

Hamilton Health Innovation Check-up: Meeting Minutes

November 2022

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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
Virtual Location

Alex Muggah, Director, Synapse Consortium
Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/405351918>
Dial in: +1-647-558-0588,,405351918#
Register here:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/uZQodOyppzoiQnRwfvVuEJtEMUpKPUZPzg>

Next Monthly Check-up: January 30th 9:00 – 10:00am | McMaster Innovation Park (via Zoom)
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 [Hamilton Health Ecosystem Directory](#) and 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 accessed 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. Updates will be reflected in a revised version of the monthly minutes.

As a result of the COVID-19, all in-person conferences and meetings have been cancelled. We are trying to track down events that will be held virtually and will try to keep our calendar up to date.

If you have an event that you would like listed here, please contact us at: info@synapseconsortium.com

Hamilton Health Innovation: Calendar Highlights

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

December

- Dec 8: [FemTech Canada Roundtable](#) (Innovation Factory)
- Dec 10: [I'm Every Woman: A Concert of Greatest Hits](#) (Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation)
- Dec 13: [Tx Accelerator Program Launch Webinar](#) (adMare BioInnovations & MaRS)
- Dec 13: [Corporate Membership Roundtable Series](#) (CENE)
- Dec 13: [Future of Health: Solutions Showcase](#) (Communitech)
- Dec 15: [Member Marathon Featuring Noa Therapeutics, Spiderwort and Kelly Services](#) (LSO)

January & Beyond

- Jan 5: [An investor's perspective - key elements that will have a positive impact](#) (MEDJCT)
- Jan 30: [Hamilton Health Check-up](#) (Synapse Consortium)
- Feb 9: [Monthly FemTech Roundtable](#) (Femtech Canada)
- Feb 27: [Hamilton Health Check-up](#) (Synapse Consortium)
- Feb 8-10: [Investment Summit 2023](#) (OBIO)
- Mar 2024: [Synapse Pitch Competition](#) (Innovation Factory)
- Apr 13: [Monthly FemTech Roundtable](#) (Femtech Canada)
- Apr 17-21: [HIMSS Global Health Conference & Exhibition](#) (HIMSS)
- Apr 25-26: [Healthcare Investor Conference 2023](#) (BloomBurton)
- Jun 13-15: [Canada SynBio Conference](#) (Ontario Genomics)

Looking to engage the Hamilton Health Ecosystem?



In partnership with Innovation Factory and Synapse Consortium partners, leverage up to \$100,000 to work directly with an academic or hospital partner in the Hamilton ecosystem. Funding will support collaborative projects for Ontario-based life science firms requiring clinical/research expertise, evidence, or data to commercialize their innovation. Learn more about SOPHIE [here](#)



Leverage up to \$15,000 in funding to work directly with the Research Administration groups at Hamilton Health Sciences or The Research Institute at St. Joe's Hamilton to create the pre-trial protocols and documents required to undertake a commercialization project or clinical trial in one of Canada's leading research hospitals. Learn more about HEALTHI [here](#)

