

---

## Hamilton Health Innovation Check-up: Meeting Minutes

January 2020

Join our [mailing list](#)!

### STANDING AGENDA TOPICS:

- **Guest Speaker Discussion:** insights around the experience and expertise of an invited speaker, focusing on a subject that may be of interest to the broader community
- **Communicate:** share recent successes, upcoming events, innovation pipeline and new products, health innovation trends, etc.
- **Collaborate & Accelerate:** welcome new members to community, partnership opportunities, discover programming and resources available to the community, discuss market gaps and challenges, learn about potential funding opportunities, new RFPs issued, etc.

Facilitator & Note Taker      Alex Muggah, Director, Synapse Consortium  
Location      McMaster Innovation Park,  
175 Longwood Dr,  
9:00-10:00am

**Next Monthly Check-up:** February 24 | 9:00 – 10:00am | McMaster Innovation Park  
Please sign up to our [mailing list](#) to receive meeting minutes and other important updates.

---

Finding collaborative partners for health companies and researchers can be difficult. Synapse has created the [Health Innovation Partnership Portal \(HIPP\)](#) to facilitate finding new partners within Canada’s leading health research and educational ecosystem located in Hamilton, Ontario.

---

Minutes for our monthly check-up meetings are not published and are for reference purposes only. We do our best to ensure all information is accurately portrayed, and that no privileged/private information is inappropriately disclosed. Past meeting minutes can be access through a public Dropbox, using the following [link](#).

For additional information on any subject, to contact a presenter directly, or should you have an adjustment to make to the notes made here, please contact: [Alex.Muggah@SynapseConsortium.com](mailto:Alex.Muggah@SynapseConsortium.com). Updates will be reflected in a revised version of the monthly minutes.

---

Time allotted | 20 Minutes

Topic: **Guest Speaker Discussion**

Insights around the experience and expertise of an invited speaker, focusing on a subject that may be of interest to the broader community

### Guest Speaker Discussion

Guest Speaker(s):

- [Padraic Foley](#)  
Director of Business Development and Commercialization  
Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE)
- [Nicole DeLong](#)  
Manager, Business Development and Commercialization (Health)  
(Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE))
- [presentation slides used, and are available for download in Health Check-up [drobox folder](#)]

*[the following is a synopsis of the discussion, and has been lightly edited for length and clarity]*

#### Discussion

##### Introduction

Thank you for having us – this is the first time [OCE](#) has been able to participate in a Hamilton Health Check-up for a little while, and we're glad to be here. During the past year, we've gone through some organizational changes, and am delighted to have Nicole here with me as well. I'm going to give a brief overview of the new OCE, and Nicole will then talk about some of our programs.

##### Presentation

OCE is a not for profit, funded by the province of Ontario. We've been around since 1987 – and have recently undergone a re-brand, and so are now just calling ourselves OCE. We work in partnership with government, companies, academic, by supporting projects and connecting the dots. In addition, we also try to throw a little money on the table to help catalyze projects – but really our role (and our value proposition) is about bringing the right people together. How do we measure success: jobs created/retained, industry co-investment, and private sector follow-on investment.

Our approach to economic development is province-wide – and recent changes to our mandate have allowed us to move from thinking regionally to addressing the needs of the province as a whole. This will enable us to maximise commercial impact of research developed in Ontario's colleges and universities and research hospitals.

Our reach is quite impressive. We've helped companies in +180 communities across Ontario, bringing partners and innovation together to help drive commercial growth. In general, we seek out opportunities to provide early-stage support to de-risk key areas of concern for firms and investors (e.g., around investment, procurement, partnerships, development, and other opportunities).

We have a [team of 18 people](#), covering all parts of Ontario. In the Golden Horseshoe area, we are fortunate to have Nicole DeLong, who is based out of the [McMaster Innovation Park](#) in Hamilton. Her role includes walking the halls and pounding the pavement across Ontario – connecting with key contacts and stakeholders around the community and around the province – and helping them to leverage OCE resources, and new partnerships.

### Guest Speaker Discussion

A year ago, we had 35 programs, now we've really re-focused around [7 programmatic pillars](#), including:

- [Autonomous Vehicle Innovation Network \(AVIN\)](#) – a connected vehicles program focused on supporting the development and demonstration of C/AV technologies, including infrastructure, which includes a location here in Hamilton, as well as other locations around the province.
- [ENCQOR 5G](#) – a program with Erikson and Sienna, to create a global opportunity with 5G technology; how to discover how we can enable new technology. Support small-to-medium sized enterprises across Ontario and Québec, assisting in the pre-development of research, collaboration and vital testing of 5G technologies.
- [IBM Innovation Incubator](#) project which enables qualifying businesses to leverage programs and infrastructure including IBM's technical, design and business resources to lower the cost of introducing emerging and enabling technologies to the global marketplace
- [Next Generation Network Program](#), is looking at SAS support in the cloud – how do we do stress testing, fund the program to allow companies to show that software can handle scaled volumes. Program supports development and implementation of ultra-high-speed digital infrastructure to interconnect digital innovation hubs within Ontario, support small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) proof-of-concept projects and access technical and business support personnel and services
- [Market Readiness](#) invests directly in companies to further their early stage commercialization and support their growth into a scalable business
- [Smart Seed fund](#) supports new ventures led by Ontario's next generation of entrepreneurs to help transition their start-ups from product development, to market entry and company building
- [Voucher for Innovation and Productivity \(VIP\)](#) helps eligible Ontario companies develop, implement and commercialize technical innovations by supporting industry-academic collaborations

Through OCE, companies interested in autonomous vehicle innovation can access a host of networked services (tapping into the infrastructure that has been put in place in a corridor from Kitchener to Montreal). An example of a funded program through AVIN, was between [Faurecia](#) and [CloudDx](#), facilitated and supported by OCE. Faurecia is a car-seat manufacturer, and through our AVIN they are working with CloudDx to collect driver vital signs – which can then be delivered directly to the hospital in the event of an accident or other incident. This is a cool project that wouldn't have happened without OCE brokering this connection.

