

Re

CANADA'S CENTRE FOR PANDEMIC RESEARCH



As part of the University of Saskatchewan, our expertise, infrastructure, and history put us at the forefront of innovation and make us a valuable resource and source of pride for Canada. For over 45 years, we have developed solutions to emerging threats and, using this expertise, played a key role in Canada's response to the COVID-19 pandemic...

...and will continue to do so as Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research.

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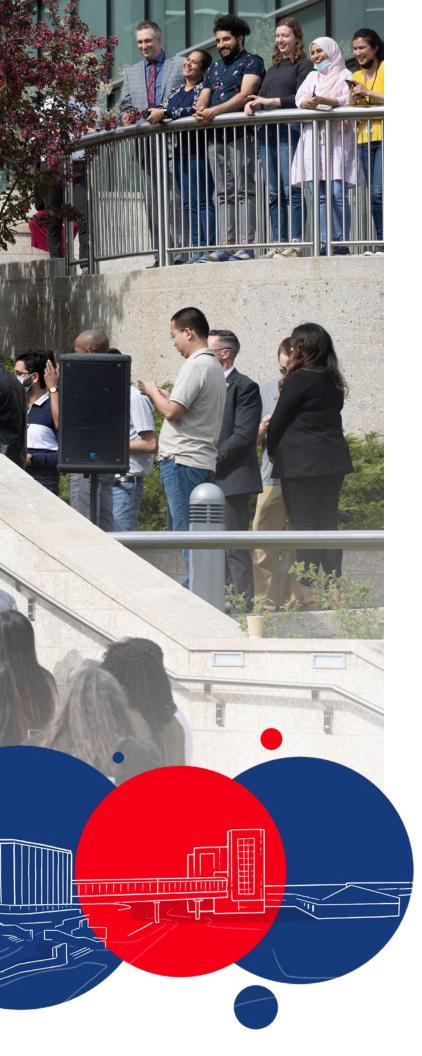


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"When the pandemic hit and everyone needed to hunker down, you sprung into action, you put aside your research projects and your longstanding responsibilities and focused on COVID-19 in extraordinary ways... These are beautiful buildings and beautiful institutions, but again they don't mean anything if it is not for the extraordinary people."

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE JUSTIN TRUDEAU, VISIT TO VIDO MAY 26, 2022



Vision

Healthy people, healthy animals

Mission

To protect the world from infectious diseases

Values

01 Excellence

We bring relentless passion for progress and meaningful impact every day, as we strive to be known as global thought leaders and innovators.

02 Commitment

We are purpose driven, committed to being the best we can be, constantly working to improve ourselves, to cultivate our knowledge and attitudes and to achieve positive change.

03 Respect

We strive for inclusivity and exhibit deferential regard for all manners of diversity and value the talents and beliefs of our clients, partners, and colleagues.

04 Team

We understand that success lies in our ability to trust each other, behaving with integrity through constructive collaboration, we support one other in the achievement of a common vision.

05 Accountability

We proactively focus on solutions and results by engaging others in decisions and plans that involve them, and collectively commit to those decisions.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



VIDO boasts world-class facilities, but it is our team that drives our success.

One of the things I enjoy most about my role at VIDO is spending time with the people. I am always struck by their passion and commitment to VIDO's vision.

To operate a world-class organization, you need a passionate team. I commend the director, Dr. Volker Gerdts, and his team at VIDO for rising to the challenges of the past few years.

That passion and commitment to VIDO's vision also extend to our board. When we are faced with challenges, we leverage our diverse knowledge base and willingness to solve any problem. I want to thank the board for their many contributions to VIDO's success.

This organization has been

developing vaccines for more than 45 years and has made a huge impact on protecting human and animal health. The pandemic has brought greater awareness to the organization, and members of our community—the "Friends of VIDO"—are stepping forward to support our vision for the future.

We also recognize and appreciate the financial contributions from all levels of government and from our individual and corporate donors all helping make preparedness for the next pandemic possible.

This goes beyond preparedness for emerging and re-emerging human diseases, but also includes those affecting animals. Emerging animal diseases pose a very real threat to our economy, food security, and human health.