Time allotted | 30 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
<p>Guest Speaker(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Britney Hess, Manager, Investment and Venture Development Ontario Genomics• Elaine Corbett, Director, BioCreate (Interim) and Director, Sector Innovation & Programs Ontario Genomics [presentation slides available from Andy upon request]
<p>Discussion <i>[the following is a synopsis of the discussion, and has been lightly edited for length and clarity]</i></p> <p><u>About Ontario Genomics</u></p> <p>Ontario Genomics (OG) is a not-for-profit organization. OG leads the application of genomics and synthetic or engineering biology to drive economic growth, improve quality of life and for global leadership in Ontario. Founded over 20 years, Ontario Genomics works across three different sectors: [1] agriculture and food, [2] human health and [3] industrial biotech. OG works on building public and private partnerships and attracts funding from industry, provincial and federal partners, with an aim towards the application and commercialization of genomics.</p> <p><u>20 Year Track Record</u></p> <p>Ontario Genomics has so far raised \$2.7 billion for genomics research and innovation in Ontario, including over 230 projects and 500 partnerships. Ontario Genomics' strength is in its ability to identify and support high potential technologies at a very early stage through its various grant programs, whether they are academic, startup or larger companies.</p> <p><u>Humanity's Greatest Challenges and the Opportunity for Ontario</u></p> <p>Some of humanity's greatest challenges right now are the climate crisis, food insecurity as well as acute and chronic diseases. OG continues to work with many companies that are addressing some of these major challenges. Some of which include Ontario-based Genecis Industries who use engineered bacteria to convert food waste into biodegradable plastics that are competitive with traditional plastics in cost and performance. Century Therapeutics Canada is another company that is in fact based out of Hamilton. They are currently developing a technology to manufacture CAR-T cells at a significantly reduced cost, to make it more affordable for Ontario's health care system. Ontario Genomics has supported this company through the GAPP program, which is an industry academic funding program providing up to \$6 million in funding.</p> <p><u>BioCreate Program</u></p> <p>Ontario Genomics has recently launched our BioCreate funding program that we would like to highlight here today. The BioCreate program is supported by FedDev Ontario and is open to small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in southern Ontario seeking to commercialize genomics and engineering biology enabled products and/or technologies in the health, food and agriculture, and cleantech sectors at a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of 4+.</p>

Guest Speaker Discussion

The three main components of the program are:

- BioCreate Investment: an initial grant, which is \$150,000 that should be matched from the company of the lead co-applicant at \$100,000. The project sizes are a minimum of \$250,000.
- Intensive Business Mentorship: mentorship component so funded companies will get access to Ontario genomics mentorship as well as our sectoral and regional partners including one of our partners the Synapse Consortium.
- Investor Showcase: each cohort also concludes with the end Investor Showcase, which is giving the funding companies an opportunity to pitch to investors or potential partners in their area.

BioCreate Program Objective

The objective of the program is to support companies that are developing biotechnologies to achieve commercial outcomes. Specifically, the program is looking for SME's that are in Southern Ontario who are commercializing genomics and engineering biology. This is a broad definition, so if a company is working in biotechnology in general, we'd be happy to have a conversation and explore. The program is looking for a Technology Readiness Level of 4 or more, which is around a validation stage and should move towards testing in the real world and then towards commercial outcomes.

Please visit the [program guide found](#) on the Ontario Genomics website for example technologies that could be included, but that are not limited to be included in the program.

Program Eligibility and How to Apply

One of the major components of being eligible for the program is having a plan to attract investment and create jobs and improve lives in Southern Ontario. The overall process is for interested companies to submit an intake form on the Ontario Genomics website, which is due by December 15th, 2022.

In order to be considered for the first cohort of funding. There will be 7 cohorts for this program, and the BioCreate team will be making funding decisions in the fall and spring of each year. Following the intake form, the full application for the first round of intakes will be due in January 2023. A pitch by the companies will be made in February 2023 and funding decisions will be made in March 2023.

Interested SMEs should submit a [BioCreate intake form](#) at any time. A representative from the BioCreate team will reach out to you to discuss your project idea. Eligible applicants will be invited to submit an application.

Please visit Ontario Genomics, or reach out to us to discuss any of the programs that we offer that could be eligible for you or any of your partners. For any questions, or to learn more, please reach out to Britney (bhess@ontariogenomics.ca) or Elaine (ecorbett@ontariogenomics.ca)

Questions & Answers

Question: You mentioned there are multiple cohorts over the next couple of years. How many companies are you hoping to work with per cohort?

Answer: The BioCreate team is looking to fund 32 companies total. In the first round, we are looking to fund up to 8 companies and we are looking to fund anywhere between 4 to 8 companies per cohort.

Guest Speaker Discussion

Question: What are some of the ways a participating company can make use of this investment?