An aside – we are working with MARS and Faurecia, to help launch the [Faurecia Biosensing Safety Challenge](#). There is a \$25,000 call for companies to propose sensors or other solutions to detect signs related to a stroke, heart attack or diabetic event of a vehicle passenger or driver. There's a huge opportunity for how we can leverage autonomous vehicles, and work cooperatively to bring healthcare solutions.

More generally, we're having some very new and interesting conversations at OCE – and we want to figure out where we're going.

A big focus for us is around 5G telecommunications technology. Canada has already spent +\$20 billion on infrastructure, and we have another +\$30 billion investment in the pipeline. For consumers, having our phones at 3G/4G is generally enough for personal use. It is industry's ability to leverage 5G, with the consumer market following, where we see the greatest potential. It's the industrial capabilities that 5G network enable, plus edge computing, that is most exciting.

When we talk the benefits of 5G, we are referring to increased bandwidth, which leads to reduced latency and increased connectivity for users. This will have implications in a couple of areas. For example, the number of connected internet of things (IoT) devices in the home is expected to increase from an average of 2-10 per home

### Guest Speaker Discussion

to more than 50. The other idea around 5G is network slicing, which allows for the definition of software networks, which can then be sent/shared to other networks – this provides a great deal of security which will have a significant impact on healthcare informatics.

Through the ENCQOR 5G program (in 3 physical locations), companies can access pre-commercial 5G technology – and explore what types of solutions it might be able to enable (e.g., stable connections, faster delivery of data, low latency, and fully connected network). With regards to healthcare, we see potential applications around AR/VR and remote monitoring.

When mapping the speed of data against the bandwidth throughput – our 3G/4G looks just fine. But where we see the opportunity for 5G is in autonomous vehicles and virtual/augmented reality. So OCE wants us to consider the market opportunity here, along with reduced costs for companies. When it comes to low latency, we understand it will reduce costs and increase revenues – including in healthcare. In Europe, where they have deployed 5G, they have started to use mHealth and remote health applications leveraging 5G, and saw savings of about 7% across the EU health spending.

Resource efficiency and improved patient care are two key drivers for healthcare use of 5G. We see 5G enabling the delivery of care in the home, allowing hospitals to get patients back into their home more quickly. In addition, there is expected to be more trust in the data (given improved reliability), especially with respect to continuous monitoring of patient information. The hope is to deliver services across greater patient populations at scale.

OCE is expecting the digitization of the healthcare industry with 5G to be about a \$80 billion market in a few years – with focus on patient applications, hospital applications, and medical data management. Precision medicine, telemetry and real time delivery of rich data sets are all potential opportunities for our medical system.

An example of 5G project in Ontario enabled by OCE involved working with Erikson (who wants to create an “x-box” model – deploying a developed tool-box of technology, that can sit upon their 5G platform). In Renfrew County, Erikson worked with another company to test the response times between an ambulance and a drone. The drone arrived 7 minutes before the paramedic vehicles during each test run. This allowed for the delivery of care quicker than the ambulance. Our goal is to help these types of technology to be developed here in Ontario.

In terms of how we support through OCE ENCQOR. We have developed a sandbox that companies can play in. We have brought engineers from Erikson Canada to help de-bug

- Access and Support (free)
- Demonstration projects (\$50,000 grant)
- Talent Edge (up to \$120,000 grants) – co-fund a recent grad, within 3 years of graduation. We’ll co-fund the first 12 months of the project.
- Technology development projects

Our intention is to be more nimble, and less bureaucratic, going forward. The most important question I have for the group is “what can I do better” and “how do we help you through our funding and network”.

## Guest Speaker Discussion

### Question & Answers

*Q: How mature does a company need to be to access OCE programming?*

A: We fund a wide variety of projects. While it helps to have a more developed innovation, you don't necessarily have to have a prototype to engage OCE. We can provide access to some critical infrastructure for free, and we are very happy to facilitate partnerships. That said, we like to see projects that have a business plan backing it up –we want to know what there is market pull, and we're not funding research just for the sake of it.

*Q: Funding baskets are 5G, smart cars, clean tech, and research collaboration. How big is the funding, and what is the application?*

A: Publicly, we can't disclose the buckets. Our biggest programs are ENCQOR, Next Generation and then AVIN. As part of our OCE journey – we've tried to focus on investments that make the most sense for advancing innovation in Ontario.

*Q: What is the status of the implementation of the 5G network?*

A: Over the past year, all the Canadian telecommunication companies have signed agreements with the ENCQOR program regarding their investments in 5G. The University of British Columbia (UBC) and the University of Waterloo are also signed up to become 5G enabled campuses. The telecom companies are really leading this process (e.g., Rogers is running a competition around the smart home), and OCE is very supportive of this investment.

*Q: What are industry expectations around IP?*

A: Under our 5G program, there isn't any expectations around giving up IP. The only case is under our technology development projects stream, where there is a likelihood that some new IP may generated through an industry collaboration. But OCE wants to have a detailed discussion about how to manage IP before we even start writing up the application. While we have no say in the final allocation of IP, we'll make sure that all parties have a frank and open conversation about it.

*Q: What would it look like for a hospital to adopt 5G?*

A: Not quite sure – but there's likely going to have to be some private sector involvement. The key around 5G adoption is around the supporting infrastructure. While it may not be as expensive as wifi, part of the cost will be whether it ends up replacing or building upon existing infrastructure.

