

# LABCON 2026

## Diverse Voices, Shared Vision Vancouver, BC

### Day 1

Friday May 8, 2026

- 1000-1030 Refreshments  
Pacific Foyer
- 1030-1100 **Opening Ceremonies**  
Pacific Ballroom
- 1100-1200 **Plenary Speaker: Dr. Jim Talbot**  
All I needed to know, I learned in a Laboratory  
Apologies to Robert Fulghum  
Pacific Ballroom
- 1200-1300 **Virtual to Vital: Elevating MLA & PN Training Through Virtu-WIL Simulation**  
Alex Purdy, Vara Hagreen, Lauren Nagy, Tarah Craig  
Waddington Room
- The Connected Laboratory: How Systems Thinking Elevates Quality & Patient Care**  
Mary Costantino  
Saltspring Island Room
- The role of the laboratory in Alzheimer's disease**  
Joe Boffos  
Tweedsmuir Room
- From Idea to Interface: How To Build Effective Virtual Simulations**  
Brady Rose, Sean Doyle  
Pacific Ballroom
- 1300-1500 **Exhibitor Lunch**  
BC Ballroom (Exhibitor Hall)
- 1500-1600 **Traditional Medicine Tie Making Workshop**  
Elder Lorelei Hawkins  
Pacific Ballroom
- 1600-1630 **Refreshment Break**  
BC Ballroom (Exhibitor Hall)
- 1630-1730 **Plenary Speaker: Lucy Perrone**  
Quality Management in the Laboratory  
Pacific Ballroom

Breakout Sessions

### Day 2

Saturday May 9, 2026

- 0800-0900 **Breakfast**  
Pacific Foyer & Pacific Ballroom
- 0900-1000 **Plenary Speaker: Dr. Marthe Charles**  
Copy That? The Perks and Pitfalls of Molecular Diagnostics  
Pacific Ballroom
- 1000-1030 **Refreshment Break**  
BC Ballroom (Exhibitor Hall)
- 1030-1130 **From Silent to Siren: Finding Your Voice**  
Panel  
Waddington Room
- Equity in Diagnostic Access: Collaborative Solutions for Remote Indigenous Communities**  
Michelle Dunn  
Saltspring Island Room
- Antinuclear Antibodies – The Never-Ending Story in Laboratory Diagnostics**  
Donglai Ma  
Tweedsmuir Room
- Leadership in a Changing World: Finding the Human Edge in the Age of AI**  
Haleh Bahrami  
Pacific Ballroom
- 1130-1230 **Lunch**  
BC Ballroom (Exhibitor Hall)
- 1230-1330 **Mental Health**  
Christine Nielsen & Denise Neutel  
Waddington Room
- Biosafety and Infection Control... Two Different Roads, Same Destination**  
Tom Walus  
Saltspring Island Room
- Under the Lab Coat Part 2: Exposing Racism Experienced by Professionals and Trainees**  
Amanda VanSpronsen & Lisa Purdy  
Tweedsmuir Room
- Weird Science: A Case Study Review**  
Denise Fudge  
Pacific Ballroom

Breakout Sessions

Breakout Sessions

### Day 2

Continued

- 1330-1400 **Refreshment Break**  
BC Ballroom (Exhibitor Hall)
- 1400-1500 **Bench 2 Business 8.0**  
Christine Nielsen  
Waddington Room
- Ergonomics at work and at home**  
Jackie Spain  
Saltspring Island Room
- Clinical Teaching: How to be a LAB-STAR**  
Valentin (Tino) Villatoro  
Tweedsmuir Room
- The Art, Science and Synergy of Morphology and Flow: How YOUR Work Directly Impacts the Diagnosis and Treatment of Hematologic Malignancies**  
Dr. Luke Shier  
Pacific Ballroom
- 1500-1530 **Refreshment Break**  
BC Ballroom (Exhibitor Hall)
- 1530-1630 **Why good falls short: Becoming a better professional through reflection**  
Meagan Graff & Brady Rose  
Waddington Room
- Lupus Anticoagulant Testing & Result Interpretation**  
Constance Savard  
Saltspring Island Room
- Race-based laboratory intervals: Science, Equity, and the Future of Reference Values**  
Nyasha Katedza  
Tweedsmuir Room
- POCT's Promise: Future Fix or Rescuing Rural Lab?**  
Megan Parrish  
Pacific Ballroom
- 1900-2400 **Gala**  
Pacific Ballroom

Breakout Sessions

Breakout Sessions

# LABCON 2026

Diverse Voices, Shared Vision  
Vancouver, BC

Day 3

Sunday May 10, 2026

0800-0900	<b>Breakfast</b> BC Ballroom (Exhibitor Hall)
0900-1000	<b>The Emotional Well-Being Advantage: In the Lab and Beyond</b> Laurie Shopland - Waddington Room <b>LabWisely</b> Amanda VanSpronsen - Saltspring Island Room <b>Transformative Change and Why Language Matters</b> Elizabeth Soares, Karen Mooder, Julie Coffey & Kamie Marshall - Tweedsmuir Room <b>Lipemia, Hemolysis, Icterus &amp; others</b> Terence Litaven - BC Ballroom
1000-1015	<b>Refreshment Break</b> BC Ballroom (Exhibitor Hall)
1015-1115	<b>Serving Rural Communities for Safer Care Everywhere: Flexible Shipping Models for Equitable Access to Proficiency Testing</b> Haleh Bahrami & Brittnee Ross - Waddington Room <b>Achieving Measurably Better Healthcare Through Lab Enabled Best Practices</b> Craig Ivany - Saltspring Island Room <b>Cases from the world of Parasitology</b> Pauline Tomlin - Tweedsmuir Room <b>From the Bench to Quality Assurance: A Transition Plan</b> Courtney Luzius-Vanin - BC Ballroom
1115-1215	<b>Mother's Day Brunch</b> BC Ballroom (Exhibitor Hall)
1215-1245	<b>An Overview of Newborn Screening in the Maritimes</b> Ryan Fraser - Waddington Room <b>Diversity, equity, and inclusion in the laboratory</b> Saltspring Island Room - Lilian Ozabor <b>The Nova Scotia Slide Makeover: Business Process Improvement in the Histology Laboratory</b> Nadine Vega - Tweedsmuir Room <b>Data &amp; Diagnosis: The Artificial Intelligence Transformation of Laboratory Science</b> M. Irfan-Maqsood - BC Ballroom
1245-1315	<b>Closing Ceremonies</b> BC Ballroom

Thank you to our sponsors!

Platinum Sponsor



Silver Sponsors



Sponsors

