Life Sciences
British Columbia

A Look Inside the **Growth Catalyst Program Companies**

GROWTH
CATALYST
PROGRAM

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British Columbia's Life Sciences Momentum: The Power of Scale

High-growth life sciences companies play a central role in creating an ecosystem that drives regional economic development, capital attraction, a growing specialized workforce, and global competitiveness. By translating research and innovation into real-world health and economic impact, high-growth companies reinforce BC's leadership in product and technology development, making it a compelling destination for life sciences investment.

Meet the Companies in Life Sciences BC's Growth Catalyst Program

The Growth Catalyst Program, with support from Pacific Economic Development Canada, is Life Sciences BC's strategic initiative to accelerate the scale-up of high-growth, BC-based life sciences companies. The companies featured in this booklet encompass the full range of life sciences, from biotechnology and medical devices to diagnostics and healthtech. While they are in different stages of development, they are connected by distinct value propositions, global ambition, and strong leadership.

BC is the fastest-growing life sciences sector in Canada, defined by its:

- World-class science
- Skilled talent pool
- Innovative companies growing at scale
- Engaged government
- Entrepreneurial, collaborative ecosystem
- Gateway positioning to Asia and the US

Here is a curated look at the 24 BC life sciences companies participating in the Growth Catalyst Program.

Arbutus Medical

"By putting every tool a surgical team needs in a single kit, we help clinicians act faster and more confidently when it matters most."

Expanding access to safe, streamlined surgical care

Access to reliable surgical tools is a critical need in hospitals worldwide, especially in decentralized settings. Emergency departments often face delays when instruments are scattered, workflows are inefficient, and urgent procedures demand rapid, dependable solutions.

Arbutus Medical blends medical expertise with innovative engineering to transform surgical workflow. The company's ready-to-use, procedure-specific kits help emergency teams operate faster, more efficiently, and with greater consistency, reducing delays and improving patient outcomes.

ARBUTUS MEDICAL

Innovating surgical workflow for high-pressure environments

- Procedure-specific surgical kits containing everything needed for hospital or home use
- Products currently used in 90 US hospitals, including 60 Level 1 Trauma Centers, and 40 countries worldwide
- Multi-product surgical workflow platform, including TrakPak®, SwiftKit™, QuikBow®, and DrillCover Technology, with an expanding IP portfolio
- Recent growth financing positions Arbutus Medical to expand its US presence, launch new procedure kits, and continue improving care outside the traditional operating room

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2014
- **Employees:** 19
- **Focus area:** Medical devices – orthopaedics
- **Stage:** Growth
- **Flagship products / offering:** TrakPak®
- **Capital raised to-date:** $19M CAD
- **Revenue generation:** $6M CAD
- **Current funding round:** Closed Series A (Jan 2026)
- **Milestones:** Closed $9.3M CAD financing; closed 60th US Level 1 Trauma Center

Management team

- **Lawrence Buchan**
  Co-Founder, CEO
- **Livleen Veslemes**
  CFO, COO
- **Mike Cancilla**
  Co-Founder, Product Development
- **Geoff Borgmann**
  Sales
- **Jeff Kennelly**
  Manufacturing
- **Brian Voong, CPA, CA**
  Finance

Learn more

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Ascinta Technologies

"Our mission is to transform cancer care through technologies that enable more personalized and accessible radiopharmaceutical therapies."

Turning nuclear medicine imaging data into better cancer care

Ascinta Technologies is a medical imaging software company advancing precision oncology through efficient and accurate theranostic workflows, optimizing radiopharmaceutical therapies with AI-assisted quantitative image analysis. The team helps pharmaceutical researchers and clinicians extract actionable data insights from quantitative PET and SPECT scans, enhancing patient care and accelerating the development of novel radiopharmaceutical therapies. With deep expertise in nuclear medicine imaging and dosimetry, Ascinta Technologies supports every stage of the theranostic pathway, from scanner calibration to therapy response assessment.

Driving clinical impact through quantitative imaging

- Quantitative PET and SPECT image analysis and reporting that enable informed clinical decision-making
- Fast and accurate radiopharmaceutical absorbed dose measurements in organs and lesions
- Comprehensive support for radiopharmaceutical clinical trials, from imaging protocol design to dosimetry results reporting
- Streamlined development and deployment of custom imaging tools and workflows focused on delivering meaningful clinical value

By operating at the forefront of theranostics and AI, Ascinta Technologies differentiates itself through high-precision image analysis workflows that combine speed, reproducibility, and methodological rigour. This empowers partners to provide targeted cancer therapies that are more informed and personalized.

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2023
- **Focus area:** Radiopharmaceutical imaging and therapy, dosimetry, theranostic software applications
- **Stage:** Commercial
- **Flagship products / offering:** Radiopharmaceutical dosimetry and PET/SPECT image quantification service for clinical practice and research; a software platform for orchestration of theranostic workflows; AI-enabled applications for medical image processing
- **Current funding round:** Seed

Management team

- **Ivan Klyuzhin, PhD**
  Co-Founder, CEO
- **Arman Rahmim, PhD**
  Co-Founder, CSO
- **Carlos Uribe, PhD**
  Co-Founder, CPO
- **Pedro Luis Esquinas, PhD**
  Director of Technology

Learn more

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Careteam Technologies Inc.

"When everyone involved in care shares the same plan, better outcomes follow."