## Hamilton Health Innovation: Calendar Highlights

Check out Synapse's [online calendar](#)

### February

- Jan 29: [103rd Annual Clinical Day](#) (Hamilton Academy of Medicine)
- Jan 29: [Startup Stress? How Entrepreneurs Can Support Their Team's Mental Health](#) (JLABS)
- Jan 30: [Cannabis Forum - Presented by the Urologic Cancer Centre for Research & Innovation](#) (St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton)
- Feb 5-7: [3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Niagara Investment Summit](#) (OBIO)
- Feb 11: [What, Why, Where, When and How to Hold Your First First-In-Human Trial](#) (JLABS)
- Feb 13: [Corridor Demo Day](#) (RIC Network)
- Feb 13: [HealthBound Pitch Competition](#) (Ryerson Biomedical Zone)
- Feb 24: [Hamilton Health Check-up](#) (Synapse Consortium)
- Feb 26: [iF Pitch & Networking Night](#) (Innovation Factory)
- Feb 26: [2020 Celebration of Success](#) (LSO)
- Feb 26: [5th Annual Canada 2020 Health Innovation Summit](#) (Canada2020)
- Feb 27: [Velocity Pitch Competition](#) (Velocity Labs)

### March

- Mar 5: [Registration Open for 2020 Connect to Careers Job Fair](#) (Various)
- Mar 7: [HHS Foundation Gala](#) (Hamilton Health Sciences)
- Mar 8-11: [Rotman Research Institute Conference: Aging and Brain Health](#) (Baycrest & UofT)
- Mar 11: [What's Next Canada](#) (CABI)
- Mar 24: [2020 Clinical Trial Conference](#) (Clinical Trials Ontario)
- Mar 25: [Synapse Life Science Competition Showcase](#) (Innovation Factory)
- Mar 30: [Hamilton Health Check-up](#) (Synapse Consortium)

### April and Beyond

- April 27: [Hamilton Health Check-up](#) (Synapse Consortium)
- May 3-16: [Emerging Leaders Program](#) (Health Leadership Academy)
- May 13: [Technology & Future of Health Care 2020](#) (TFHC)
- May 22-27: [7th FIP Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress](#) (Montreal PSWC)
- June 16: [2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Future of Health Summit](#) (Hamilton Health Sciences)

TIME ALLOTTED | **20 MINUTES**

Topic: **Communicate**

Recent successes, upcoming events, innovation pipeline, new products, health innovation trends, etc.

Discussion	Presenter
<p><a href="#">Precision oncology startup Fusion Pharmaceuticals raises \$26 million CAD</a></p> <p>Biopharmaceutical precision oncology startup Fusion Pharmaceuticals has received a commitment of up to \$26 million CAD (\$20 million USD) from the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board (CPPIB). Fusion Pharmaceuticals views targeted alpha therapeutics as the “next generation” of radiation therapy.</p> <p>This funding comes ten months after Fusion Pharmaceuticals’ \$140 million CAD Series B. The startup said the net-new capital will be used to expand the use of its platform that connects medical isotopes to targeting molecules which it says can create novel cancer treatments. It plans to expand the platform by investing in new partnerships as well as targeting molecules that could lead to new treatments.</p> <p>Funds will also be put toward the company’s lead clinical candidate, FPI-1434, currently in a Phase 1 trial for treating solid tumours. FPI-1434, which Fusion Pharmaceuticals has called its “linker technology,” is intended to combine the precision targeting of an antibody with the potency of alpha-particle emitting medical isotopes. This, the company claims, helps to attack and eradicate cancer cells across multiple tumour types.</p>	<p>Gay Yuyitung (MILO, McMaster)</p>
<p><a href="#">Hamilton-based Stryker Collaboration with St. Joseph’s Featured in LSO Success Stories</a></p> <p>Collaboration with both patients and healthcare professionals helps our R&amp;D teams create meaningful innovations. The company is a high-touch business, working closely with healthcare professionals and patients, which gives deep insights into the patient journey and how they can improve their outcomes. We have placed the first MAKO surgical robot into St. Joseph’s Hospital in Hamilton, making hip and knee procedures more precise and allowing patients to recover faster with less opioid use and less pain.</p>	<p>Andy Donovan (LSO)</p>
<p><a href="#">\$35-million McMaster Innovation Park development will be Gowling’s new legal address</a></p> <p>The Cora Group plans to begin work in the spring on a \$35-million, 90,000-square-foot building in McMaster Innovation Park that will be the new Hamilton home to legal firm Gowling and other tenants.</p> <p>An “innovative ecosystem” imagined by Gowling was what attracted the Waterloo developer to the project, said Cora COO Adrian Conrad. The design by Neo Architecture is still coming together for what Conrad called “a unique collaborative space.”</p> <p>Louis Frapporti, Hamilton managing partner for Gowling WLG, said the decision to move operations from their existing downtown location in a historic Bank of Montreal to the McMaster Innovation Park (MIP) was sparked by the firm’s “accelerated development around innovation” and follows “an astonishing amount of growth as a result of our commitment to this region.”</p> <p>Read the full Hamilton Spectator article <a href="#">here</a></p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p><a href="#">Justna Kelly Appointed as Interim CEO at Centre for Probe Development and Commercialization</a></p> <p>Centre for Probe Development and Commercialization (CPDC), a global leader in the development, production and commercialization of radiopharmaceuticals, is announcing as of today that the Company’s Board of Directors has appointed Justyna Kelly as Interim Chief Executive Officer effective immediately.</p>	<p>Joe McCann (CPDC)</p>
<p><a href="#">VoxNeuro Partners with St. Joseph’s Hospital, Hamilton (SJHH)</a></p> <p>VoxNeuro (Hamilton-based startup, affiliated with The Forge and Innovation Factory) announced it is now collaborating with Drs. Benicio Frey and Flavio Kapczynsky at SJHH and the Women’s Health Concerns clinic and Mood Disorders Program. They are using the VoxNeuro’s assessment technology to see if they can identify biomarkers of bipolar disorder and help with diagnosis.</p> <p>To learn more, please find the FP article <a href="#">here</a></p>	<p>Gay Yuyitung (MIL), McMaster)</p>
<p><a href="#">VoxNeuro makes Branham300 list of up and comers in tech</a></p> <p>A Hamilton-based startup operating out of The Forge was included on the Branham300 list of Canada's Top 25 Up and Coming tech companies for 2019.</p> <p>VoxNeuro says they provide the only assessment in the world that objectively measures real-time brain function. Their assessments inform and accelerate cognitive rehabilitation by identifying areas of brain function impacted by an injury.</p> <p>This is the first time the local company has been included on the Up and Comers list, which includes young Canadian companies Branham Group believes will be big hits soon. The Branham 300 is produced by global Information and Communication Technology (ICT) industry analyst and strategic advisory Branham Group.</p> <p>The list ranks Canada's top ICT companies by revenue as well as multinationals.</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p><a href="#">McMaster Establishes College of Health Inventors</a></p> <p>A networking think tank focused on fostering success in entrepreneurship and innovation has been formed at McMaster University. The College of Health Inventors comes out of the Michael G. DeGroot Initiative for Innovation in Healthcare (MGDII).</p> <p>“The creation of this College is the next step in our strategy towards creating a culture of innovation, commercialization and entrepreneurship within the Faculty of Health Sciences,” said Paul O’Byrne, dean and vice-president of the Faculty.</p> <p>The College of Health Inventors was developed by Sheila Singh, professor of the Department of Surgery; Mark Larché, professor of the Department of Medicine, and John Kelton, professor of the Department of Medicine and the executive director of the MGDII.</p> <p>The College already has close to 30 full members who have demonstrated both interest and success in entrepreneurship, commercialization, and innovation. In addition, the College will have an associate group of members who have an interest in commercialization, licensing and company development, and are working to bring those to fruition.</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>




