Reading Group Learnings: Season 1
Learnings from the Equitable Pathways Reading Group's exploration of Mikki Hebl and Eden King's Working Together: Practicing the Science of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Alberta Children's HOSPITAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

New Members

Dr. Rahul Chanchlani joins the Care Transformation for Children Program. **View profile**

Dr. Vivek Venkataraman joins the Healthy Children, Families and Communities Program. **View profile**

Dr. Francesca Jean joins the Precision Medicine and Disease Mechanisms Program. **View profile**

ACHRI Scientific Director Update

We're pleased to share that **Dr. Deborah Kurrasch** has accepted the interim appointment as **ACHRI's Scientific Director – Discovery Science**, providing leadership in this role while Dr. Morris Scantlebury is on sabbatical. Please join us in congratulating Deborah and welcoming her to the position. We look forward to the leadership, expertise and perspective she will bring to our discovery science community during this time.

Member Recognition

Sending a warm congratulations to:

Drs. Erin Brennand and Sheri Madigan on being listed as the **Top 100 Canada's Most Powerful Women**!
Read more

Drs. Pamela Roach and Maja Tarailo-Graovac on being named to the **The Royal Society of Canada College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists**!
Read more

Congratulations to these new University of Calgary Research Excellence Chairs:

- Dr. Amy Metcalfe

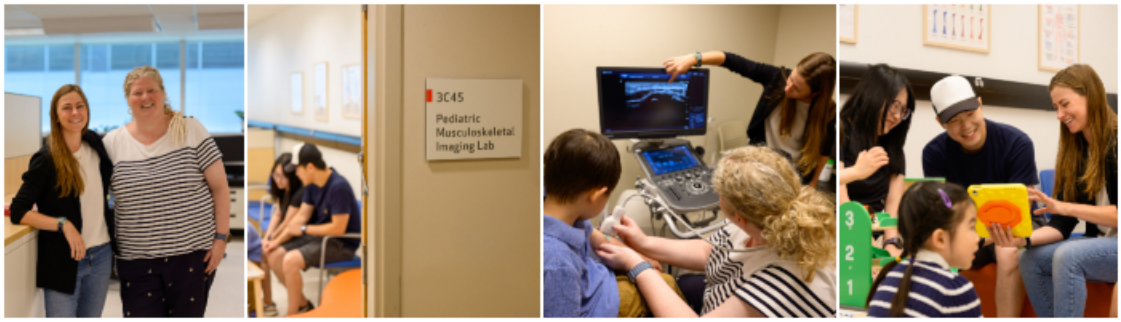
- Dr. Deborah Kurrasch
- Dr. Amanda Melin
- Dr. Jonathan Smirl
- Dr. Tamara Bodnar
- Dr. Kirsten Fiest
- Dr. Stephen Freedman

Read story

News, Podcasts & Publications

- UCalgary research reveals impact juvenile arthritis has on entire families, Drs. Deborah Marshall and Gillian Currie
- Immunization to prevent RSV in infants reduced ICU admissions by 97 per cent, Dr. Stephen Freedman
- Now Innovating: Preventing youth violence and bullying across Canada, Dr. Deinera Exner-Cortens
- Screen Use and Child and Adolescent Development and Mental Health Outcomes, Drs. Brae Anne McArthur and Sheri Madigan
- Rethinking how we understand Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder, Dr. Tamara Bodnar
- What happens when we integrate pluralism and transdisciplinary scholarship? Dr. Aleem Bharwani

New Pediatric Musculoskeletal Imaging Lab



The **Pediatric Musculoskeletal Imaging Lab** is based at UCalgary and works within a strong research ecosystem spanning pediatric health, bone and joint health, and biomedical imaging with the capacity to perform multimodal assessment in pediatric populations. The new space offers a family-friendly design and accommodates after-school hour appointments. The Lab is hosted by the McCaig Institute for Bone and Joint Health and partially funded by ACHRI. Learn more

Run4Research Team Thank You

Thank you for being part of the **10th annual RBC Race for the Kids**!