An integrated platform to enable integrated care across healthcare boundaries

Careteam Technologies Inc. is an AI-enabled integrated care coordination platform that enables healthcare providers, social services, and community organizations to collaborate on shared patient care plans in real time. The platform breaks down technical and organizational silos by creating a single source of truth that physicians, mental health providers, social workers, and homecare teams can access and contribute to unified care plans. Careteam Technologies Inc. is SOC2 Type II certified, HIPAA-ready, and integrates with existing EHR systems. Currently deployed across Ontario Health Teams and HART Hubs in 6 validated care pathways.

careteam

A platform built for real-world care complexity

- Personalized Action Plans guide care teams on next steps for each person
- Secure messaging and structured check-ins enable continuous collaboration
- Real-time visibility across hospitals, clinics, and home care
- Tools designed to support complex and chronic care coordination
- Supports the global shift toward patient-centered, integrated care

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2018
- **Employees:** 12
- **Focus area:** Digital health; care coordination and collaboration infrastructure
- **Stage:** Seed
- **Flagship products / offering:** Careteam collaboration platform (shared Action Plans, messaging, check-ins, coordination tools)
- **Capital raised to-date:** $6.5M CAD
- **Revenue generation:** $850K CAD
- **Current funding round:** $3M CAD Seed Extension
- **Milestones:** Achieved: Agreements with PHSA and leading Ontario Health Teams; implemented with 25+ programs, $80K+ MRR; achieved clinical and health economics validation. Upcoming: Reach $300K MRR by Spring 2027; enablement of AI-based workflows; planned Series A funding $15-20M CAD.

Management team

- **Alexandra T. Greenhill, MD**
  CEO, CMO
- **Rob Attwell, MBA**
  COO
- **Jeremy Smith, BSc**
  CCO

Learn more

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CereCura Nanotherapeutics

"The brain is unique; treating it should be too."

Innovative therapies to overcome the unique challenges of treating brain disease

With brain disease affecting approximately 1 in 10 individuals worldwide, CereCura Nanotherapeutics is pioneering next-generation RNA therapies to transform treatment of neurological disease and bring hope to patients. Founded in 2022 as a spin-off from the University of British Columbia and guided by dedicated neuroscientists and drug discovery experts, the company's therapies have the potential to change the treatment landscape for rare genetic disorders, neurodegenerative diseases like Parkinson's and Alzheimer's, spinal cord injuries, and more.

CereCura Nanotherapeutics

A paradigm shift in the future of brain therapy

- Leverages the precision of LNP-mRNA to overcome the challenges of neurological delivery
- Empowers the brain to synthesize its own biologics through RNA therapeutics
- Enables safe, precise RNA delivery directly to the target cells
- Adapts a modular, plug-and-play platform to enable treatment of a wide variety of neurological conditions by changing the mRNA sequence

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2022
- **Employees:** 8
- **Focus area:** LNP-mRNA therapeutics for central nervous system disorders
- **Stage:** Preclinical
- **Flagship products / offering:** Development of a pipeline of LNP-mRNA therapeutics designed to treat various neurological conditions
- **Capital raised to-date:** $6.4M CAD, including non-dilutive funding
- **Current funding round:** $4M CAD
- **Milestones:** Proof-of-concept in mouse models of Gaucher Disease and biodistribution studies in large animals

Management team

- **Louis-Philippe Bernier**
  CEO
- **Nicholas Weilinger**
  CSO
- **Richard Howlett**
  CBO

Learn more

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DCx Biotherapeutics Corporation

"Addressing cancer at its source by uncovering key cellular interdependencies driven from genetic lesions."

Developing the next generation of precision multi-modal antibody drug conjugates

DCx Biotherapeutics Corporation (DCx) is a biotechnology company developing precision multi-modal antibody-drug conjugates (MM-ADCs), medicines that combine antibodies with potent drug payloads and act on several cancer-related pathways simultaneously. Often, traditional cancer drugs attack both healthy and cancerous cells, causing unwanted side effects. DCx technology identifies the root drivers of cancer cells and delivers treatment directly to cells characterized by unique genetic features. With several first-in-class preclinical-stage ADC programs in development, DCx aims to treat diseases more precisely while minimizing side effects to patients.

DCx BIO

An innovative approach

- Develops multi-modal synergistic-targeting therapeutics with improved efficacy and tolerability
- Uses MuSiC™ Platform, which combines integrated CRISPR, bioinformatics, and machine learning platforms, to identify lesion-specific intracellular and cell-surface targets to improve responses and outcomes
- Enables the mutation-specific drugging of multiple critical targets to synergistically destroy tumours and induce long-term immune memory to achieve durable therapeutic responses while limiting side effects

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2024
- **Employees:** 24
- **Focus area:** Oncology therapeutics development
- **Stage:** Unpartnered
- **Flagship products / offering:** Several first-in-class preclinical-stage ADC programs in development
- **Current funding round:** Seed / Series A
- **Milestones:** Multiple development candidate nominations in 2027

Management team

- **Ali Tehrani**
  Co-Founder, CEO
- **Kamran Alam**
  CFO
- **David Poon**
  Co-Founder, Head of Corporate Development
- **Ismael Samudio**
  Co-Founder, Head of R&D
- **Candice Madalena**
  Co-Founder, Head of Operations

Learn more

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Ediccare

"By combining clinical science with human-centered design, Ediccare is redefining oral care with a drug-free Precision Gumline Care system that complements and supports long-term gum health."

Advancing periodontal health with precision gumline care

What began as a search for answers to gum recession evolved into Ediccare: a company dedicated to gentle, non-invasive, and microbiome-friendly care for delicate gingival tissue. Gum disease affects more than 3 billion people worldwide, yet most oral care products focus on teeth rather than gums. Drawing on expertise in pharmaceutical science, dentistry, and consumer health, Ediccare is introducing a precision gumline care system - GingiCCare™ as a gentle "second step" after brushing. While brushing cleans the teeth, the GingiCCare™ system provides cleansing and bioactive conditioning for delicate gumlines. By transforming an overlooked task into an elevated, drug-free ritual, Ediccare aims to improve long-term periodontal health.

ediccare

A strong pathway to market

- Founded by a cross-disciplinary scientific team spanning pharmaceutical science, consumer health products, and dental biomaterials
- Secured an accelerated Health Canada cosmetic pathway, drastically reducing time-to-market while unlocking a multi-billion-dollar preventative care category
- Completed third-party validation for both clinical benefits and user preference

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2023
- **Employees:** 2
- **Focus area:** Life sciences and consumer health
- **Stage:** Preparing to launch GingiCCare™, a precision gumline care system
- **Flagship products / offering:** GingiCCare™
- **Capital raised to-date:** $500K CAD
- **Current funding round:** Targeting an investment goal of $1M USD for launch in Q3 2026
- **Milestones:** Transitioning from clinical validation to commercial execution with the Q3 2026 launch of GingiCCare™

Management team

- **Rita Zhao**
  Founder, CEO
- **Claudia Dietrich**
  Co-Founder, CSO

Learn more

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Evolved Therapeutics

"When identifying ultra-rare antibodies, you have to search the entire haystack if you want to find the needle."