Discussion	Presenter
<p><a href="#">VISION Study Connects Pre-Surgical Cardiac Blood Test and Adverse Outcomes</a></p> <p>A common cardiac blood test done before surgery can predict who will experience adverse outcomes after most types of surgery, says an international study led by Hamilton researchers. Globally, of the 200 million adults who undergo major surgery, 18 per cent will experience serious cardiac and vascular complications including death within 30 days following their intervention, such as hip and knee replacements, bowel resections and abdominal aortic aneurysm repair.</p> <p>“Any type of surgery has the potential to cause damage to heart tissue, through blood clot formation, long periods of inflammation, or bleeding,” said study lead, Dr. PJ Devereaux, professor of medicine, cardiologist at Hamilton Health Sciences (HHS) and scientific lead for perioperative research at McMaster University and HHS’s Population Health Research Institute (PHRI). The study included 10,402 patients aged 45 years or older having non-cardiac surgery with overnight stay from 16 hospitals in nine countries.</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p><a href="#">\$100K Student Startup Competition Applications Are Open</a> (deadline March 1)</p> <p>Gay shared that the Forge Student Startup Competition is open, with students interested in entrepreneurship should apply and be part of the summer program.</p> <p>From the <a href="#">website</a>: Do you have an innovative business idea or startup? Calling all budding McMaster student and recent alumni entrepreneurs, the online applications for our biggest pitch competition are now open. Up to \$100,000 will be awarded to 12 finalists of The Forge Student Startup Competition and a guaranteed spot in the Summer Student Academy. Apply now for the chance to turn your startup dream into reality. Application deadline is March 1, 2020. Read more and apply today.</p>	<p>Gay Yuyitung (MILO)</p>
<p><a href="#">McMaster Researchers Develop Self-Cleaning Surface that Can Repel Bacteria</a></p> <p>A team of researchers at McMaster University has developed a self-cleaning surface that can repel all forms of bacteria, preventing the transfer of antibiotic-resistant superbugs and other dangerous bacteria in settings ranging from hospitals to kitchens.</p> <p>The new plastic surface – a treated form of conventional transparent wrap – can be shrink-wrapped onto door handles, railings, IV stands and other surfaces that can be magnets for bacteria such as MRSA and C. difficile.</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p><a href="#">A decade of innovation and development for Hamilton</a></p> <p>The Hamilton Spectator reflects on a decade of improvements and development across Hamilton – a great read about the advances that our city has made in the last ten years.</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p><a href="#">St. Joseph’s Hamilton expands use of virtual visits</a></p> <p>St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton is offering virtual visits for its patients who are seeking access to mental healthcare services. It’s a way of providing simpler, easier and more convenient care for many members of the public.</p> <p>Patients can encounter all kinds of barriers to accessing care. Sometimes, for patients with mental illness like depression or anxiety, simply having to physically leave your home and travel to the hospital for care can be difficult.</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p>MyDovetale is St. Joe's secure patient portal that connects patients to their care team through video conference – or a virtual visit – using the app on a smartphone or tablet, or online using a computer. Patients can connect from anywhere, including the comfort of their homes.</p> <p>To read the full article in Canadian Healthcare Technology, click <a href="#">here</a></p>	
<p><a href="#">Startup Stress? How Entrepreneurs Can Support Their Team's Mental Health</a> (Jan 29)</p> <p>72% of entrepreneurs are dealing with mental health concerns, compared to a mere 7% of the general public. Entrepreneurs are 50% more likely to report having a mental health condition.</p> <p>Startups are constantly dealing with a number of unknowns – cash flow, investor expectations, stability, as well as long hours – all of which can make the workplace emotional and stressful. Many founders are unaware of how their business can impact both physical and mental health, and without an HR department, it's easy to lose focus of prioritizing a balanced lifestyle for yourself, and your employees.</p> <p>Join JLABS January 29 to hear from a panel of experts in this space on how startups can put tools in place to ensure that their staff has access to mental health support and create a balanced environment of productivity while maintaining a healthy lifestyle.</p>	<p>Amanda Raponi (JLABS)</p>
