

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY



President's Message

Dear CAPB members,

Yet another year has flown by, and while it seems like only yesterday that we were writing up our last newsletter, we have much to report!

First, the CAPB hosted a student research paper competition in the last year, where two winners were selected and received \$500 each.

Furthermore, we are very excited to announce that we are currently organizing our 15th biennial CAPB conference, which will be held virtually this year to enable broad participation for students, researchers, and industry alike. The meeting will be held on October 27-29, 2026, and registration is free for CAPB members, so make sure to renew your memberships if necessary!

Please see our [**event website**](#) to register and submit your presentation or e-poster abstracts. We welcome submissions from those working on plant biotechnology who are at all career stages, and as always, there will be opportunities for prizes for our student members. During this meeting, we will also be holding our CAPB general meeting, which all members are invited to attend. We hope to see you there!

I hope that everyone enjoyed their summer and spent some time with friends and family, and I sincerely wish everyone the best with all their research going forward!

Best wishes,

Dr. Stacy Singer

CAPB President

Join the CAPB!

Please visit our [**website**](#) to become a member of the CAPB community!

Members enjoy many benefits, including:

- Reduced conference registration fees
- Eligibility for student research paper and presentation awards
- Eligibility for student travel awards for conferences
- Easy networking with the plant biotechnology community involving academia, government, and private industry
- Access to job opportunities



Connect With Us

Follow the CAPB on [**LinkedIn**](#) and [**Bluesky**](#) for news, updates, and to network with the Plant Biotechnology community!



About Us

The **Canadian Association for Plant Biotechnology** (CAPB) is a registered non-profit organization in Canada.

It is part of the International Association for Plant Biotechnology (IAPB), formerly named the International Association for Plant Tissue Culture (IAPTC), which was formed in 1970-1971.

The goals of the CAPB are to:

- Promote interaction among plant biotechnology researchers in Canada
- Liaise with the International Association of Plant Biotechnology
- Advocate for plant biotechnology research
- Bridge the gap between academia/basic research and industry
- Serve as a contact point for plant biotechnology-related information in Canada



CAPB Board

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Board Nominations

Nominations are now open for the following positions on the CAPB Executive Board: **Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer**. Questions and nominations can be sent to info@canadianplantbiotech.ca.

We are also currently seeking Postdoc and Student Representatives.

The Executive Board will be announced during the general meeting at the virtual CAPB conference in October.



E-Learning Opportunity

The Global Stewardship Group (GSG) recently launched the training module:

Best Stewardship Practices Intermediate 201

This module focuses on the careful planning and implementation of stewardship practices across the pre-commercialization plant lifecycle production operations.

This is a wonderful opportunity for those interested in biotechnology stewardship in agriculture!

Please visit their [website](#) for more information on GSG learning and for additional training modules.

2025 Student Research Paper Competition

Congratulations to our 2025 Student Research Paper Competition winners on their outstanding articles! Both winners were awarded \$500 CAD each.

Basanta Lamichhane, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières

Lamichhane B, Gélilnas S-E, Merindol N, Koirala M, Dos Santos KCG, Germain H, Desgagné-Penix I (2025) Elucidating the enzyme network driving Amaryllidaceae alkaloids biosynthesis in *Leucojum aestivum*. Plant Biotechnology Journal 23:1988-2005

Lu Xu, University of British Columbia

Liu Y, Xu L, Wu M, Wang J, Qiu D, Lan J, Lu J, Zhang Y, Li X, Zhang Y (2025) Three-step biosynthesis of salicylic acid from benzoyl-CoA in plants. Nature 645:201-207

We would also like to acknowledge and thank every student who participated in this competition. We received many excellent submissions. Keep up the amazing work!

Stay tuned for upcoming student competitions and events. If you have suggestions for future student events, please email info@canadianplantbiotech.ca.

CAPB Virtual Conference 2026

We are very pleased to be hosting our 15th biennial conference in virtual format on **October 27-29, 2026**, with free attendance for CAPB members! This meeting will cover a wide range of cutting-edge topics related to plant biotechnology, including molecular pharming, metabolic engineering, crop trait improvement, and the translation of biotech-derived crops from the lab to our grocery store shelves.

This conference will include numerous highly distinguished speakers, including **Dr. Yuri Gleba** (CEO, Nomad Bioscience GmbH), **Dr. Joyce Van Eck** (Professor, Cornell University), **Dr. C. Nathan Hancock** (Professor, University of South Carolina Aiken), **Dr. Yang Qu** (Associate Professor, University of New Brunswick), **Dr. Don Stewart** (President and CEO, Plantform), **Dr. Amanda Cavanagh** (Associate Professor, University of Essex), **Jaylee DeMond** (Regulatory Associate, J.R. Simplot Company), **Jennifer Hubert** (Executive Director of Plant Biotechnology, CropLife Canada), and **Dr. Marc-André D'Aoust** (CSO, Aramis Biotechnologies).

We are also welcoming abstract submissions from researchers at all career stages and are excited to be offering various awards for CAPB student presentations and e-posters as a means of supporting our next generation of plant scientists.

Information on registration, invited speakers, and the preliminary schedule can be found on our [conference website](#).

Your Feedback is Appreciated!



We are always open to feedback from our members!

For comments regarding the website, please contact: [**webadmin@canadianplantbiotech.ca**](mailto:webadmin@canadianplantbiotech.ca)

For comments regarding communications, please contact: [**comms@canadianplantbiotech.ca**](mailto:comms@canadianplantbiotech.ca)

All other comments and inquiries regarding the Association can be directed to: [**info@canadianplantbiotech.ca**](mailto:info@canadianplantbiotech.ca)