Answer: Generally speaking, the team is looking at technology-based projects, with some laboratory work that's been completed, that can move from a validation stage, closer to real-world testing. This can involve working with new partners including lab partners. Some of the other components for which the investment can be used include salaries, equipment, as well as IP support and regulatory consulting.

Question: Could you talk more about the intensive business mentorship component and who will be delivering the business mentorship.

Answer: The mentorship portion of the BioCreate program will be very company-specific. As the program will span multiple sectors and various technologies within genomics and engineering biology, we will work to design the mentorship aspect according to each company's needs. This will involve meeting with someone on the BioCreate team at Ontario Genomics to better understand the needs and how the program can best offer support. The program will introduce companies to the partners it will be working with, and leverage their offered services in different areas, spanning from regulatory consulting to networking components and much more. Companies will have an opportunity to engage with mentors within Ontario but also within Canada or internationally depending on what they might need.

Question: Could you provide a breakdown of the funding that companies will receive and the matching company funds? Are there any stipulations in terms of the partners? Do the partners have to be academic or can it be any other, potentially a CRO?

Answer: The matching company funds can be cash or in-kind contributions, and the co-applicants will need to show that they can provide at minimum \$100,000, if they have a partner coming onto the project that is also eligible. There will be no requirements for the type of partner, it may be a good idea for companies to acquire partners in areas in which they may be missing some expertise.

Question: As Ontario Genomics rolls out this program, what are the type of companies that you're hoping to see? Are there resources that you will wish to activate from a community like ours to support this exciting and upcoming program?

Answer: Please keep an eye out for companies that might be interested in the BioCreate program and if you have contacts in related industry verticals and sub-sectors that can offer mentorship or expertise for companies, please reach out to us for a conversation.