<p><a href="#">Hamilton Academy of Medicine's 103rd Annual Clinical Day</a> (Jan 29)</p> <p>The Hamilton Academy of Medicine is pleased to invite you to our 103rd Annual Clinical Day on Wednesday, January 29th, 2020 at the Hamilton Convention Centre by Carmen's, 1 Summers Lane, Hamilton, ON.</p> <p>The Hamilton Academy of Medicine's Annual Clinical Day is a well-known Academy tradition designed for family physicians and allied health professionals. Our solutions-focused CME program reviews up-to-date practices in primary care and contemporary challenges in disease prevention and management relevant to day-to-day practice</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p><a href="#">Cannabis Forum - Presented by the Urologic Cancer Centre for Research &amp; Innovation</a> (Jan 30)</p> <p>Dr. Anil Kapoor, UCCRI Director (Presenting "Treatment of Your Cancer with Cannabis") is hosting a Cannabis Forum. The event will be held at the Lobby &amp; Miller Amphitheatre, Juravinski Innovation Tower (Level 2) of St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton</p> <p>With Special Guests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. James MacKillop, Director, MGD Centre for Medicinal Cannabis Research ("Clearing the Smoke on Cannabis")</li> <li>• Dr. Marissa Slaven ("Palliative Care and the Evolving Role of Cannabis")</li> <li>• Also featuring a patient presentation</li> </ul> <p>Questions? Contact Camilla Tajzler via email: <a href="mailto:tajzlec@mcmaster.ca">tajzlec@mcmaster.ca</a></p>	<p>Gail Martin (Research Institute @ St. Joe's)</p>
<p><a href="#">3<sup>rd</sup> Annual 2020 Niagara Investment Summit</a> (Feb 5-7)</p> <p>The OBIO 2020 Niagara Investment Summit will feature an Early Technology Showcase on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The Showcase will include presentations by leading research institutions from across Canada of the most innovative technologies and most promising early stage companies emerging from their institutions.</p>	<p>Grant Burns (OBIO)</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p>The Showcase will provide an opportunity for global investors and health science industry leaders to get an inside look at the next leading-edge health science innovations being developed in Canada. Discover tomorrow today at the Early Technology Showcase during the OBIO 2020 Niagara Investment Summit.</p> <p>To find out more about the Early Technology Showcase, click <a href="#">here</a>. If you are interested in learning more about the OBIO 2020 Niagara Investment Summit, please contact Christina Yeh: <a href="mailto:christinayeh@obio.ca">christinayeh@obio.ca</a></p>	
<p><a href="#">What, Why, Where, When and How to Hold Your First First-In-Human Trial</a> (Feb 11)</p> <p>You've answered some basic science questions about a drug's safety and are ready to move to the clinic. There is a lot to consider including study design, cost/incentives, speed, quality, the participant pool, communication/language, partners, your market, standard of medical care, data integrity and more! To answer these questions, we've assembled a group of experts to help you prepare before you take the next steps.</p> <p>This clinical trial workshop will bring together experts in the field from Johnson &amp; Johnson, CROs and agencies to discuss advantages, challenges and experiences in running trials around the globe.</p>	JLABS
<p><a href="#">HealthBound Pitch Competition</a> (Feb 13)</p> <p>Five of Canada's leading mental health and addiction startups compete for \$50,000 in cash prizes and residency in the Biomedical Zone!</p> <p>The Biomedical Zone has been able to engage hospitals and health institutions in the innovation process in an unprecedented capacity, through unique programming such as HealthBound. HealthBound is a needs-based innovation competition that convenes health institutions, startups, clinicians, and end users of technology to develop solutions around ubiquitous healthcare challenges. Previous challenges have included addressing healthcare associated infections, and improving the patient experience in outpatient settings. This agile approach to innovation supports rapid adaptation and adoption of new technology.</p> <p>Learn more at the <a href="#">Health Bound website</a></p>	Alex Muggah (Synapse)
<p><a href="#">iF Pitch &amp; Networking Night</a> (Feb 26)</p> <p>Join us for an evening of networking, a pitch competition, and delicious appetizers, and supporting early stage innovators!</p> <p>Companies who have a product in-market (or close to launch) present themselves in an investment-style pitch presentation, designed to help connect our partners, volunteer mentors and the broader Hamilton community with some of our up-and-coming startups.</p>	Brigitte Huard (Innovation Factory)
<p><a href="#">5th Annual Canada 2020 Health Innovation Summit</a> (Feb 26)</p> <p>The Health Innovation Summit will look at how advancements in technology and investments in innovation can help improve health outcomes and reduce costs. Bringing together key representatives from the medical, policy, industry and research communities, we will discuss the emerging trends in medical technology, as well as the advances and changes needed to achieve a more sustainable health system.</p>	Avvey Peters (CommunitECH)

