

Montréal Cell Therapy Symposium

From Bench to Bedside: Industrializing Cell Therapy in Quebec and Canada

Thursday, October 29, 2026

Mila – Quebec Artificial Intelligence Institution
6666 Saint-Urbain Street, #200, Montréal, QC H2S 3H1, Canada

SONY

Organized in collaboration with		With the participation of		Register Now
   		       		
09:00	Registration, coffee and networking			SONY
09:25	Welcome and opening remarks			
09:30–10:25	Session 1 · Building the Foundations: Manufacturing Infrastructure and Investment Readiness			
09:30–09:40	Building a National Ecosystem and Strategy for Canada's Biodefense, Resilience, and Health Security Patrycja Thompson <i>Director of Strategy & Operations, The Canadian Hub for Health Intelligence & Innovation in Infectious Diseases (HI3), University of Toronto</i>			
09:40–10:00	Built from Scratch, Designed to Scale: Academic Point-of-Care Manufacturing of Novel TIL Products Simon Turcotte <i>Surgical Oncologist and Scientist, Centre hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal (CHUM) Cell Therapy Clinical Research Lead, Unit for Innovative Therapies, CHUM Research Centre Medical director, Unit for Cell Production, CHUM</i>			
10:00–10:20	Vision for the Future: Mapping Emerging Areas and Themes for Company Creation and Early Investment Juliana Muñoz <i>Associate, Amplitude Ventures</i>			
10:25	Coffee and networking break			cytiva
10:45	Sponsor presentation · Cytiva			
10:50–12:20	Session 2 · Advancing Cell Therapies			
10:50–11:10	Advancing Islet Cell Therapy: Development, Manufacturing and Translation Corinne Hoesli <i>Associate Professor, McGill University Canada Research Chair in Bioprocess Engineering for Cell Therapy</i>			
	Steven Paraskevas <i>Transplant Surgeon, MUHC Director, MUHC Human Islet Transplant Laboratory; Senior Scientist, RI-MUHC, McGill University</i>			
11:10–11:30	From Assay to Outcome: Why Product Understanding Decides Clinical Success in Cell Therapy Arnaud Deladeriere <i>President and Principal Consultant, Cell & Gene Consulting Inc.</i>			
11:30–11:50	Mesenchymal Stromal Cells: Bridging Biology and Clinical Translation Inés Colmegna <i>Associate Professor, Rheumatology, Department of Medicine, McGill University Research Institute of the MUHC</i>			
11:50–12:10	Invited talk · Robots Dance. Cars Fly Themselves. Why Can't Your Lab Think? Alexandre Le Bouthillier <i>CEO, Linearis</i>			
12:20	Lunch and sponsor presentations			BioLegend From Revvity
13:10	Sponsor presentation · BioLegend from Revvity			
13:15–14:30	Session 3 · From Scientific Discovery to an Investable Company			
13:15–13:35	It Takes More Than Great Science: Building Morphocell from Bench to Bedside Massimiliano Paganelli <i>Co-founder and CEO, Morphocell Technologies</i>			
13:35–13:45	Is Talent Part of the Investment Equation? Domhnall McGowan <i>Chief Training Officer, CATTI</i>			
13:45–14:25	Panel discussion · From Scientific Discovery to an Investable Cell Therapy Company Moderator: Domhnall McGowan <i>Chief Training Officer, CATTI</i>			
	Panelists: Massimiliano Paganelli <i>Co-founder and CEO, Morphocell Technologies</i> Mathieu Paquette <i>Senior Director, Partnerships and Innovation Policy, CQDM</i> Wendy Hauck <i>Technology Transfer Manager, Office of Innovation and Partnerships, McGill University</i>			
				
14:30	Coffee and networking break			C3i
14:55	Sponsor presentation · C3i			
15:00–16:25	Session 4 · Closing the Loop: From Bench to Bedside—and Back to the Bench			
15:00–15:20	Manufacturing Cell Therapies in Academia: An Innovative Path Toward Sustainable Therapies for Rare Indications and Diseases Jean-Sébastien Delisle <i>Scientific Director, Research Centre of Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont Université de Montréal</i>			
15:20–15:40	Beyond the Closed Process: How GMP Shapes Cell Therapy Manufacturing Richard Vaillancourt <i>Director, Quality Assurance, C3i</i>			
15:40–16:00	Beyond Clinical Outcomes: Understanding Your Clinical Trial Through Comprehensive Immune Monitoring Réjean Lapointe <i>Professor, Université de Montréal Researcher, Cancer Research Axis, CHUM Research Centre</i>			
16:00–16:20	Closing remarks Denis-Claude Roy <i>Director, Hematology-Oncology and Cell Therapy University Institute, and CellCAN Network</i>			
16:25	Thanks and continued networking			