



**RNA Canada ARN**  
2024  
THE FUTURE OF RNA TECHNOLOGY  
L'AVENIR DES TECHNOLOGIES ARN

An event organized by RiboClub,  
RiboWest and TREN D.  
Celebrating 25 years of support  
for RNA research networks in  
Canada and the inauguration of  
RNA Canada ARN.

**SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 4  
2024**

**PRELIMINARY  
PROGRAM**



For details and registration visit  
[www.RiboClub.org](http://www.RiboClub.org)

**Featuring over 50 invited speakers**

**Including:**

- **Victor Ambros**, Gairdner Awardee
- **Kristian Baker**, CEO of RNA Society
- **Tom Cech**, Nobel Laureate
- **Pieter Cullis**, Gairdner Awardee
- **Adrian Krainer**, Breakthrough Prize Awardee
- **Jeannie Lee**, Lurie Prize Awardee
- **Lynne Maquat**, Gairdner Awardee
- **Derek Rossi**, co-founder of Moderna
- **Geraldine Seydoux**, Gruber Prize Awardee
- **Phillip Sharp**, Nobel Laureate
- **Nahum Sonenberg**, Gairdner Awardee
- **Jack Szostak**, Nobel Laureate

**Public Sessions and Events**

**Monday, September 30th**

<b>Activities for National Day of Truth and Reconciliation</b>	<b>2:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Dinner and note by Representative of the Government of Canada (TBC)</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Opening Keynote: "RNA Research: A Journey Through Time"</b>	<b>6:50 p.m.</b>
<b>Roundtable: Revolutionizing RNA research: How Industry and RNA biologists can team up to meet changing needs</b>	<b>7:40 p.m.</b>
With members of industry, government organizations and researchers	

**Tuesday, October 1st**

<b>Presentations and Panel Discussion: The Promises and Challenges of RNA-based Medicine</b>	<b>8:40 a.m.</b>
Featuring inventors of RNA-based drugs and vaccine technologies	
<b>Roundtable: Stories From the Clinic</b>	<b>7:30 p.m.</b>
Featuring perspectives from clinicians, patients, and charities	

**Wednesday, October 2nd  
(Networking & Outreach Activities)**

<b>Presentation by the Chair of RNA Canada ARN Board of Directors</b>	<b>3:30 p.m.</b>
"RNA Canada ARN: Connecting Researchers and Accelerating Progress"	
<b>Public presentations and question period</b>	<b>3:45 p.m.</b>
Featuring strategic partners of RNA Canada ARN	
<b>Keynote: "The potential and challenges of RNA innovations"</b>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Special seminar: "The history of Canadian RNA research"</b>	<b>5:15 p.m.</b>
<b>Reception and cocktails</b>	<b>5:45 p.m.</b>

**Thursday, October 3rd**

<b>Keynote: "The RNA world: unexpected discoveries and applications"</b>	<b>10:35 a.m.</b>
<b>Roundtable: Barriers and Challenges for Non-medical Applications of RNA Technologies</b>	<b>11:30 a.m.</b>
Featuring members interested in agriculture, forestry, and other applications	
<b>Industry Gala Dinner at Museum of Civilisation</b>	<b>8:00 p.m.</b>
Featuring gala keynote and short presentation by Representative of Government of Canada (TBC)	

# Additional Panels, Roundtable Discussions and Trainee Events

# Scientific Concurrent Sessions

Tuesday, October 1st

**Concurrent networking and discussion lunches including:** 12:45 p.m.

- **Career planning and employer - employee matching lunch**
- **Partners presentation Lunch**
- **RNA Research Funding: Empowering Future Discoveries**

Discussion with heads of funding agencies

Wednesday, October 2nd

**Stakeholders networking lunch** 12:45 p.m.

Thursday, October 3rd

**Concurrent Roundtables including:** 4:40 p.m.

- **The new frontiers of investments in RNA biology, opportunities, and challenges**  
Featuring venture capitalists, and representatives from industry and government agencies
- **Training and job opportunities in the new era of RNA biology**  
Moderated by a student, featuring potential employers and human resource experts

Friday, October 4th

**Concluding remarks** 10:35 a.m.

Chair of RNA Canada ARN Board of Directors, editors of the RNA Journal, platinum partners, and leading RNA researchers



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- RNA enzymes: A new frontier of biotechnology
- Monitoring RNA in motion
- RNA processing and maturation
- Understanding RNA viruses
- RNA: a new frontier for agriculture and forestry
- Small regulatory RNA
- Computational Biology and AI: Transforming data into insights, targets and mechanisms
- RNA sensors, aptamers and bioengineering
- New and untapped fields for application of RNA biology
- Viral manipulation of host RNA processes
- RNA-based disease mechanisms of action
- RNA modifications
- Ribosomes: the ultimate drug targets
- Regulation of RNA stability and decay
- RNA binding proteins
- Splicing and Disease
- Translational Control
- Molecular Structures of RNA and RNA-interacting proteins
- Ribonucleoprotein granules and spatial control of RNA regulation
- Bacterial RNA and the new generation of antibiotics
- Non-coding RNAs as markers and targets



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