Discussion	Presenter
<p>Click <a href="#">here</a> to save your seat.</p>	
<p><a href="#">LSO 2020 Celebration of Success</a> (Feb 26)</p> <p>Now in its 17th year, LSO's Annual Celebration of Success provides an unsurpassed opportunity for networking within our sector, with approximately 475 industry influencers in attendance from the private sector, government, and academia. This legacy event has formed a reputation as an important platform to recognize the individuals and companies driving the success of Ontario life sciences.</p>	<p>Andy Donovan (LSO)</p>
<p><a href="#">Biomedical Discovery and Commercialization Careers Night</a> (Feb 26)</p> <p>We are hosting a Careers Night at McMaster University to showcase a range of career opportunities in the life sciences sector. Attendees will consist of undergraduate Biochemistry &amp; Biomedical Sciences, Biology &amp; Pharmacology, Chemical Biology and Biomedical Discovery &amp; Commercialization students.</p> <p>The event is expected to run from 6-9pm and will consist of a panel discussion from 6-7:15pm, and a roundtable discussion from 7:30-9pm.</p> <p>Contact Jennifer Crane for more information: <a href="mailto:cranej1@mcmaster.ca">cranej1@mcmaster.ca</a></p>	<p>Jennifer Crane (BDC)</p>
<p><a href="#">Velocity Pitch Competition</a> (Feb 27)</p> <p>Reminder to all early-stage startups! The next VelocityFund Pitch Competition will be held at Catalyst137 on February 27! If you'd like a chance to fuel your startup with one of four \$50K investments, apply <a href="#">here</a></p>	<p>Adrien Cote (Velocity)</p>
<p><a href="#">2020 Connect to Careers Job Fair</a> (Mar 5)</p> <p>Redeemer College anticipates over 2500 job seekers at this year's Connect to Careers Job Fair where the focus is on recruiting for all types of positions including full-time, contract, summer, part-time or co-op. Community job seekers, students from all years of study and disciplines as well as recent and experienced alumni of the partnering educational institutions attend this event to network with employers regarding employment opportunities. We ask that employers must have positions available within six months of the Fair.</p> <p>Showcase your products and organisation and engage with students and the broader Hamilton community members. Note that there is a reduced rate for small business and non profit organisations.</p> <p>For more information go to the <a href="#">Connect to Career Job Fair</a> website</p>	<p>Mary Ann Benjamins (Redeemer College)</p>
<p><a href="#">Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation's Gala - Returning to LIUNA Station</a> (Mar 7)</p> <p>You are invited to join us for another amazing experience as we raise funds for vital research at Hamilton Health Sciences. Secure your sponsorship now for what will be an incredible evening of entertainment!</p>	<p>HHS</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p>Our 2019 Gala sold out early. As you plan your 2020 budget, avoid disappointment by making your sponsorship commitment today. Contact Tamara Pope (<a href="mailto:popetamara@hhsc.ca">popetamara@hhsc.ca</a>) or Milaina Wright (<a href="mailto:wrightmila@hhsc.ca">wrightmila@hhsc.ca</a>) for full details. View a listing of available <a href="#">sponsorship opportunities</a></p>	
<p><a href="#">Rotman Research Institute Conference: Aging and Brain Health</a> (Mar 8-11)</p> <p>A unique opportunity to bring together researchers from a wide range of fields in health and social sciences to discuss their latest findings and emerging perspectives on mental health and well-being across the lifespan. Conference attendees will hear about the latest research on the lifelong and intergenerational effects of stress and trauma, the intersection of emotional, cognitive, and physical health in mood disorders, well-being and identity in older age, and the use of brain stimulation interventions in psychiatry and neurology. Sessions will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life-long and intergenerational effects of stress and trauma</li> <li>• Mood and cognition as transdiagnostic markers of brain health</li> <li>• Living well in older age</li> <li>• Biomedical interventions: Beyond medication</li> </ul> <p>To learn more, click <a href="#">here</a></p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p><a href="#">What's Next Canada</a> (Mar 11)</p> <p>Join thought leaders, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, healthcare providers, and companies from around the world for the annual <a href="#">What's Next Canada</a> conference produced in partnership with Mary Furlong &amp; Associates and presented in concert with <a href="#">Baycrest's 30th Annual Rotman Research Institute Conference</a>.</p> <p>Seniors are the fastest growing segment of the population and expected to represent one in six people on the planet by 2050. Their net worth accumulation has outpaced all other demographic groups. They participate in the workforce at historic levels and actively pursue products and services that will help them continue to live life on their terms as they age. If you're not serving this market, you should be.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet leading start-ups and established companies who are successfully pushing the boundaries of 'possible' in targeting aging, brain health and dementia-related challenges.</li> <li>• Learn about ground-breaking innovations and hear from those with valuable lived experience on the themes of Aging, Medtech and Mental Health.</li> <li>• Last year's inaugural event brought together over 35 world-class speakers and an audience of 300.</li> <li>• Take your place at our podium and among our sponsors to position yourself and your company as a leader in the dynamic aging segment.</li> </ul> <p>To learn more, click <a href="#">here</a></p>	<p>Jacqueline Baptist (CABHI)</p>
<p><a href="#">Collaboration Across Borders: Clinical Trials Industry Networking Night</a> (Mar 23)</p> <p>Clinical Trials Ontario, the Government of Québec, and Montreal InVivo invite you to an exclusive industry networking event for professionals in the health innovation and clinical trials community. Please join us for discussion on how new technologies, forward-thinking policies, and a commitment to collaboration across jurisdictions can accelerate the development of</p>	<p>Andrew Haller (CTO)</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p>products and the delivery of health innovation to patients. Discussion will be followed by a networking reception (refreshments provided).</p>	