This includes the growing threat of foreign animal diseases

(important, transmissible diseases believed to be absent from Canada) such as African swine fever, which resulted in the death of hundreds of millions of pigs in affected countries. Although it has not yet been detected in Canada, it poses a significant risk to Canada's pork industry. VIDO is the first non-government organization with approval to conduct research with African swine fever in Canada.

VIDO is evolving to fill a larger role. On behalf of VIDO's board we look forward to helping VIDO expand on its success for the benefit of everyone in Saskatchewan and in Canada.

Ryan Thompson Chair, Board of Directors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



(LEFT TO RIGHT)

Volker Gerdts – Canada (SK) Preston Smith – Canada (SK) Amy Cronin – Canada (ON) Jeremy Gowler – Switzerland Rory McAlpine – Canada (ON) Ryan Thompson – Canada (SK) Danya Kordan – Canada (SK) Tippi Mak – Singapore Gerald Parker – USA

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR AND CEO



After two years of isolation, overflowing hospitals and closed schools, Canadians are looking forward to normalcy in their lives. For many of us, the pandemic has changed our lives like nothing we have ever experienced before. Thanks to the rapid development of vaccines and therapeutics, millions of lives were saved. However, it has also become clear that neither Canada nor the world were sufficiently prepared for a global pandemic.

Like many other countries, Canada has not only lacked critical research and manufacturing capacity, but also skilled workers who operate these facilities and manufacture urgently needed vaccines and therapeutics. In a race to defuse an emerging threat, relying on outside sources for research, testing, and manufacturing takes time and money, and ultimately risks lives. By becoming Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research VIDO is putting the necessary infrastructure and expertise in place to rapidly respond to any new infectious disease—human or animal.

This includes construction of our

Vaccine Development Centre, an in-house vaccine manufacturing facility for human and animal vaccines. The facility makes VIDO one of only a few organizations in the world that can perform critical discovery research, and then take those discoveries into manufacturing.

Secondly, VIDO is upgrading areas of our containment to the highest level, which will significantly increase Canada's level 4 research capacity and enable us to work with any pathogen. As Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research, we will be able to respond swiftly to any new disease.

Thirdly, we are constructing a new animal facility for exotic species from which new diseases often emerge. This allows us to begin the critical work immediately, as time is of the essence when responding to new disease threats.

VIDO is capitalizing on this unique infrastructure by attracting some of the best researchers in the world. We will double the number of scientists working at VIDO within the next 10 years. These experts will be focused on developing technology platforms, essentially "plug-andplay" components that are ready to go and can be customized to expedite vaccine development. The new goal, set by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovation (CEPI) and the G7 countries, is a 100-day vaccine development response to any new disease. This will only be possible through use of platform technologies. We are proud to partner with CEPI on the development of a platform for broadly protective vaccines for COVID and other coronavirus diseases.

COVID is only one example of an important disease. Many others are threatening our health, our economy, and our global food security. With support from the Government of Canada, the Government of Saskatchewan, the City of Saskatoon, and private and corporate sponsors, VIDO is putting the experts and infrastructure in place to mitigate the impact of these diseases.

The COVID-19 pandemic allowed us to show Canadians why VIDO is here and what we can do. We have demonstrated how Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research can directly impact the lives of Canadians and our animals. The world needs VIDO now more than ever.

Volker Gerdts
Director and CEO



Cam Ewart Director of Operations and Maintenance

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Volker Gerdts Director and CEO



Jordan Hamel Director of Human Resources



Paul Hodgson Director of Business Development



Trina Racine Director of Vaccine Development



Lorne Vanin Director of Finance



Andrew Van Kessel Director of Research

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS

VIDO's focus on infectious diseases of humans and animals has made us leaders in "One Health"—an approach that recognizes that the health of humans and animals are interconnected through a shared environment. Specifically, it is in this interface between humans and animals (termed zoonotic transmission) where many diseases emerge or re-emerge. COVID-19 is believed to be a zoonotic disease.

As the COVID-19 pandemic has emphasized, containment infrastructure, world leading scientific expertise, and cutting-edge research and technology development are necessary to best respond to new infectious diseases. To help ensure VIDO remains on the cutting edge of science we engage with external experts from the private and public sectors to review our research program and priorities.