Identifying extremely rare antibodies with unique mechanisms of action

Evolved Therapeutics builds innovative antibody discovery platforms to enable first- and best-in-class therapeutics. The company has patented an ultra-high-throughput, function-first method to discover rare mono- and bispecific antibodies with unique functional properties. For bispecific antibodies, they use large combinatorial libraries to simultaneously evaluate different paratopes, Fc functions, hinge flexibilities, and geometry, which allows them to identify highly differentiated drug candidates.

Powering the future of tissue-targeted drug delivery

- Distinct advantage over competitors: Evolved Therapeutics is uniquely positioned to become the leader in discovery of antibodies that selectively bind, internalize, and deliver functionally-active payloads, enabling the development of first-in-class antibody-oligo conjugate therapeutics
- Advancing several internal pipeline programs including tissue-targeted RNAi-conjugates
- Recently closed their first partnership with a pharma-backed biotech, focused on discovering hyper-internalizing bispecific antibodies for drug delivery

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2022
- **Employees:** 12
- **Focus area:** Biotechnology research
- **Stage:** Seed
- **Flagship products / offering:** Tissue-targeted antibodies for oligo delivery
- **Capital raised to-date:** $6M USD
- **Current funding round:** Seed Extension
- **Milestones:** Completed first partnership with a pharma-backed biotech; recent financing backed by large pharma VC

Management team

- **John Babcook**
  CEO, President
- **Ryan Dercho**
  VP, Business Development
- **Brandon Clavette**
  VP, Research and Development

Learn more

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EyeCareX

"EyeCareX brings together remote automated testing, clinical support automation, and workflow intelligence to help modern optometry clinics operate more efficiently."

AI-powered workflow tools for modern eye care

EyeCareX is built to help eye care providers meet growing demand with greater efficiency and coordination. The platform combines remote automated clinical testing, AI-powered clinical support, and workflow intelligence to reduce administrative burden, improve clinic flow, and support better decision-making across patient care and practice operations.

EyecareX

Built by clinicians and technologists to modernize eye care delivery

- Guided remote and in-clinic automated testing workflows
- AI-powered support for charting, scribing, billing, diagnostic support, and referral drafting
- Workflow intelligence that helps organize information and improve coordination across the clinic
- Designed to augment providers, not replace them
- Built to support more efficient, connected eye care delivery

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2023
- **Employees:** 8
- **Focus area:** Eye care / vision technology
- **Stage:** Early commercialization
- **Flagship products / offering:** AI-powered workflow platform for modern optometry
- **Capital raised to-date:** $800K CAD (not including in-kind contributions)
- **Revenue generation:** Early revenue / pilot and commercial revenue underway
- **Current funding round:** $2M USD
- **Milestones:** Commercial pilots launched, enterprise and channel discussions underway, platform deployed across remote testing, clinical support automation, and workflow intelligence use cases

Management team

- **Justin Asgarpour**
  Founder, CEO
- **Andrew Asgarpour**
  CMO
- **Raman Jhajj**
  Head of Engineering
- **Ziv Pollak**
  CSO

Learn more

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Flutter Care

"Every expectant individual deserves access to the data, education, and technology they need to advocate for their own health."

Reimagining pregnancy care

Flutter Care is building breakthrough health technologies to improve maternal and fetal outcomes by making pregnancy safer and more informed for expectant individuals and families. Its hardware and software tools combine evidence-based education, movement tracking, and clinical insight to help users understand their bodies, advocate for their health, and engage meaningfully with care providers.

These solutions address a critical global need as perinatal health outcomes, including stillbirths and preventable complications, remain unacceptably high, and many expectant individuals lack tools to interpret key health signals. Flutter Care's platform empowers users to take an active role in their pregnancy, closing gaps in education, monitoring, and early recognition of risk.

FLUTTER | CARE

Innovation grounded in evidence and real needs

- A mobile app and wearable device for tracking fetal movements and health patterns
- Evidence-based educational resources that help users make informed decisions
- Intuitive interfaces that promote understanding and confidence during pregnancy
- Clinical collaboration and validation to translate innovation into impact

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2020
- **Employees:** 10
- **Focus area:** Perinatal health technology – medical devices and software tools
- **Stage:** Early private (technology validation and growth)
- **Flagship products / offering:** Flutter Care mobile app and wearable technology
- **Current funding round:** Seed
- **Milestones:** Technology Readiness Level 7 with an upcoming clinical pilot with The Ottawa Hospital Research Institute's Obstetrics and Maternal Newborn Investigations Research Group

Management team

- **Dolma Tsundu**
  Founder, CEO

Learn more

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GuideStar Medical Devices

"Delivering world-class risk-reducing solutions to real medical problems."

Epidural innovation that improves patient safety

Every year, an estimated 2 million people around the world suffer an injury from an accidental dural puncture during an epidural procedure, leading to debilitating headaches and, in some cases, nerve damage. Through its lead product, EpiZact, GuideStar Medical Devices is making epidurals easier to perform while reducing the risk of patient injury. Based in Victoria, British Columbia, the company designs and manufactures innovative medical devices that improve procedural safety, enhance patient outcomes, and help reduce healthcare costs.

