

BHCRI 2026 Annual Cancer Research Conference

APRIL 30, 2026 – MAY 01, 2026

McInnes Room, Dalhousie Student Union Building - 6136 University Avenue, Halifax, Nova Scotia



CONFERENCE AGENDA

New! Hot Topics at BHCRI



Hot Topics are a new format designed to foster communication and discussion. Each presenter will briefly set the stage before inviting attendees to engage in guided roundtable discussions at their tables.

Time	THURSDAY- APRIL 30, 2026 Session	Speaker / Facilitators
8:00 – 9:00 A.M.	Morning Refreshments & Check-In	
9:00 – 9:10 A.M.	Welcome & Introductions	Scott Grandy, PhD
9:10 – 10:00 A.M.	Hot Topic: <i>Habilitation</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 25- min Presentation• 25- min Roundtable Discussion	Session Chair: Melissa Coombs, CITP Speaker: Scott Grandy, PhD
10:00 – 10:15 A.M.	2025 Jen Johnston Research Award Winner Presentation (15- min)	Session Chair: Scott Grandy, PhD Speaker: Modeline Longjohn

THURSDAY- APRIL 30, 2026 (cont'd)

Time	Session	Speaker / Facilitators
10:15 – 10:30 A.M.	BREAK	
10:30 – 12:00 P.M.	Patient Partner Panel Discussion: Partnerships Between Patient Partners & Faculty <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90- min Discussion 	Session Facilitators: Jeanette Boudreau, PhD & Don Desserud, PhD
12:00 – 2:00 P.M.	LUNCH & CRTP Poster Presentations	Poster Presentations: 12:30 – 1:15 p.m. – Odd Numbered Posters 1:15 – 2:00 p.m. – Even Numbered Posters
2:00 – 2:50 P.M.	Hot Topic: <i>Checkpoint Checkmate: Metabolism as the Master Regulator of Cancer Immunotherapy</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25- min Presentation • 25-min Roundtable Discussion 	Session Chair: Kim Brewer, PhD Speaker: Shashi Gujar, DVM, PhD
2:50 – 3:30 P.M.	Trainee Oral Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3-10 min presentation each + 2-3 min Q&A 	Session Chair: Kim Brewer, PhD - Carly Stevenson - Karla Valenzuela - Daniel Medina-Luna
3:30 – 4:20 P.M.	Hot Topic: Cannabis in Cancer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25- min Presentation • 25-min Roundtable Discussion 	Session Chair: Jeanette Boudreau, PhD Jacob McGee, MD, FRCS

FRIDAY – MAY 01, 2026

Time	Session	Speaker / Facilitators
8:30 – 9:00 A.M.	Morning Refreshments	
9:00 – 9:05 A.M.	Welcome Back & Overview	Scott Grandy, PhD
9:10 – 10:00 A.M.	<p>Keynote 1</p> <p><i>“StAR-related lipid transfer domain-3 (STARD3), a vulnerability for HER2-amplified breast cancers”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50-min Presentation and Q & A 	<p><i>Session Chair: tbd</i></p> <p>Speaker: Catherine Tomasetto, PhD</p>
10:15– 11:05 A.M.	<p>Keynote 2</p> <p><i>“Exercise: Is it time to implement in cancer care?”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50-min Presentation and Q & A 	<p><i>Session Chair: tbd</i></p> <p>Speaker: Kristin Campbell, PT, PhD</p>
11:05 – 11:20 A.M.	Closing Statements and Trainee Award Presentations	Jeanette Boudreau, Phd & Scott Grandy, PhD
11:20 A.M.	<p>Grab & Go Networking & Information Tables: Meet representatives from BHCRI and affiliate programs. Pick up resources and complete conference feedback & evaluation.</p>	

Attending Dalhousie University’s Pathology Research Day?

The Pathology Research Day begins at 11:00 A.M. at the Atlantica Hotel Halifax. Our conference venue is approximately a **15-minute walk**, allowing attendees to comfortably participate in both events.

CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



CATHERINE TOMASETTO, PhD

Institute of Genetics and Molecular and Cellular Biology



KRISTIN CAMPBELL, PT, PhD

The University of British Columbia

HOT TOPICS



SCOTT GRANDY, PhD

Dalhousie University



SHASHI GUJAR, DVM, PhD

Dalhousie University



JACOB MCGEE, MD, FRCSC

Dalhousie University

PATIENT PARTNER FACILITATORS



JEANETTE BOUDREAU, PhD

Dalhousie University



DON DESSERUD, PhD

University of Prince Edward Island