A key aspect of our research will be establishing vaccine platforms to drive a rapid response to new and re-emerging pathogens and facilitate product development. We will continue to recruit a multidisciplinary scientific team to advance new discoveries and drive product development. Over the past two years, we have hired seven new scientists, 14 post doctoral fellows and 29 graduate students our new scientists are featured on the following pages.

We have highlighted some of our key research projects. Detailed descriptions of our ongoing research and its impact can be found at **vido.org/research**.

COVID-19

VIDO scientists continue to research remaining unknowns about COVID-19 including the level of protection from previous infection and/or immunization, possible longterm health implications (Long COVID) and opportunities to develop better vaccines and therapeutics.

The following are updates on the progress of our COVID-19 vaccine research and development.

"VIDO will be the place to study not just COVID-19 but any disease that may show up. By investing in vaccines for future threats, we can hopefully shorten the time between conceptualizing a vaccine, manufacturing it and then getting it into the arms of the people who need it."

- DR. ARINJAY BANERJEE

Dr. Arinjay Banerjee investigates emerging bat-borne zoonotic viruses including coronaviruses. His research focuses on understanding how our immune system responds to viral infections and the development of vaccines and therapeutics that will protect our health.

Advancing COVAC-2

We are advancing subunit vaccine candidates for COVID-19. Subunit vaccines contain purified viral proteins (an antigen) that are not infectious, and often also contain an adjuvant. An adjuvant is a compound that is added to a vaccine to help the vaccine produce a better immune response.

COVAC-2 (coronavirus vaccine-2) is one of our two candidate vaccines developed by a team led by Dr. Darryl Falzarano. The vaccine is formulated with Sepivac SWE[™], an adjuvant developed by Seppic (a company of Air Liquide group) and the Vaccine Formulation Institute (VFI).

The Phase I clinical trials of COVAC-2 conducted

in Saskatoon and Halifax is complete and the data indicates the vaccine generated a safe and robust immune response. The Phase II clinical trial is ongoing in Uganda.

COVAC-2 is also being tested in Canada as a "booster" vaccine with participants who received at least two doses of an authorized COVID-19 vaccine six months earlier. Boosting with a different vaccine can increase the immune responses and could enhance protection against variants of concern.

VIDO's COVID-19 vaccine development is supported by the Government of Canada and the Government of Saskatchewan.

COVID-19

Long COVID

Not everyone who has COVID-19 recovers quickly. People who experience continuing or new symptoms after initial COVID-19 such as fatigue, difficulty breathing, joint pain, and memory issues are recognized as having 'Long COVID'.

A team led by Dr. Alyson Kelvin, including collaborators from USask, Lung Saskatchewan, and the Saskatchewan Health Authority, launched several studies, including an app, to better understand Long COVID in Saskatchewan.

The Long COVID app study collects data on the impact of COVID-19 in Saskatchewan to help guide the establishment of provincial health care support and treatments. Currently more than 800 people have responded—with over 400 people interested in follow up studies including focus groups and an immune dysregulation study.

Initial responses from the app reveal that Long COVID is a significant issue for people in Saskatchewan. Importantly, the responses indicated it was not just older individuals or people who had severe COVID-19 suffering from Long COVID. The team found younger adults of working age, people with small "I came to VIDO as a visiting scientist but immediately knew that the solutions to the COVID-19 pandemic could be developed here in Saskatchewan."

- DR. ALYSON KELVIN

Dr. Alyson Kelvin is a virologist and vaccinologist specializing in emerging respiratory diseases including COVID-19 and influenza. She investigates our immune response following viral infection to develop the next generation of vaccines—this includes the development of broadly protective coronavirus vaccines.

children, and those who had mild COVID-19 were also experiencing significant symptoms.

Additionally, preliminary findings from the immune dysregulation study show that people experiencing Long COVID have raised levels of inflammation with decreased levels of virus neutralizing antibodies. Dr. Kelvin's team is recruiting more volunteers to confirm these results—visit www.sasklongcovid.com for more information.

"VIDO is going to be playing a very important role at the forefront of Canadian research and innovation. It is an organization that I can grow with, and also contribute a lot of good."