<p><a href="#">Clinical Trials Ontario (CTO): 2020 Clinical Trial Conference</a> (March 24-25)</p> <p>The 2020 Clinical Trials Ontario Conference will be held Tuesday, March 24 and Wednesday, March 25, 2020 in Toronto, Ontario. The conference will feature a wide variety of speakers who will discuss novel approaches to clinical trials, medical cannabis, participant experience, blockchain, research ethics and more. The theme of this year's conference is Thinking Differently: Perspectives and Innovation in Clinical Trials.</p> <p>The conference will also provide an opportunity for those attending to learn and share best practices, and to network with industry peers. Please join us for two-days of inspiring and informative sessions.</p> <p>See the CTO 2020 Conference <a href="#">Agenda</a>. To register, click <a href="#">here</a></p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p><a href="#">Synapse Life Science Competition Showcase</a> (Mar 25)</p> <p>Please join us for the sixth annual <a href="#">Synapse Life Science Competition Pitch Showcase</a> on March 25th, 2020! Meet our finalists, and hear the top innovators pitch their ideas for the chance to win up to \$60,000 in cash and in-kind resources.</p> <p>Learn more about emerging life science companies, network with industry thought leaders, and support Hamilton's growing life sciences ecosystem. Refreshments and a cash bar will be available. <a href="#">Register Now Here!!</a></p> <p>The Synapse Competition is Ontario's premier life science pitch competition and is dedicated to fostering the commercialization of innovation in the life science sector. Delivered by Innovation Factory, in collaboration with the Synapse Consortium, this competition assists innovators, scientists and researchers to bring their ideas to market, increase revenues, attract investment and create jobs.</p> 	<p>Jennifer Gauvreau (iF)</p>
<p><a href="#">Emerging Leaders Program</a> (May 3-16 and Aug 9-22)</p> <p>ELP is a two-week intensive, residential, leadership program for students from all disciplines, medical residents and young health professionals seeking to effectively develop their leadership capabilities.</p> <p>We are now accepting applications for our 2020 Spring (May 3-16) and Summer (August 9-22) programs with an early bird deadline of January 27 2020. on behalf of <a href="#">McMaster University's Michael G. DeGroot Health Leadership Academy</a>.</p> <p>Core sessions include topics like Characteristics &amp; Qualities of Leaders, Effective Teams, Decision Making &amp; Problem Solving, Mentorship &amp; Coaching, Foresight &amp; Innovation, Design Thinking,</p>	<p>Amanda Calzolaio (Health Leadership Academy)</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p>Change Management, Presentation &amp; Persuasion, Management &amp; Finance Essentials, Cultural Impact and Its Dynamic Role in Leadership. A playlist of student testimonials can be viewed <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	
<p><a href="#">Technology and Future of Healthcare 2020</a> (May 13)</p> <p>Technology &amp; the Future of Health Care is a conference designed to provide forward thinking healthcare providers with relevant information to support the implementation of technology into the front lines and to identify the key challenges and solutions required to move healthcare forward.</p> <p>At TFHC2019, discussions revealed that the lack of infrastructure was a glaring obstacle in the way of being able to deploy technology on the front lines.</p> <p>On May 13, 2020, Technology &amp; the Future of Health Care will not only display the latest technological advancements available to front line providers, it will also showcase the existing infrastructure solution to host and deploy these technological advancements, while illustrating an example of the Patient Medical Home.</p> <p>The Champagne Centre, a 270,000 sq.ft, state-of-the-art, comprehensive health services mall, will play host to TFHC2020 and will feature high caliber educational content through presentations from industry leaders, concurrent demonstrations and interactive exhibitions in an environment aimed at promoting peer and cross sector collaboration.</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p><a href="#">7th FIP Pharmaceutical Sciences World Congress (PSWC2020)</a> (May 22-27)</p> <p>SWC 2020 invites you to come to vibrant Montreal, Canada. To network with leading experts from across the world, compare best practices and learn about the latest trends in pharmaceutical sciences, including the potential of information-based technologies, challenges and opportunities in global health, new collaborative models for stimulating innovation, and workforce development with interdisciplinary skills.</p> <p>The program is structured around four tracks covering key challenges in the continuum of drug discovery, development and optimal use at the individual and population levels.</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p>Save the Date: <a href="#">2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Future of Health Summit</a> (June 16)</p> <p>Building on the success from last year, the Summit will bring together healthcare experts, industry and innovation partners and community stakeholders in an opportunity to drive conversation about the future of health. HHS is looking to enhance strategies of engagement to our broader community of people, patients, care givers, advisors, consumers and influencers. With the outcome to drive the shift towards democratization of responsibility, access and participation.</p> <p>Hamilton Health Sciences is Ontario's most comprehensive healthcare system with five hospital sites and five specialized facilities in Hamilton and West Niagara. As an academic teaching hospital with more than 1,100 beds and an affiliation with McMaster University, we are committed to providing exemplary health care while advancing excellence in education and health research. Hamilton Health Sciences has earned recognition as one of the world's leading health sciences research organizations.</p> <p>If you have any questions or wish to learn more about the Summit, please contact Pratihba Harsha, Research Development and Innovation Officer at <a href="mailto:harshap@hpsc.ca">harshap@hpsc.ca</a></p>	<p>Katie Porter (HHS)</p>