GUIDE STAR
MEDICAL DEVICES

Setting a higher standard

- EpiZact is the only FDA-cleared epidural product that has a mechanical safety mechanism that automatically stops the needle when loss of resistance is detected
- Clinical data shows that EpiZact is at least 10x safer than the standard of care and is easy for practitioners to use
- GuideStar Medical Devices is on track to reach 500 units sold per month in the USA by the end of 2026, and to become operationally profitable by the end of 2027

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2019
- **Employees:** 7
- **Focus area:** Medical devices
- **Stage:** Commercial
- **Flagship products / offering:** EpiZact
- **Capital raised to-date:** $5.6M CAD
- **Revenue generation:** $92K CAD
- **Current funding round:** Series A

Management team

- **Mike Dolphin**
  CEO
- **Ryan Ruedebusch**
  VP, Business Development

Learn more

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HTuO Biosciences

"We are elevating drug discovery through advanced physics models to deliver transformative patient treatments."

Unlocking undruggable targets

HTuO Biosciences is a drug discovery company that operates at the intersection of physics, chemistry, and computer programming. Drug development is complex, time-consuming, resource-intensive, and many potential therapies never reach patients. HTuO Biosciences tackles these challenges at their root with its physics-based computational technology. The company has developed an advanced platform capable of discovering high-quality, novel molecules for drug development, particularly for targets that are currently considered undruggable.

HTuO BIOSCIENCES

Building transformative therapeutics through simulation

- By predicting how molecules will interact with biological targets, HTuO Biosciences helps design drugs more efficiently, improving the odds of success
- The proprietary technology reduces time, cost and uncertainty of traditional drug discovery, optimizing the development of new therapies
- HTuO Biosciences' platform is being applied to a diverse range of drug discovery programs in collaboration with biopharmaceutical companies worldwide

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2020
- **Employees:** 12
- **Focus area:** Drug discovery
- **Stage:** Growth
- **Flagship products / offering:** Platform targeting small molecule drug discovery and optimization
- **Capital raised to-date:** $5.6M CAD
- **Current funding round:** Seed
- **Milestones:** Became a member of Johnson & Johnson Innovation JLABS (2024); began collaboration with UK-based biotech Micrographia Bio (2025) to apply technology in drug discovery for osteoporosis; upcoming drug discovery partnership with a large pharmaceutical company that will utilize core technology

Management team

- **Anthony Fejes**
  Founder, CEO
- **Jacek Mis**
  Director of Business Development
- **Jason Loscher**
  Director of Technology

Learn more

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Integrated Nanotherapeutics

"We are creating therapies that fix the immune system, not just suppress it."

Precision nanomedicine for autoimmune therapies

Integrated Nanotherapeutics (INT)'s immune tolerance platform supports the development of therapies that target the immune response, with the goal of slowing or stopping disease progression and preserving normal immune function.

INT uses lipid nanoparticles (LNPs) to deliver mRNA and small molecules, either alone or together, in a highly controlled way to improve safety and efficacy. INT's platform is designed to re-train the immune system so it no longer attacks the body's own tissues, addressing autoimmune diseases at their root cause rather than just treating symptoms. Its drug delivery platform can incorporate virtually any small molecule and/or biologic into LNPs, which make advanced therapies more stable. The unique ability to co-deliver precise cargoes in LNPs enables a plug-and-play platform to treat autoimmunity at the source of the disease.

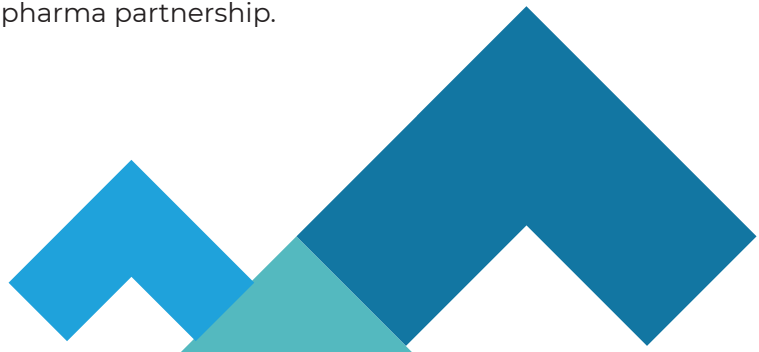
Integrated nanotherapeutics

Why INT stands out

- Current therapies leave patients vulnerable by suppressing the immune system
- INT's mRNA–LNP platform restores immune balance by directly targeting the underlying immune dysfunction that drives autoimmune disease
- Targeted, disease-modifying treatments could improve long-term outcomes and quality of life
- Team includes scientists with deep expertise in LNP science and drug development

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2016
- **Employees:** 12
- **Focus area:** Therapeutics
- **Stage:** Late preclinical, raising Series A
- **Flagship products / offering:** Multi-Cargo Lipid Nanoparticles
- **Capital raised to-date:** $12M USD
- **Current funding round:** $25M USD
- **Milestones:** Achieved: Strong proof-of-concept data in reversing type 1 diabetes in animals. Successful first FDA meeting. Validated multi-cargo LNP platform for T-cell driven autoimmune diseases. Upcoming: First-in-human trial for type 1 diabetes by late 2027. Securing a strategic pharma partnership.



Management team

- **Chris Tam, PhD**
  Co-Founder, CEO
- **Sam Chen, PhD**
  Co-Founder, Director of Formulation
- **Heather Denroche, PhD**
  Co-Founder, Director of Preclinical
- **Josh Zaifman, PhD**
  Co-Founder, Director of Chemistry
- **Azadeh Goudarzi, PhD, MBA**
  Director of Business Development & Innovation

Learn more

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Kapoose Creek Bio

"We are putting nature's chemistry to work to address the greatest health challenges of our time."

Harnessing AI to discover and unlock novel compounds

Kapoose Creek Bio (KC Bio) is a Canadian biotechnology company revolutionizing the discovery of drugs from nature with unprecedented speed and scale, using AI and advanced multiomic technologies. With a unique biological library and a team of globally recognized scientists, KC Bio is dedicated to mapping the world's natural chemistry, uncovering its incredible therapeutic potential, and addressing some of the most urgent medical challenges of our time.