Time allotted | 15 Minutes

Topic: **Communicate**

Discussion	Presenter
<p>FedDev Minister Filomena Tassi in Hamilton to celebrate SOPHIE program and say ‘targeted’ spending will support Canadians</p> <p>Tassi, who toured the Innovation Factory at McMaster Innovation Park Nov. 7 touting the federal government’s fall economic statement, said the package of financial assistance “targets supports of those Canadians struggling the most.”</p> <p>Speaking to a group of business entrepreneurs at the Innovation Factory’s Southern Ontario Pharmaceutical and health Innovation Ecosystem (SOPHIE), Tassi said the hub has created a “one-stop shop for success” by bringing together business people with ideas that could eventually be commercialized.</p> <p>Since 2021, when the federal government made the \$6-million investment, Tassi said it has sustained 75 jobs, supported 90 businesses and there have been 24 commercialized projects, including potential diabetes help without insulin injections.</p> <p>“Absolutely fantastic,” said Tassi. “There are so many things happening in Hamilton. We see the potential.”</p> <p>Minister Tassi also participated in a roundtable with key members of the Hamilton life science ecosystem to explore priorities and opportunities for the government to engage and activate the regional ecosystem in support of scaling life science companies across Southern Ontario</p> <p>Read full Hamilton Spectator article here</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p>McMaster Seed Fund invests \$1.27 million in three startup companies</p> <p>Three McMaster startups – AIMA Laboratories, LLIF Healthcare and 20/20 OptimEyes Technologies – have received a combined \$1.27 million in the second round of McMaster Seed Fund investments.</p> <p>AIMA Laboratories is a biotech company co-founded by Lauren Foster, professor emeritus in the department of obstetrics and gynecology, and postdoctoral fellow Jocelyn Wessels. The company received \$468,500 to advance its blood-testing technology that can be used for at-home screening of endometriosis.</p> <p>LLIF Healthcare received \$381,500 to further its cloud-based platform which provides doctors and hospitals with data to improve patient care and reduce healthcare costs. Co-founded by associate professor of medicine Shawn Mondoux and clinician David Hamilton, LLIF is bringing to market their MD Dashboard, which extracts physician practice data from electronic medical records and provides a practice and improvement feedback strategy to doctors.</p> <p>20/20 OptimEyes Technologies – a spin-out from the Sheardown Lab at McMaster and co-founded by Frances Lasowski and Heather Sheardown– received \$428,000 to de-risk their patented mucoadhesive micelle nanoparticle (MNP) technology, initially targeted for the treatment of glaucoma.</p>	<p>Karen Mossman (McMaster)</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p>Submit application for OBIO Investment Summit (deadline December 9, 2022)</p> <p>OBIO is inviting Canadian health science companies to submit an application to pitch in person to global investors at the 2023 OBIO Investment Summit (OIS) in Toronto on February 8-10, 2023.</p> <p>Health science companies commercializing products and services in therapeutics, digital health and medical technology have the opportunity to pitch to global investors. An exclusive, invite only event, the Summit provides a private environment for one-to-one meetings and relationship building with venture capital, strategic partners and investors specializing in health science.</p> <p>Companies need to demonstrate high growth potential and readiness for investment by venture investors. Selected companies will have the opportunity to pitch in person, to investors and strategics, and to setup one-on-one meetings at the event. There is no cost to the company to submit an expression of interest. If selected to present at the OIS, companies can expect to pay a small fee to help cover the cost of the event.</p>	<p>Mary Argent - Katwala (OBIO)</p>
<p>Canadian Innovation Coast to Coast (C2C) Program</p> <p>The Trade Commissioner Service in San Diego and Washington, DC have partnered with Halloran Consulting Group to offer an opportunity to participate in our Canadian Innovation Coast to Coast (C2C) mentoring program. While much of the program will be delivered virtually, there will be opportunities for in-person engagement.</p> <p>Selected Canadian companies are expected to begin the program in November 2022 and will work with their mentors until March 2023. Participants will gain fresh insights on a successful approach to partnering with pharmaceutical companies and/or raising capital, using the BIOCOM Global Life Sciences Partnering Conference, to be held in San Diego February 28 – March 2, 2023, as the backdrop.</p>	<p>Eleonore Rupprecht (Trade Commission Service)</p>
<p>OCI (Government of Ontario) announces new Digitalization Competence Centre</p> <p>The Digitalization Competence Centre (DCC) is Ontario’s knowledge centre focused on driving the digital modernization of Ontario SMEs by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting digital literacy through education, coaching and training to help SMEs understand the benefits of digital adoption and supporting them in the development of a Digital Modernization and Adoption Plan (DMAP) for their company • Accelerating digital adoption by providing SMEs with support to adopt new equipment and processes through the Technology Demonstration Program • Enhancing technological capacity in both companies and sectors that have the potential for further digitization • Supporting the commercialization of Made-in-Ontario technologies by connecting companies looking to adopt digital technologies with Ontario technology firms <p>Digitalization is redefining the future for companies. It is a critical factor in the success and growth of Ontario’s companies, enabling them to release products to the market faster and reach the right customers, all while offering a near perfect experience. Through DCC, Ontario is</p>	<p>Michael Jones (OCI)</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p>placing its SMEs at the forefront of digital transformation, supporting them to adapt and thrive from this digital evolution.</p> <p>To learn more, contact Michael Jones: mjones@oc-innovation.ca</p>	
<p>New Therapeutics Accelerator for early-stage ventures</p> <p>On behalf of adMare BioInnovations and MaRS, we invite you to attend a webinar on Tuesday, December 13th at 2 p.m. EST to learn about our new Therapeutics (Tx) Accelerator for early-stage ventures in Canada.</p> <p>adMare and its regional partners are launching the Tx Accelerator Program that aims to support early-stage ventures to achieve essential milestones for successful therapeutics development, scale-up and commercialization in Canada.</p> <p>The accelerator program is focused on ventures operating in the following domains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Therapeutics: broad range of disease indications (e.g., immunology, oncology, neurology, metabolomics, rare disease) and categories (e.g., small molecules, biologics, cell and gene therapies). • Artificial intelligence/machine learning platforms: supporting drug discovery or digital therapeutics. • Enabling platforms: novel drug screen, discovery and delivery platforms. <p>The Accelerator includes services to advance the scientific, regulatory, IP, business development, fundraising efforts, and provides access to state-of-the-art facilities. For more information, please visit our website https://www.admarebio.com/en/ecosystems.</p> <p><i>We are looking for the most promising and innovative therapeutics ventures to apply and benefit from the Tx Accelerator program.</i></p> <p>To attend the webinar, please register using this link.</p>	<p>Amol Deshpande (MaRS)</p>
<p>Forensic Psychiatry group working under the Research Institute of St. Joe's; their patented and now distributed product eHARM, used for aggression assessment and research data is available. Please reach out if there is interest in connecting.</p>	<p>Zofia Sosnowski (RSJH)</p>
<p>The Department of Medicine has also received its first ever applications to “The Biggest Leap Award” administered through the Medical Entrepreneurship Nexus Community of Practice (medex@mcmaster.ca) – which celebrate individuals taking a leap on innovation, commercialization, and entrepreneurship activities. We will work to adjudicate these applicants and hopefully announce and toast these individuals and their teams before the next social.</p>	<p>Jay Hirota (McMaster University)</p>
<p>Please connect if you are interested in sharing of your expertise as a mentor for The Clinic @ Mac</p>	<p>Katrina (The Clinic @ McMaster)</p>
<p>Join Ontario Exhibit at HIMSS Trade Show (April 17-21, 2023)</p> <p>Ontario is planning to organize an exhibit at the HIMSS trade show from April 17 - 21, 2023. At this point, we are not able to secure and pay for space in this fiscal year for an event in the next fiscal year</p>	<p>Patricia Cosgrove (MEDJCT)</p>