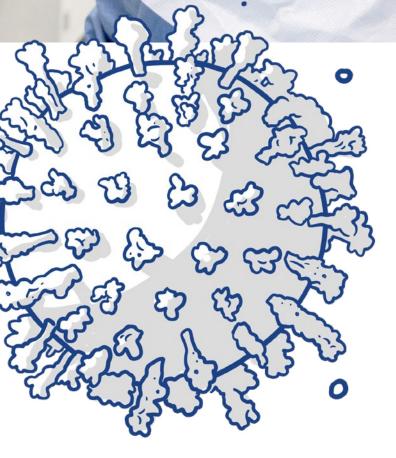
- DR. ANGELA RASMUSSEN

Dr. Angela Rasmussen studies the response to viral infection, and how this response contributes to disease or protection in the host. Her research targets emerging viruses that are or have the potential to be major threats to global health, such as avian influenza, dengue virus, and SARS-CoV-2.

Broadly protective coronavirus vaccines

VIDO received the first ever award to a Canadian university from the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI). The ~CAN\$6 million grant is part of CEPI's \$200-million program to advance the development of vaccines that provide broad protection against COVID-19 variants and other coronaviruses.

The funding is being used to establish proof of concept for new vaccines that are broadly protective against COVID-19 variants and are suitable for use in low- and middle-income countries. We are taking a multi-valent approach, meaning this protein-subunit vaccine includes different parts of various SARS-CoV-2 variants. To help in the vaccine formulation we partnered with the Vaccine Formulation Institute.





African swine fever (ASF) is a viral disease of pigs that causes nearly 100% mortality. ASF is endemic in Africa and is spreading through parts of Asia and Europe. It has also recently been found in the Dominican Republic and Haiti, the first appearance in North America in nearly 40 years.

Canada is the third-largest pork exporting country—in 2021 1.4 million tonnes of pork, valued at \$4.9 billion, was exported to 93 countries. ASF is a significant threat to Canada's pork industry.

A team led by Dr. Suresh Tikoo, is developing a viral vectored vaccine that delivers a non-infectious part of the ASF virus' genetic material to pigs. Several antigens have been evaluated in our viral vectored vaccine platform with collaborators at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Winnipeg. The team continues to advance and refine this vaccine strategy and will test additional candidates in our containment level 3 agriculture facility. As a two-pronged approach, the team is identifying and screening antiviral compounds that could be administered to pigs to prevent viral replication and stop the spread of the virus. Along with vaccines, this important research could help prevent animal depopulation and the catastrophic economic losses associated with an ASF outbreak.

To support the vaccine development research, Dr. Tikoo's team is also establishing a continuous porcine cell line to grow the virus. Establishing this cell line is a key milestone in the development of an ASF vaccine. This research is bolstered by grants from the Saskatchewan Agriculture Development Fund, Alberta Innovates, and Swine Innovation Porc.



Contagious Bovine Pleuropneumonia (CBPP), also referred to as 'lung plague' is a highly contagious disease of cattle with a mortality rate of up to 50%. CBPP causes significant economic losses particularly impactful to smallholder farmers in sub-Saharan Africa. It is classified as a foreign animal disease in the US and a reportable disease in Canada.

Control of this disease relies on a live attenuated vaccine that has several challenges. To help develop a better vaccine VIDO partnered with the International Livestock Research Institute and the Kenyan Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization. The project is funded by the International Development Research Centre.

Dr. Jose Perez-Casal and his team used reverse vaccinology to develop a subunit vaccine to help

prevent against CBPP. This vaccine demonstrated efficacy in preliminary cattle trials and is currently in additional field trials to support the vaccine's development.

VIDO is also working on process development to help in manufacturing scale-up with a goal to transfer the process to our partners in Africa to ensure local area production. "VIDO has one of the world's largest containment facilities, both in terms of infrastructure and the support for carrying out research. I was inspired by the vision for the future."

- DR. NEERAJ DHAR

Dr. Neeraj Dhar's research focuses on Mycobacterium tuberculosis, the bacteria that causes tuberculosis (TB). He is aiming to develop new treatments by studying how the bacterium interacts with our immune system and establishes disease.

"I was drawn to the vision and mission of VIDO. I appreciate the collaborative approach to science and the emphasis placed on teamwork to create vaccines and therapeutics."

- DR. JENNY WACHTER

Dr. Jenny Wachter is a molecular microbiologist that studies bacterial pathogenesis as it relates to human, animal, and vector-borne diseases. Her work focuses on Borrelia burgdorferi the causative agent of Lyme disease and Neisseria gonorrhoeae the causative agent of gonorrhea.