Kapoose Creek Bio

Mapping nature's pharmacy

- Mission is to revolutionize the discovery of medicines from nature using AI
- Initial discovery programs target depression, neurology and oncology
- World-class, unique biological library includes a collection of 6,000+ novel fungal strains
- Proprietary AI multiomic drug discovery platform, unEarth Rx, enables identification of new drug leads 5X faster than traditional methods
- Three proprietary assets undergoing hit-to-lead optimization for use in treating depression, neurodegenerative diseases, and cancer: KCB-100 (neurotrophic) – Depression; KCB-200 (neuroprotective) – Neurology; ADC Discovery – Oncology

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2020
- **Employees:** 9
- **Focus area:** Drug discovery
- **Stage:** Advanced preclinical
- **Flagship products / offering:** unEarth Rx
  AI drug discovery platform; lead compounds:
  KCB-100, KCB-200
- **Capital raised to-date:** $28M CAD
- **Current funding round:** $5M CAD – closing Q1 2026
- **Milestones:** Series A in Q4 2026

Management team

- **Eric Brown, PhD**
  CEO
- **Geordie Stewart, PhD, MBA**
  CGO
- **Jonathan Jackson, CPA, CA, ICD.D**
  CFO, COO

Learn more

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Molecular You

"When symptoms appear, it may be too late. Stay ahead of health risks with insights that enable earlier action, better outcomes, and lower costs."

Where advanced molecular technologies meet actionable health insights

Molecular You is a predictive health company advancing multiomic early detection. From a single vial of blood, its assessment measures hundreds of proteomic and metabolomic biomarkers across 21 biological pathways to reveal disease processes years before symptoms appear. Molecular You's clinical-grade platform delivers mechanistic insights across 12 health areas, enabling earlier intervention and more precise care. The company is scaling across clinics, insurers, and global lab networks through sales, licensing partnerships, and an international "multiomic franchise model." Molecular You has demonstrated clinical impact, including stage 1 cancer detection and early identification of cognitive and autoimmune conditions, and is expanding to meet demand.

molecular you

Data-driven health insights

- Analysis includes 250+ biomarkers, covering 15 disease categories and 21 biological pathways
- Single test requires 1 vial of blood (18x less than a standard diagnostic panel)
- AI integrates data into a personalized report with diet, exercise, and supplement recommendations
- Platform continuously updates with validated scientific information
- Follow-up assessments track progress over time

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2014
- **Employees:** 30
- **Focus area:** Predictive health
- **Stage:** Growth
- **Flagship products / offering:** Molecular You multiomic assessment, report and consultation
- **Capital raised to-date:** $29M USD, with $7M USD being non-dilutive for Molecular You Co. and $10M USD for Molecular You Korea Co.
- **Revenue generation:** $600K annual recurring revenue
- **Current funding round:** Series B
- **Milestones:** Introduced in Canada in 2018; launched in the US in September 2025; incorporated in South Korea in 2026; aims to increase its biomarker panel from 250 to 1,000 in 2026

Management team

- **Jim Kean**
  CEO
- **Rob Fraser**
  Founder, President, CSO
- **Gene Shkolnikov**
  CTO

Learn more

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NZ Technologies Inc.

"When sterile fields and surgical gloves make touchscreens unreliable, clinicians need an interface that works without compromise."

Redefining Human-Machine Interfaces in healthcare, industrial, military, and outdoor settings with the power of AI

NZ Technologies Inc. (NZTech) is a Vancouver-based technology company that develops and manufactures advanced Human-Machine Interfaces (HMI) for medical, industrial, military, and rugged display systems. The company's core innovation is a proprietary electric field sensing platform that enables interaction both on the screen surface and in the air above it, transforming traditional touchscreens into a three-dimensional interaction interface.

NZ technologies inc.
Crafting the Future of Intuitive Experiences

NZTech powers two product families

- TIPSO AirPad™ – compact bedside controllers that simplify medical image navigation and viewing at the point of care
- HoverTap™ – touch + touchless display modules and monitors that replace conventional touchscreens, enabling interaction through touch or intuitive touchless gestures while remaining compatible with existing software systems

HoverTap technology addresses two challenges where conventional touchscreens often struggle. In clinical environments, sterile drapes, surgical gloves, and liquids on the screen can reduce touchscreen reliability. HoverTap maintains full touch performance while enabling hygienic touchless interactions. Beyond healthcare, HoverTap enables rugged outdoor and industrial displays by allowing interaction through protective overlays that traditional touchscreens cannot support.

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2014
- **Employees:** 15
- **Focus area:** AI-powered HMI for healthcare and critical environments
- **Stage:** Growth
- **Flagship products / offering:** TIPSO™ and HoverTap™
- **Capital raised to-date:** $10M CAD
- **Revenue generation:** $2M CAD
- **Current funding round:** $5M CAD
- **Milestones:** FDA-cleared medical technology; production-ready platform engineered for scalable manufacturing; revenue-generating deployments across healthcare, industrial, and infrastructure markets

Management team

- **Nima Ziraknejad**
  Founder, CEO
- **Pranav Saxena**
  CTO
- **Nasim Jahangiri**
  Director of UX and Interface Intelligence

Learn more

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Optigo Biotherapeutics

"We're not developing another retinal drug — we're building a durability platform to address one of ophthalmology's biggest unmet needs: longer-lasting treatments."

Reducing the treatment frequency for patients with retinal disease

Optigo Biotherapeutics has the potential to change how retinal diseases are treated. Patients with neovascular and degenerative retinal diseases often need frequent injections to prevent vision loss, creating a major challenge in eye care. Optigo Biotherapeutics has developed technology that keeps medicines in the eye longer, potentially reducing monthly treatments to once or twice a year. This could ease the burden on patients and physicians, improve adherence, lower costs, and make care more manageable and effective.