Whether you joined us on race day, made a donation, cheered on a participant, volunteered your time, sponsored, or supported a fundraising team in other ways, you have made a real difference for kids and families in our community.

The **Run4Research Team** raised over $4,300 this year. Together, you helped raise more than $480,000 (and counting) in support of child and youth mental health initiatives!
View photo gallery

Researcher Opportunities

New ACHRI Member Funding, Resources and Services Page

Calling all ACHRI members! Are you looking for ACHRI funding, resources and services?
Find contacts for funding, finance, communications, training, infrastructure and biostatistical support on our new webpage.

View page

- Alberta Cancer Foundation Arthur Child Innovation Catalyst Grants, Deadline: Tuesday, Oct. 27 at noon
- 2026 Future Leaders in Canadian Brain Research, Deadline: Thursday, Oct. 29
- HRJ Consulting Transformative Pediatric Biomedical Research Funding Opportunity, LOI Due: Sunday, Nov. 1
- 2026 The Rozsa Endowment for Auditory Research Competition, Deadline: Wednesday, Nov 4
- SSHRC 2026 Development Grants, Deadline: Monday, Nov. 9 at 9:00 a.m.
- MSI Foundation Research Grant 2027, Deadline: Thursday, Nov. 12
- O'Brien Institute for Public Health Catalyst Grant: Learning Health System, Deadline: Friday, Nov. 13 at 11:59 p.m.

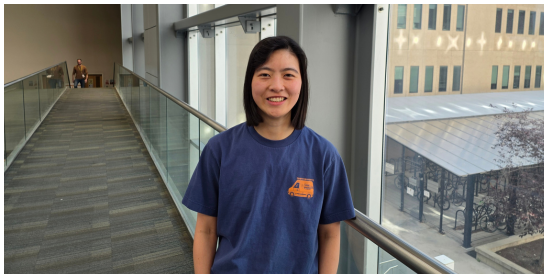
ACHRI SMB 'Plus' Program

The 'Plus' Program is designed to expand funding opportunities for CHW researchers and support continued research excellence. The program includes three streams of funding support available to ACHRI members in good standing:
- Small Equipment Grants
- Community-Engaged Research Funding
- Finish-Line Funding Rolling

Intake deadlines: last Friday in Nov. and May

Learn more

Trainee & Postdoc Corner



Congratulations to **Harmony Fong** on being awarded the Governor General's Gold Medal. She received the award for her PhD thesis titled *The identification and characterization of tanycyte stem cells*. The Medal is one of Canada's most prestigious academic honours, awarded annually to graduate students who achieve the highest academic standing across all programs. Fong is supervised by Dr. Deborah Kurrasch.

Alberta Children's Hospital Foundation Clinical Research Fellowship

Open to medical residents and fellows pursing research training under the supervision of an ACHRI member.
Deadline: Monday, Nov. 2 at 10:00 a.m.
Learn more

OCEC Clinical Transformative Excellence Award

Program-based awards open to clinical programs at UCalgary and the University of Alberta. The awards are intended to provide clinical programs with salary support for medical residents and fellows pursuing research training.
Deadline: Monday, Nov. 2 at 10:00 a.m.
Learn more

Interested in children's healthcare advocacy, volunteering, leadership, fundraising or community service? Help shape a future UCalgary chapter with the Create for Kids team from MacEwan University! Learn how to contribute to children's healthcare advocacy in Calgary and across Alberta.

Friday, Oct. 30
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.
HSC G500, Foothills Campus
No registration required

Share your research at the ACHRITA Research In Progress Seminars!

- Held on the second Tuesday of each month from 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. starting Oct. 20.
- Attend in person or via Zoom.

Interested in presenting? Presentation slots for October to May are open now. Presenting at a Research In Progress Seminar may be a part of your program requirements. **Presenters must be able to join in-person and can sign up here.** ACHRITA will contact presenters to confirm presentations. If the sign-up is full, please add your name to a waitlist time slot.