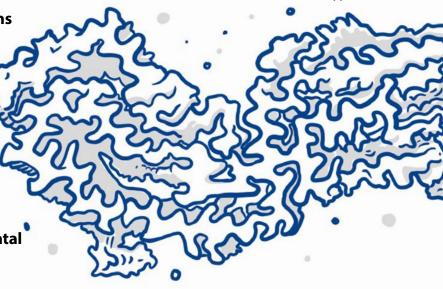


Prion Research

Diseases caused by misfolded proteins or prions include "Mad Cow Disease" and chronic wasting disease (CWD). Now, prions are also believed to be responsible for human neurodegenerative diseases—Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's Disease) and Huntington's. These 'prion' diseases occur when self proteins go rogue, creating conditions that are always fatal and, as yet, untreatable.

A team led by Dr. Scott Napper has new support to research whether we can develop vaccines for human and animal prion diseases.

CWD poses a significant risk to wild populations in four provinces and 28 states. The Alberta Conservation Association, in partnership with Alberta Environment and Parks and Saskatchewan's Ministry of Environment, has funded research on oral CWD vaccines that can be released in affected habitats. A team of scientists at four western Canadian universities (and also including Dr. Philip Griebel, and Dr. Scott Napper (Scientist)



Dr. Suresh Tikoo from VIDO) will work collaboratively with wildlife groups to develop and deliver an effective real-world solution.

For human neurodegenerative diseases, The Weston Family Foundation, through the Weston Brain Institute, supported Dr. Napper and three research colleagues at other Canadian universities to develop a human vaccine for prion diseases. Building on previous developments, the scientists will generate antibodies that attach to misfolded proteins and prevent disease development.

Respiratory Syncytial Virus and Human Parainfluenza Virus

Cole Fialkowski (BioProcessing Specialist

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and human parainfluenza virus 3 (hPIV3) are significant causes of respiratory infections in young children and older adults.

RSV is the leading cause of bronchiolitis and viral pneumonia in children, with up to 2% of infected children being hospitalized in their first year of life. In the United States, RSV may account for as much as 130,000 hospitalizations and 10,000 deaths annually among individuals above the age of 65 years.

Like RSV, hPIV3 infections occur early in life. Nearly half of one-year-old children and almost all six-yearold children in the USA have been infected with hPIV3. Vaccines against RSV and human parainfluenza viruses are not available but are needed. A team led by Dr. Sylvia van den Hurk is developing a bivalent RSV and hPIV3 subunit vaccine to protect against these common respiratory infections. Preclinical trials in multiple animal models demonstrated the vaccine induces a strong immune response and is protective against infection.

The team is currently working on optimizing the production of the vaccine antigen so it can be ready for production in our Vaccine Development Centre and used in human clinical trials.

"VIDO has world-class research facilities, and I felt I could contribute to the One Health approach by applying my expertise in vaccine formulation and development."

- DR. ANEESH THAKUR

Dr. Aneesh Thakur is an expert in mucosal immunology and the use of adjuvants and nanoparticles for the delivery of protein and RNA vaccines. His lab leverages tools in immunology and formulation technology to understand, prevent, and treat infectious diseases of humans and animals.

"VIDO has a strong reputation in veterinary research and vaccine development. It has a fantastic animal care facility that allows us to develop and assess new treatments for cattle, and for other economically important animals."

₿VIDO

- DR. ANTONIO FACCIUOLO

Dr. Antonio Facciuolo's studies infectious diseases of beef and dairy cattle, with a specific interest in Johne's disease. He is investigating how bacteria interacts and causes disease in the intestinal immune system of cattle to develop vaccines and therapeutics that improve herd health.

FACILITY HIGHLIGHTS

Vaccine Development Centre

VIDO is home to some of the most advanced containment infrastructure in the world, including our recently completed Vaccine Development Centre (VDC). The VDC is a containment level 3 capable vaccine manufacturing facility that was built to good manufacturing practice (GMP) quality standards. GMP standards help ensure vaccines are manufactured safely.