OptigoBio

lifetime better vision

A novel approach to better vision

- Vitreous Anchor platform: a proprietary hyaluronic-acid–binding domain that can be fused to retinal biologics, enabling therapies to stay in the eye longer and potentially extend duration without reducing efficacy
- Lead candidate is XPK-640, a bifunctional fusion protein based on aflibercept that incorporates the Vitreous Anchor for long-acting VEGF suppression
- XPK-640 is in late preclinical / IND-enabling development, while the broader Vitreous Anchor platform is being positioned for expansion and potential partnerships
- Modular platform can be applied to multiple retinal therapies, helping extend the lifespan and value of existing drugs, and enabling partnerships across the ophthalmology industry

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2020
- **Employees:** 10
- **Focus area:** Biotechnology
- **Stage:** Advanced preclinical
- **Flagship products / offering:** XPK-640
- **Capital raised to-date:** $30M USD in cash and in-kind
- **Current funding round:** Series A
- **Milestones:** Advanced from platform concept to a development-ready ophthalmology company with a clear clinical path that includes: lead candidate selected, preclinical proof-of-concept completed, safety and immunogenicity characterized, and regulatory pathway defined. Manufacturing and CMC development is also underway.

Management team

- **Ali Ardakani**
  Co-Founder, CEO
- **Houman Hemmati, MD, PhD**
  Co-Founder, CMO
- **Ulrich Haupts, PhD**
  CSO
- **Sean Hodgins, CPA**
  CFO

Learn more

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Redwood AI

"We empower chemists with AI to accelerate drug discovery and bring medicines to market faster."

Cutting delays in drug development with AI

Global drug shortages and supply chain challenges, including tariffs, are creating uncertainty and delays in getting medicines to patients. These pressures are compounded by traditional chemical synthesis and drug development processes, which remain largely manual and time-intensive.

Redwood AI supports the synthesis and development of drugs by applying proprietary AI models that help chemists design, optimize, and plan more efficient chemical reaction pathways. By analyzing millions of data points, including reaction data, safety considerations, material costs, and logistics variables, the models provide clear, actionable recommendations within minutes using lightweight AI models.

Redwood AI

By enabling faster, safer, and more reliable drug development, Redwood AI:

- Addresses global shortages through more efficient synthesis, helping medicines reach patients more quickly and consistently
- Reduces manual workflow inefficiencies by minimizing errors and shortening development timelines
- Creates opportunities to expand into adjacent chemical areas, such as hazardous material detection and defense applications

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2024
- **Employees:** 8
- **Focus area:** Cheminformatics and small molecule synthesis
- **Stage:** Working with beta clients and scaling up
- **Flagship products / offering:** Chemistry support tool
- **Capital raised to-date:** $4.6M CAD
- **Revenue generation:** Mixture of SaaS and service
- **Current funding round:** Series A (seed round completed at year end 2025)
- **Milestones:** Three novel AI models which work on standard computers; contracts with biopharma, and the public sector

Management team

- **Louis Dron**
  CEO
- **Kristian Thorlund**
  President
- **Ofir Harari**
  Head of AI
- **Glenn Sammis**
  Head of Chemistry
- **Nico Mah**
  CFO

Learn more

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Response Biomedical Corp.

"We support patient care by providing rapid, high-quality diagnostic tests, from the pharmacy to the lab and every point in between."

Where trusted expertise in acute care meets faster diagnoses to improve patient outcomes

With 30+ years of expertise, Response Biomedical Corp. is a global leader in acute care testing. The company advances life-saving care through rapid, reliable diagnostics, delivering immunoassays that provide lab-quality results in minutes. Response's RAMP platform enables earlier diagnosis, faster treatment decisions, and improved patient outcomes, while supporting more efficient resource use in emergency, critical care, and decentralized settings. Response Biomedical Corp. provides high-quality diagnostic tests, backed by a world-class R&D and manufacturing facility and a Quality Management System that is ISO 13485:2016 and MDSAP certified.

RESPONSE BIOMEDICAL

Raising the bar in acute care diagnostics

- RAMP 200 is the only rapid, quantitative, self-calibrating platform for acute care testing, requiring just 3 steps with no maintenance or costly service contracts
- RAMP 200 delivers lab-quality results in 15 minutes and offers flexible testing, allowing multiple samples to be processed simultaneously

At a glance

- **Founded:** 1991
- **Employees:** 64
- **Focus area:** In-vitro diagnostics with a focus on near-patient testing, specifically, acute-care and cardiometabolic biomarkers
- **Stage:** Commercial / growth
- **Flagship products / offering:** RAMP platform
- **Capital raised to-date:** $27.3M CAD since going private
- **Revenue generation:** Recurring revenue
- **Current funding round:** Growth / bridge financing
- **Milestones:** Achieved: RAMP commercialization; regulatory approvals in multiple jurisdictions; late-stage development of high-value acute care assays. Upcoming: Clinical validation and regulatory approval of high-sensitivity cardiac assays; launch of expanded test menu; advancement of a simplified platform; expansion of global distribution and manufacturing.

Management team

- **Taso Tsonis, CPA, CA**
  Interim CEO, CFO
- **Angela Carter**
  VP of Global Channel Strategy
- **Ellen Green**
  Sr. Director QA / Regulatory / Clinical Affairs
- **Bosco Lo**
  Director of International Sales
- **Priscila Lopes**
  Director of Operations

Learn more

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Reverb Therapeutics

"Through our precision medicines, we are bringing new hope to patients where existing treatments have fallen short."

Harnessing the body's natural immune system to create smarter therapies

Reverb Therapeutics creates precision medicines that reprogram the body's immune system to more effectively fight cancer and auto-immune diseases. The company's lead program in oncology builds on the proven benefits of PD-1 inhibition (a form of immunotherapy that blocks the programmed cell-death protein 1 pathway) by selectively enhancing immune signals to safely and precisely intensify the anti-tumour response. Through Reverb Therapeutics' highly differentiated therapies, the company offers renewed hope to patients who have not benefited from existing treatments.