Discussion	Presenter
<p>Our programs have been submitted for approval which we anticipate receiving, hopefully no later than mid-January. If you are interested in exhibiting with us at HIMSS, please let me know. Please visit the HIMSS website at: www.himss.org.</p> <p>Please send any questions to Patricia Cosgrove (Area Director, Health Industries) at the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade: patricia.cosgrove@ontario.ca</p>	
<p>OmniaBio: Supporting Hamilton’s Building Biomanufacturing Capacity</p> <p>OmniaBio, a contract development and manufacturing organization (CDMO) focused on cell and gene therapies, is one of the companies moving into the McMaster Innovation Park (MIP), having broken ground in October. OmniaBio is a subsidiary of CCRM, a Toronto-based non-profit with 11 years of experience developing and commercialising regenerative medicine-based technologies and cell and gene therapies.</p> <p>OmniaBio CEO Mitchel Sivilotti says the CDMO spinout is set to continue building on this expertise by developing technologies across three areas of strength: iPSCs for allogeneic (from a donor) therapies, autologous (from the patient) immunotherapies and lentiviral manufacturing platforms.</p> <p>Sivilotti says. “The combined CCRM and OmniaBio team is a model for adopting new cutting-edge technologies and making these available to our clinical and commercial clients, ultimately reaching patients in need around the world. Over the next few years, we plan further expansion of our infrastructure in Canada, followed by strategic expansion into key international markets.”</p> <p>From the new site at MIP, OmniaBio will manufacture cell and gene therapies for commercial stage use for its growing customer base. Hamilton and MIP are the ideal hub for OmniaBio’s operations for a few reasons, one of the most important being “the strong workforce in the area”, says Sivilotti. Once constructed, OmniaBio’s biomanufacturing plant at MIP will become the largest facility of its kind in Canada. It represents a significant economic stimulus for the city of Hamilton, catapulting what is expected to be a very successful future in biomanufacturing for many years to come.</p> <p>Read the full Investment Monitor article here</p>	<p>Asmaa Al-Hashimi (City EcDev)</p>
<p>McMaster and adMare partner to bring life sciences innovations to the market</p> <p>McMaster University and adMare BioInnovations are partnering to advance research and technology commercialization in the life sciences sector.</p> <p>adMare — a Canadian non-profit organization working to identify and de-risk promising discoveries in health and drug technologies — provides industrial scientific expertise, research infrastructure and critical funding for innovative research and development projects with strong commercial potential.</p> <p>As part of the partnership with McMaster, adMare has identified a clinical research program led by neurosurgeon and surgery professor Sheila Singh and Jakob Magolan, associate professor in the department of Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences.</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>