The VDC will play a key role in enabling Canada's Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy, which aims to re-build Canada's vaccine, therapeutics, and biomanufacturing capacity. Our GMP facility has a flexible design and can produce several vaccine platforms (e.g., inactivated, live-attenuated, viral-vectored, subunit, and DNA/ RNA-based vaccines) for human clinical trials and commercial-scale veterinary vaccines. It will also support Canada's emergency response for future pandemics.

With the addition of the VDC, VIDO can support the full continuum of vaccine development, from discovery research to manufacturing. New vaccines can be tested for effectiveness in our containment facilities while undergoing process development for manufacturing. This will speed up vaccine development and enable a rapid response to emerging infectious diseases.

Construction Completion Celebration

In May, the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, prime minister of Canada, was the first dignitary to tour the VDC. This was followed by a formal end of construction celebration on June 28, 2022 attended by the Honourable Daniel Vandal, minister for Prairies Economic Development Canada; the Honourable Scott Moe, premier of Saskatchewan; and his worship Charlie Clark, mayor of Saskatoon.









CANADA'S CENTRE FOR PANDEMIC RESEARCH

We are enhancing our capability and capacity as Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research. The completion of the VDC was our first key step to strengthen Canada's preparedness for emerging infectious diseases.

The capacity, outlined in this graphic, will allow us to research all pathogens and rapidly develop vaccines and therapeutics to help control new and re-emerging infectious diseases.

Containment Level 4

This is the highest level of containment. The upgrade will allow VIDO to study any highrisk pathogen and significantly increase containment level 4 research space in Canada.

Animal Housing

A new containment level 2 animal facility will allow housing for a wider range of species including bats and insects species that can be the source of new outbreaks. ev

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Vaccine Development Centre

Containment level 3 capable GMP vaccine manufacturing facility to produce vaccines for human clinical trials and commercial-scale veterinary vaccines.

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Community Engagement and Outreach

As part of the process in becoming Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research, we consulted with our community on the merits of this evolution, the key benefits to society, and how perceived risks will be managed.

This outreach was achieved through a mix of media engagement, sessions with local groups, and an open house session hosted by VIDO's Community Liaison Committee. Online platforms were also used to provided citizens and the general business community with access to information and a forum to raise questions and concerns.

We received meaningful engagements during the process including questions of interest, clarification, and education/ learning.

\$

Replicating VIDO's infrastructure today would cost approximately \$400 million.



Growing our team

Expanding our expertise and providing training opportunities to develop the next generation of scientists, laboratory and animal care technicians.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

VIDO's world class facilities, scientific expertise, and role in vaccine development have received worldwide recognition—none of which would be possible without the longterm support from our stakeholders.

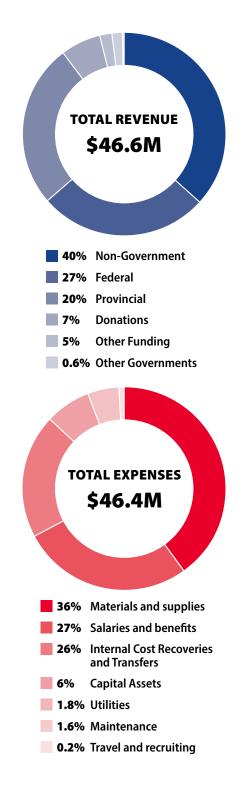
These stakeholders include governments, the livestock industry, foundations, human and animal health companies, and private and corporate donors. We are proud to highlight our philanthropic "Friends of VIDO" donors on pages 21-22 and our other contributors on the back cover.

VIDO's revenue has increased by 235% over the past two years. This includes support toward becoming Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research, increased contract research, and successful research grant applications. Notably, VIDO received ~\$6M from the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), a global alliance that finances and coordinates the development of new vaccines to prevent and contain infectious disease epidemics. This was CEPI's first award to a Canadian university.

Although not recognized during this reporting period, we were recently awarded \$53.9 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) Major Science Initiatives (MSI) Fund. The MSI Fund provides support for the ongoing operating and maintenance needs of research facilities of national importance. This award expands on our first CFI-MSI funding and provides operational support for the entire organization.

Throughout the year we continued to invest in the strategic infrastructure upgrades associated with becoming Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research, including our Vaccine Development Centre. As a result, our expenses increased by 34% over the previous year.

We would like to thank our contributors and Friends of VIDO for investing in our mission of protecting the world from infectious diseases.