Reverb
THERAPEUTICS

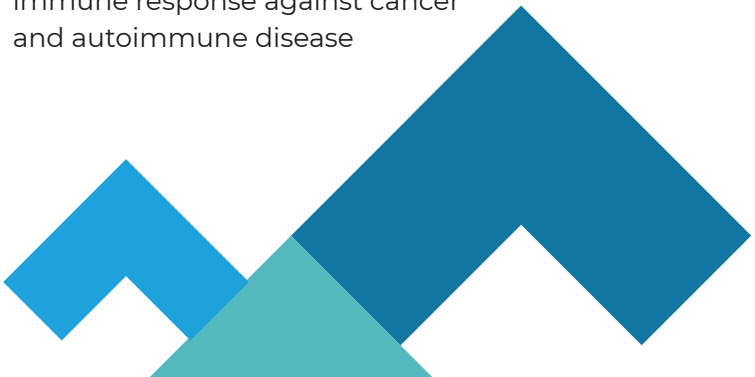
Therapeutics to fight cancer smarter

- Proprietary Amplify•R™ antibody platform uses bi-specific antibodies to redirect the body's own cytokines, concentrating them to aid natural healing by the immune system. By using naturally occurring cytokines, therapies are also better tolerated than traditional therapeutics.
- Approach ensures that the immune system acts locally where it is needed most
- Amplify•R™ drugs are designed for streamlined, scalable manufacturing

In 2027, Reverb Therapeutics aims to complete Investigational New Drug enabling studies and launch its first clinical trial.

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2022
- **Employees:** 13
- **Focus area:** Immuno-oncology
- **Stage:** Development
- **Flagship products / offering:** Medicines to treat cancer and other life-threatening conditions using the Amplify·R™ antibody platform
- **Capital raised to-date:** $24M USD
- **Current funding round:** $50M USD Series A
- **Milestones:** Lead development candidate has been validated through in vivo data and proof-of-concept; preclinical studies have demonstrated Amplify·R™ platform's ability to rewire the body's immune response against cancer and autoimmune disease



Management team

- **David de Graaf, PhD**
  Founder, CEO
- **Surjit Dixit, PhD**
  Founder, CSO
- **Diana Hausman, MD**
  CMO
- **Ahmed Alkhateeb, PhD**
  CBO
- **Jean Jen, CPA, CA**
  CFO
- **John M. Burke, PhD**
  CPO
- **Mark Fogg, PhD**
  VP, Immunology

Learn more

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SeraGene Therapeutics Inc.

"Targeting the drivers of coagulation imbalance with low-burden, long-lasting therapies."

Low-burden, long-lasting therapies for coagulation disorders

SeraGene Therapeutics Inc. is a preclinical biotechnology company developing RNA-based therapies for coagulation disorders. Its approach is designed to modulate the biological pathways that control clot formation and breakdown, with the goal of restoring stable hemostasis in patients whose conditions are not well managed by existing treatments. The company's lead program (SG-001) is in bleeding disorders. People with bleeding disorders often depend on frequent, invasive, lifelong therapies that place a high treatment burden on daily life and still fail to fully control bleeding. These limitations are especially pronounced for women of reproductive age, with up to 1 in 3 women worldwide experiencing heavy menstrual bleeding. By targeting the underlying drivers of hemostatic imbalance, SeraGene Therapeutics Inc. aims to improve bleeding control and meaningfully enhance quality of life.

SeraGene
THERAPEUTICS

Why SeraGene's approach stands apart

- Uses RNA-based and liver-targeted delivery technologies to precisely address the underlying causes of hemostatic imbalance
- Focuses on long-lasting prophylactic therapies, rather than on-demand or episodic treatment, to address limitations of current standards of care such as short-term effects and frequent dosing
- Advances a differentiated approach of regulating clotting biology with the potential to transform how clotting disorders are managed long-term

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2022
- **Employees:** 3
- **Focus area:** Hematology
- **Stage:** Late preclinical
- **Flagship products / offering:** SG-001
- **Capital raised to-date:** Pre-seed and pre-seed extension of $1.5M USD; >$10M USD in non-dilutive grant funding for R&D
- **Current funding round:** Series A to advance SG-001 to Phase 1
- **Milestones:** Development candidate (DC) nominating data for SG-001 obtained in non-human primates in February 2026. Expecting DC for second program in 12-18 months.

Management team

- **Amy Strilchuk, PhD**
  Co-Founder, CEO
- **Lih Jiin Juang, PhD**
  Co-Founder, CSO

Learn more

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Sonic Incytes Medical Corp.

"The new standard of care for identifying and diagnosing liver disease (MASLD and MASH)."

Portable and convenient AI-enabled liver ultrasound for liver disease detection

Sonic Incytes Medical Corp. is a health technology and medical device company focused on making the detection of fatty liver disease easier and more readily available. It has developed Velacur™ Classic and the next-generation Velacur ONE™ ultrasound systems that measure key liver health indicators, such as liver stiffness, attenuation (fat content), and related quantitative markers right in the physician's office. Within minutes, these devices give clinicians clear, quantitative data to assess and monitor chronic liver diseases, such as metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD) and metabolic dysfunction-associated steatohepatitis (MASH), both of which are rising global health concerns.

SonicIncytes

Bringing advanced liver imaging into a portable, point-of-care ultrasound device

- Uses AI guidance and proprietary ultrasound elastography to deliver fast, quantitative liver health measurements
- Enables more accessible and routine liver screening in everyday clinical settings
- Already available in the US market, and is pending Canadian regulatory approval. Sonic Incytes plans to expand its market reach in the UK, EU and Asia, specifically Korea and Japan.
- 150+ Velacur™ devices deployed at customer sites in the US

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2016
- **Employees:** 49
- **Focus area:** Medical device
- **Stage:** Commercial product market
- **Flagship products / offering:** Velacur™ Classic, Velacur ONE™
- **Current funding round:** Series B
- **Milestones:** FDA clearance for the Velacur™ Classic and Velacur ONE™ systems, AI Organ Guide, and Velacur Determined Fat Fraction (VDFF) to provide a non-invasive MRI/MRE-equivalent measurement of liver fat

Management team

- **Barry Allen**
  CEO, President
- **Paolo Jelmoni**
  CCO
- **Richard Rawnsley**
  CFO

Learn more

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Total Flow Medical

"We enable surgeons and perfusionists to deliver improved patient perfusion while minimizing procedural risks."