Upcoming Events

2026 ACHRI Research Symposium

Thursday, Nov. 19, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 20, 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
MacEwan Hall & Ballroom, UCalgary
Register by Nov. 10 at noon
View program and webpage

For trainees and postdocs:
- Abstract submissions for poster and oral presentations are open to ALL UCalgary graduate students and postdocs doing maternal and child health & wellness research
- Please note that abstract submission and symposium registration forms are separate
- Submit abstract by Oct. 26 at noon

Writing for The Conversation Canada Workshops

Have you ever wondered how to get your research published in **The Conversation Canada** or what the benefits are?

Oct. 21, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Register for the **Foothills Campus workshop**
Oct. 21, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m. Register for the **Main Campus workshop**

Step into the fairytale magic of **Candy Cane Gala,** on Nov. 27 at BMO Centre! Experience entertainment and inspiration for all ages, browse the exceptional silent auction, indulge in delicious food and dance the night away — all in support of kids and families at the Alberta Children's Hospital.

Learn more

AbSPORU Journal Club
Barriers and Facilitators to the Recruitment and Engagement of Diverse Populations into Patient and Family Advisory Councils: A Scoping Review
Wednesday, Oct. 21
10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Register

Breakthrough Science Creates Possibility
Dr. David Sinclair
Thursday, Oct. 22
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
MacEwan Conference & Event Centre
Register

International Society for Tractography Conference
Oct. 25 - 29
Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity
Register

Child Health and Wellness Seminar
Balanced Fluids vs Normal Saline for Fluid Resuscitation in Pediatric Sepsis: Results and Lessons Learned from an International Trial
Dr. Graham Thompson
Monday, Oct. 26
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Register

Owerko Family Distinguished Lecture
Dr. Emeran A. Mayer
Tuesday, Oct. 27
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Theatre 4 and Azrieli Atrium, HSC, Foothills Campus
Register

Female, Woman, and Girl Athlete Health and Safety Community of Research and Practice Monthly Virtual Seminar Series
Implementation and Social Inequities in Health
Wednesday, Oct. 28
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Register

AbSPORU Patient Engagement Learning Seires
Manuscript Writing and Co-authorship with Patient Research Partners
María Castrellón Pardo, Farwa Naqvi, Luz Aida Zapata-Cardona and Ingrid Nielssen
Wednesday, Oct. 28
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Register

Hunter Hub for Entrepreneurial Thinking Drop-in
Chat with entrepreneurship experts to explore your idea
Wednesday, Oct. 28
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Azrieli Atrium
No registration required

Leveraging innovative tools to better understand atypical brain and behavior development in children with prenatal alcohol exposure
Dr. Blake Gimbel
Friday, Oct. 30
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Conference Room 2, ACH 4th Floor
No registration required

Trekk & PERC Session
Pediatric Emergency Knowledge to Care: Gastroenteritis Care
Dr. Stephen Freedman
Tuesday, Nov. 3
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Register

2026 WCHRI Research Day
Wednesday, Nov. 4
The Westin Edmonton
Learn more

Child Health and Wellness Seminar
PATCH Mini-Series Part 1
Drs. Junho Park and Eli Kinney-Lang
Monday, Nov. 9
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Register

ACHRI Lunch & Learn
From Calgary to Canada: Building the CO-PLAY Network to Advance Equity in Sport and Recreation for Newcomer Children and Youth
Tuesday, Nov. 10
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
G382, HSC, Foothills Campus
Register for in-person by Nov. 8 at 10:00 a.m.
Or attend on Zoom

Mathison Research Day
Drs. Francis Lee, Kerry Ressler and Carolyn Rodriguez
Monday, Nov. 16

Child Health and Wellness Seminar
PATCH Mini-Series Part 2
Drs. Serena Orr, Richa Pandey and Mariana Bento
Monday, Dec. 7
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
Register

For all ACHRI & OCEC events, visit the Event Calendar.

Want to share an impactful story or publication? Email achricomms@ucalgary.ca

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