Discussion	Presenter
<p>With adMare’s support, critical experiments and studies will be performed at McMaster to develop a targeted therapy and approach that could prevent the formation of metastases in patients with brain cancer.</p> <p>Read the full article here</p>	
<p>Aima Labratories home blood test to help those with endometriosis get diagnosis years earlier</p> <p>Foster, the co-founder and CEO of AIMA Laboratories, is aiming to shorten that pathway by providing the first at-home diagnostic blood test to screen for the chronic condition.</p> <p>Endometriosis occurs when a tissue similar to the lining of the uterus is found outside of the uterus. Most commonly diagnosed through laparoscopic surgery, it can cause inflammation, long-term pain and infertility and often has a negative impact on a patient’s quality of life. There is no known cure. Surgery to remove scar tissue or using drugs to treat a patient’s pain can be effective, but success rates vary.</p> <p>Endomir, the at-home diagnostic blood test, identifies certain clinical biomarkers and can give a patient a risk profile for whether they have endometriosis. Based on that risk profile, they could get a referral — potentially years before they could have laparoscopic diagnostic surgery. The diagnostic test would be an important tool in validating the concerns of the millions of people with the condition, AIMA Laboratories co-founder Jocelyn Wessels says.</p> <p>Read the full article here</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>
<p>Triumvera, a McMaster start-up, developing new cancer treatments</p> <p>A Hamilton biotech firm started at McMaster University is developing a next-generation immunotherapy treatment to tackle solid-cell cancers, and the company is rapidly growing.</p> <p>Triumvira Immunologics Inc., co-founded at the end of 2017 by professor Jonathan Bramson and then post-doctoral fellow Christopher Helsen, has already raised more than \$100 million in venture capital funding in 2022, seven years after the company’s launch. Triumvira is developing TAC-T cells, a therapy that primes the body’s own immune white blood cells to detect and attack solid cancer tumours. Existing immunotherapy treatments are geared towards ‘liquid’ cancers such as leukemias and lymphomas.</p> <p>“There is great reason to be enthusiastic and people want to bet on winning horses. The more success we have, the more people will invest,” said Bramson, who sits on Triumvira’s scientific advisory board. He is a professor of medicine and vice-dean, research for the Faculty of Health Sciences. “A positive outcome from a clinical trial will spur further investment and growth.”</p> <p>Company CEO and president Paul Lammers says Triumvira is now running its first clinical trial of nine patients, run by experienced oncologists. It is drawing in researchers from universities across North America, including MD Anderson, the University of Chicago and Princess Margaret Hospital.</p> <p>Read the full article here</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p>