FRIENDS OF VIDO

Since the launch of our Friends of VIDO campaign in 2020, we have received significant support from members of our community that believe in our efforts to stop emerging infectious diseases and future pandemics.

This support includes donations towards facility enhancements, new equipment, scientific training, and the establishment of research chairs and fellowship opportunities that will attract the best scientists to VIDO.

Thank you for your generous contributions.

Donor roll

Gifts of \$1,000,000+

- Gordon and Jill Rawlinson
- Joseph Alfred Remai Family Foundation Inc.
- Malcolm and Marilyn Leggett
- Ron and Jane Graham
- The Paul Albrechtsen Foundation

Gifts of \$500,000 to \$999,999

Midori Brown*

Gifts of \$100,000 to \$499,999

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- Saskatchewan Blue Cross
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- Wheaton Family Foundation

Gifts of \$25,000 to \$99,999

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- James Estey
- Kenneth and Shelby Love
- Loraas
- Melissa and Frank Hayes
- North Prairie Developments & Canwest Commercial & Land Corp.
- Sun Life Assurance Company
- The Wyant Family
- Wally and Colleen Mah

Gifts of \$5,000 to \$24,999

- Andrew Dunn
- Cindy and Neil Cameron
- ClearTech
- Don and Marjorie Lenz
- Health Foundation-Lloydminster Region
- Lyle and Linda Garratt
- Safari Club International Sask Rivers Chapter
- Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities
- The Health Foundation of East Central Saskatchewan
- The Hodgson family
- Thermo Fisher Scientific
- Tom and Diane McClocklin
- Five anonymous donors

Gifts up to \$4,999

- Adrian DeCorby
- Amy Miller
- Andrew MacKinnon
- Andriy Nahachewsky
- Anna Alderson
- Anurag Das
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- Terrence McBride
- Thomas Morris
- Velda Beaman
- Wendy Eyolfson
- Yvonne Green
- Yvonne Thome
- 21 anonymous donors

Donor roll to date as of November 1, 2022.

Those who have passed away are gratefully acknowledged and marked with an *.

Become a Friend of VIDO.

Please visit www.vido.org/friendsofVIDO to give a charitable donation!

2021-22 COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE REPORT

The Community Liaison Committee (CLC) is an example of best practices for containment facilities worldwide. Comprised of community leaders, the committee's role is to provide information to the public regarding safety and security at VIDO's International Vaccine Centre (InterVac). The committee helps create and maintain an atmosphere of trust, confidence, and transparency with the public.

The CLC was created by the University of Saskatchewan to serve as an independent organization working to ensure full and open communication on safety issues related to InterVac.

The committee held its first in-person meeting in months after getting together virtually through the pandemic. We receive reports of incidents as soon as they happen but review them again at each meeting. This past year we received reports of seven incidents. This included three equipment failures, a minor spill, a minor injury, and potential exposures (exposures ruled out). All incidents were resolved to the committee's satisfaction with no risk to the public.

Although the committee is not directly responsible for community consultation relative to VIDO becoming Canada's Centre for Pandemic Research, we receive regular briefings from the consultant involved. As well, our chair is on an advisory committee for the development of the new Centre for Pandemic Research.

To help with the consultation process the committee hosted a community meeting in June of 2022. The meeting included a discussion of the new Pandemic Research Centre with VIDO's Director Dr. Volker Gerdts and ongoing research into Long COVID by Dr. Alyson Kelvin.

The committee stays up-to-date on infectious diseases in general, and on the updates relating to VIDO's strategic priorities including the new Vaccine Development Centre and evolution into a Centre for Pandemic Research. In addition, the committee requested regular briefings about research issues; a highlight was one on the ethics and procedures for animal care.

To better serve the community the committee provides a website (www.intervacclc.ca). Members of the public can contact the committee at intervacclc@usask.ca.

Susan Lamb Community Liaison Committee Chair



(LEFT TO RIGHT) Stacy Strom, Janice Hobbs, Dick Batten, Patricia Roe, Susan Lamb, Volker Gerdts (MISSING)

Noreen Jeffrey, Verity Moore-Wright, Brian Gibbs, Simon Kapaj, Morgan Hackl, Tracey Thue

CONTRIBUTORS 2021 - 22

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