Time allotted | 20 Minutes

Topic: **Collaborate & Accelerate**

Partnership opportunities, programming and resources available to the community, market gaps and challenges, learn about potential funding opportunities, discuss new RFPs issued, etc.

Discussion	Presenter
<p>Synapse engages companies and organizations from outside the region that may be interested in engaging with the Hamilton ecosystem – including those that are seeking to establish a presence in Hamilton or that wish to partner with Hamilton resources and capabilities.</p> <p>For more information about upcoming engagement, or for assistance in hosting inbound visits that may be of interest to the broader community, please contact <a href="#">Alex Muggah</a></p> <p>Recent visits to/from Hamilton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Recent:</b> Company Delegation to Buffalo (Jan 23): Synapse accompanied an early stage company to the Jacobs Institute in Buffalo, as well as other key stakeholders in the community. Purpose of the visit was to establish initial relationships, and explore opportunities to develop a collaborative relationship. Synapse coordinated one-on-one stakeholder meetings.</li> <li>• <b>Recent:</b> JETRO Trade Commission to Hamilton (Jan 22): representatives from the Japanese export and trade promotion agency were in Hamilton to meet with Synapse, City officials and companies in advance of an event to be held in February (in Toronto). Discussion focused on exploration of how Japanese companies could meet potential partners, both commercial in academic, in order to drive increased commercial activity in Canada.</li> </ul> <p>Upcoming site visits to/from Hamilton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Upcoming:</b> TUV-SUD Innovation Showcase (Spring): Synapse and TUV-SUD are in preliminary discussion to stand up an Innovation Showcase in Hamilton. Goal would be to bring together entrepreneurs and innovators to demonstrate the strength of the Hamilton ecosystem, as well as provide a forum for networking.</li> </ul>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p> 
<p><u><a href="#">\$25k Praxis Prize @ Synapse Competition (Mar 25)</a></u></p> <p>Innovation Factory, the Forge, the McMaster Innovation Park, and the Synapse Consortium are pleased to announce a new relationship with Praxis Spinal Cord Institute, which will allow us to present the \$25,000 Praxis Prize at the upcoming Synapse Competition. A formal call for applications will be available shortly.</p> <p>In order to apply, companies must articulate clinical application to individuals with spinal cord injuries (SCI), including the impact on potential patients and the relative scalability of their solution and the potential size of the SCI market that your solution would apply to.</p> <p>For more information, please contact Alex Muggah: <a href="mailto:alex.muggah@synapseconsortium.com">alex.muggah@synapseconsortium.com</a></p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p><u><a href="#">St. Joe's and McMaster Seeking New Executive Director to Join the Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health</a></u></p> <p>The Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences at McMaster University, and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton invite applicants for an Executive Director of the Firestone</p>	<p>Gail Martin (Research Institute @ St. Joe's)</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p>Institute for Respiratory Health (FIRH) to join the Division of Respiriology. Academic rank will be commensurate with the candidate's qualification and experience.</p> <p>The Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health (FIRH) is based out of St. Joseph's Healthcare in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada and is affiliated with McMaster University. Clinical, research and educational activities are integrated and largely collaborative within the FIRH.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here</a> to download a PDF with more details, including the application link</p>	
<p><a href="#">Carleton University – CISCO Testbed for IoT Devices</a></p> <p>Padraic Foley (OCE) shared that Carleton University has developed a IoT technology test bed (and building in which it is located), which could support testing of medical devices. They are looking for projects, and if interested, should reach out to Podraic (<a href="mailto:Padraic.Foley@oce-ontario.org">Padraic.Foley@oce-ontario.org</a>) to make a connection</p>	Padraic Foley (OCE)
<p><a href="#">Meet with Sofinnova (Toronto)</a></p> <p>Sofinnova Investments is a biopharmaceutical investment firm with approximately \$2B in assets under management. We invest in both private and public therapeutics-focused biotech companies, in both the U.S. and Europe, across all stages of company formation and growth.</p>	JLABS
<p><a href="#">Job Posting - Seeking ICC Coach and PoC lead - one year, full time contract @ St. Joesph's</a></p> <p>Excited to share an opportunity to join the growing Centre for Integrated Care team at St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton. As great candidates can come from personal contacts, relationships and referrals – please share this posting with your individual networks.</p>	Fraser Edwards (St. Joseph's Healthcare)
<p><a href="#">Job Postings – SannTek and VitalBio</a></p> <p>Adrien Cote (Velocity) shared that both SannTek and VitalBio – two fast-moving companies based in Kitchener – each have a number of positions open. For companies</p> <p>Job posting links can be found here for <a href="#">SannTek Labs</a> and <a href="#">VitalBio</a></p>	Adrien Cote (Velocity Labs)
<p><a href="#">Job Posting –Front End / Full Stack Developer</a></p> <p>MedStack is a venture-backed award-winning startup financed by prominent VCs and is a successful graduate of 500 Startups (TechCrunch pick) and the Creative Destruction Lab. We're on a mission to empower the process of healthcare innovation and are looking to grow our technology team with the addition of a Front-End Developer / Full-Stack Developer to focus on feature additions and user journey in our new self-service offering MedStack Control.</p>	Simon Woodside (MedStack)
<p><a href="#">Submit Entrepreneurship and Innovation Community Events on the Innovation Factory Calendar</a></p> <p>Our calendar is home to Innovation Factory workshops and networking events as well as events from the community which help support our local entrepreneurs and businesses. If you have an event which may a fit, please submit it and we will review it within five business days.</p>	Riley Moynes (Innovation Factory)

Discussion	Presenter
<p><a href="#">Health Venture Program</a> (Development Stream – Winter 2020)</p> <p>The Health Venture Program (HVP) brings together clinician, researcher, student and industry learners to explore the commercialization potential of research projects and innovative ideas. Six modules across four months, covering topics that discuss idea conception through to market entry. Individuals are encouraged to bring their thesis, capstone or other innovation projects they wish to further develop. Sessions will include project management support and feedback from industry experts.</p> <p>HVP Components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly check-in sessions (in-person): There are five in-person sessions throughout the HVP. These will be interactive, with guest speakers and mentors available to support learners.</li> <li>• Weekly virtual sessions (online): Each week of the HVP has a topic theme, as listed above. Online modules (and short assignments will be released on Monday of each week. Program instructor will provide feedback within a week of the assignment being submitted.</li> <li>• Weekly drop-in sessions (online &amp; in-person): Individuals with expertise in innovation, commercialization, clinical practice and/or entrepreneurship will be available for in-person sessions. Videoconferencing will be used for individuals who are off-site. You are highly encouraged to work on assignments and ask questions during this “protected time”.</li> </ul> <p>Contact course instructor Sarrah Lal (<a href="mailto:sarrah@mcmaster.ca">sarrah@mcmaster.ca</a>) with any questions</p>	<p>Sarrah Lal (HICE)</p>
<p><a href="#">Hamilton Innovation Partnership Portal</a></p> <p>Synapse has created the <a href="#">Hamilton Innovation Partnership Portal (HIPP)</a> to make the process simpler and more streamlined to find new partners within Canada’s leading health research and educational ecosystem.</p> <p>It is a way for companies to interact with the Hamilton community. A streamlined approach, to have Synapse represent everyone. We’ve set up an intake form, and have asked companies to direct them to the portal. Synapse is working with HHS to test it out with companies right now, including getting the approach/questions right. This will be a sense of who wants to interact with the community, and then triage companies to relevant stakeholders within Hamilton.</p> <p>Portal is online through the Synapse website: <a href="http://synapseconsortium.com/partner/">http://synapseconsortium.com/partner/</a></p>	<p>Andrea Lee (HHS)</p>
<p><a href="#">MGD-HICE Educational Webinars &amp; DevTank Meetings</a></p> <p>Operating out of the Michael G. DeGroot School of Medicine at McMaster University, the Michael G. DeGroot Health Innovation, Commercialization &amp; Entrepreneurship (MGD-HICE) aims to accelerate the exploration of health innovation opportunities and creation of socioeconomic impact.</p> <p>Check out the full suite of programming <a href="#">here</a></p>	<p>Sarrah Lal (MGD-HICE)</p>