Time allotted | 15 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>Want to Connect with your Ecosystem: Check out the Synapse Health Ecosystem Directory</p> <p>Synapse has created a Director of +200 private- and public-sector organizations in the Hamilton (and regional) health innovation ecosystem which work alongside the Synapse Consortium to support of the commercialization of health innovation. Learn more about what others are up to, and identify potential collaborative partners at: www.synapseconsortium.com/directory</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p> 
<p><u>Engaging Mohawk College's IDEAWORKS</u></p> <p>IDEAWORKS projects in general (of which, MEDIC is one area) which was provided and may help with identifying if Mohawk College can support our companies with projects. This might be a refresher for some or all of us, but highlighting nonetheless:</p> <p>Tips for Innovation Factory Referrals to IDEAWORKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our four innovation centres (MEDIC for Digital Health, AMIC for 3D printing, EPIC for energy efficiency related projects and MTIC for Medical Technologies related challenges) are active during this time- but note that due to existing commitments, are often looking at projects one month to three months in the future. • Other areas of expertise are on a case by case basis, especially this year, with a number of our faculty committed to teaching and revamping courses • The ideal applied research partner is one that is in the scaling stage; they have some revenue and can meet a lot of the funding agencies criteria for funding or want to self-fund a research project. Typically what we look for is 2+2; two years in business with two employees • We recommend working with us on projects that aren't mission critical but can help the company explore an innovative idea. <p>What about start-ups?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If they require a few tips or advice, we can normally chat with them (or if there is a critical mass -like five or six companies in a space-, we can do a webinar type discussion). • They can see about the availability of capstone projects, where students generally work on projects for a four month period, for free, in order to get course credit. It may help with MVPs. <p>Contact Andrea Johnson for more information: andrea.johnson4@mohawkcollege.ca</p>	<p>Andrea Johnson (Mohawk College)</p>
<p>The CONNECTION - McMaster University Online Partnerships Portal!</p> <p>The Connection is a new program offered by McMaster's Office of Community Engagement (OCE) designed to facilitate online, mutually beneficial partnerships between campus and local Hamilton community organizations. As communities look for ways to adapt and rebuild in response to COVID-19 The Connection will make the process of addressing Hamilton community and University identified needs easier by providing online tools and resources. It's a way for everyone who sees themselves as part of a collective community-campus effort to connect and respond to COVID-19 locally</p>	<p>Gay Yuyitung (MILO)</p>

Discussion	Presenter
<p>Collaborating with McMaster Institute for Infectious Disease Research (New Intake Form)</p> <p>In addition to our ongoing COVID-19 research initiatives at McMaster, the Michael G. DeGroot Institute for Infectious Disease Research is mobilizing its strong research community to assist Canadian researchers and businesses in their attempts to find solutions to the international crisis. The IIDR teams have the capacity to assist with the testing of anti-viral compounds and products, as well as the testing of products or devices aimed at sterilization. This includes new methods for sterilizing personal protective equipment. They are able to offer services in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BSL2 cell culture infection with representative human coronaviruses; • Testing of methods or products that are designed to inactivate the virus; • Biochemical/enzyme studies with anti-viral agents. <p>Cell culture and small animal models of SARS-CoV-2 infection can be performed in McMaster’s secure biosafety level 3 facility. Availability for BSL3 testing is very limited, and projects requiring this type of work will be screened and prioritized by an internal committee.</p> <p>If you have a product or innovation that you are interested in pursuing further and feel that we could be of assistance to you, please reach out to us through the online form. Each project will be evaluated to determine if McMaster has the capabilities and capacity to perform the required testing.</p>	<p>Gay Yuyitung (MILO)</p>
<p>Hamilton-based technologies available for licensing</p> <p>Each year researchers at McMaster, Hamilton Health Sciences, and St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton make new discoveries that lead to new products, services, or process improvements to help companies expand their pipeline or increase their productivity. The business development team at MILO is here to help you tap into and access these discoveries as efficiently as possible. MILO’s objective is to support effective transfer of these technologies to companies for social and economic benefit and enable the continued growth of research excellence at the institutions.</p> <p>Please contact Glen Crossley, Associate Director, Business Development and IP or search the list to see some of the technologies currently available for licensing or further R&D</p>	<p>Glen Crossley (MILO)</p>
<p>Hamilton Innovation Partnership Portal</p> <p>Synapse has created the Hamilton Innovation Partnership Portal (HIPP) to make the process simpler and more streamlined to find new partners within Canada’s leading health research and educational ecosystem. 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 for companies to direct request to the portal. Portal is online through the Synapse website: http://synapseconsortium.com/partner/</p>	<p>Alex Muggah (Synapse)</p> 
<p>Submit Community Events on the Innovation Factory Calendar</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>	<p>Annie Horton (Innovation Factory)</p>