Clinician-designed solutions to address a critical need in heart surgery and ECMO

Total Flow Medical, a Vancouver-based medical device company, aims to improve outcomes and reduce costs for those who need heart-lung machines that temporarily take over heart and lung function, whether during heart surgery (cardiopulmonary bypass) or life support (ECMO).

Femoral cannulas currently used in surgery can impede blood flow to the leg, increasing the risk of complications and injuries. Total Flow Medical is developing a single-cannula solution to reduce these risks, while also lowering costs.

Total Flow MEDICAL

Making a positive impact on a growing market

- The company's first product for the US market is a cannula designed for minimally invasive and robotic heart surgery
- Clinician-designed solution is easy-to-use and does not interrupt clinical workflow
- Preparing for US market release in 2026

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2019
- **Employees:** 4
- **Focus area:** Cardiopulmonary, cardiovascular surgery, life support (ECMO)
- **Stage:** Clinical, pre-commercial
- **Flagship products / offering:** A femoral arterial cannula for use during minimally invasive heart surgery
- **Capital raised to-date:** $5M USD
- **Current funding round:** Seed
- **Milestones:** Successful completion of first human study (clinical validation); GLP animal studies completed (product performance validation); 510(k) US marketing application submitted and clearance pending (de-risked regulatory pathway)

Management team

- **Hillary Pierce**
  CEO
- **Martina Wan Lockwood**
  VP, Engineering

Learn more

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Variational AI

"Using the language of chemistry and AI to design novel drug molecules."

A generative shift in small molecule discovery

Small molecule drug discovery is slow, expensive, and succeeds only half the time; Variational AI is harnessing AI to change that. The company's platform enables rapid exploration of the vast, uncharted chemical space, generating synthesis-ready molecules optimized for potency, safety, and other critical properties, all in weeks rather than months.

By focusing on generating rather than screening molecules, Variational AI reduces the risk of failure in later stages. Their innovation, Enki™, is a fully trained generative AI foundation model that delivers a more efficient, cost-effective, and scalable approach to discovering the medicines of the future.

VARIATIONAL AI

The intersection of AI and drug discovery

- Cross-disciplinary team of machine learning researchers, computational chemists, and biotech professionals who are dedicated to transforming early-stage drug discovery with generative AI
- Enki™ provides R&D teams with target-specific compounds beyond the bounds of existing libraries
- Rapidly generates selective, drug-like compounds, cutting timelines and unlocking faster discovery cycles
- Backed by top-tier investors in healthcare, life sciences, and AI
- Merck deal valued at up to $349M USD demonstrates strong validation of approach

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2019
- **Employees:** 19
- **Focus area:** Early-stage small molecule drug discovery; expanding to novel payload design for antibody-drug conjugates
- **Stage:** Commercial
- **Flagship products / offering:** Enki™
- **Capital raised to-date:** $9M USD
- **Current funding round:** Series A - $20M USD
- **Milestones:** Secured multiple pharma and biotech deals

Management team

- **Handol Kim**
  Co-Founder, CEO
- **Jason T. Rolfe, PhD**
  Co-Founder, CTO
- **Peter Guzzo, PhD**
  EVP, Head of Drug Discovery
- **Roslynn Drewitt-Lange**
  VP, Finance & Operations

Learn more

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VoxCell

"We have engineered the next generation of predictive drug development tools."

More human-relevant models for better drug candidate decisions

Traditional 2D cell cultures and simplified models often fail to capture how cells behave in the body, especially the role of blood vessels in delivering nutrients, oxygen and drugs. VoxCell believes that better tissue models allow scientists to make more informed decisions. The company's 3D vascularized tissue models closely replicate real human tissue structure and function, which is essential for meaningful biological insight, providing a better way to evaluate drugs before they reach animal or human trials.

Faster, more accurate insights mean therapies can be refined earlier, saving time, resources, and effort across the development pipeline, and ultimately, improving outcomes for patients.

VoxCell

What this enables

VoxCell's 3D vascularized tissue models make it possible for researchers to:

- Validate target engagement and drug efficacy
- Identify ineffective or toxic compounds sooner
- Generate human-relevant preclinical data
- Reduce reliance on animal models

At a glance

- **Founded:** 2020
- **Employees:** 17
- **Focus area:** Preclinical research (particularly within oncology)
- **Stage:** Transitioning from initial validation partnerships into early go-to-market efforts
- **Flagship products / offering:** 3D bioprinted vascularized human tissue models for drug development
- **Capital raised to-date:** $15M CAD
- **Revenue generation:** Paid pilots
- **Current funding round:** Series A
- **Milestones:** Filed 6 patents protecting VoxCell's platform; validated Triple-Negative Breast Cancer model response to 1L paclitaxel; secured partnerships with TheryCell, Altasciences, ValiRx, and other undisclosed global players (> $1B market caps); built a strong, expanding commercial pipeline across biotech, pharma, and contract research organizations; expanded platform across multiple tissues and disease indications

Management team

- **Karolina Valente, PhD**
  CEO, CSO
- **Graham Craig, MSc**
  CCO
- **Jeff Doyle**
  Director of Engineering
- **Bahram Mirani, PhD**
  Lead of Tissue Engineering

Learn more

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This booklet highlights members of the Growth Catalyst Program, a cohort of companies making a meaningful impact on the life sciences sector in British Columbia. The program has been made possible with funding from Life Sciences BC and Pacific Economic Development Canada's Business Acceleration Pilot (BizAP).

Life Sciences
British Columbia