

Celebrate Science

Global Biotech Week in Saskatchewan



Saskatchewan!

What is Global Biotechnology Week?

In 2003 BIOTECCanada (Canada's biotechnology industry association) introduced National Biotechnology Week, encouraging provincial industry associations to create industry and outreach events. The goal was simple: to increase awareness of biotechnology and to celebrate science. Over the years, the initiative grew into a national success story, and in 2016, Biotech Week went Global! All countries are invited to join in on the celebration and use Global Biotech Week to showcase their country's success and the industry's global and economic significance.

Biotech innovation has become increasingly central to the global competitiveness of the industries and sectors that form the economic foundation of economies. As examples, Covid pandemic highlighted the crucial role that vaccines play in public health and safety. The sustainability of Saskatchewan's agriculture sector has grown in the past decades, thanks to biotechnology.

BIOTECCanada coordinates all the activities in an event calendar at globalbiotechweek.ca. In Saskatchewan, municipal and provincial governments issue official proclamations to support Biotech Week. Global Biotech Week events aim to raise awareness of the industry and its global potential among policymakers, policy influencers and the public.

Biotechnology in Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan hosts over 30 per cent of Canada's agricultural biotechnology activity, with many other areas developing, such as genomics, plant-made pharmaceuticals and diagnostics. Two university campuses and three research parks, along with numerous research institutions and technical training centres, create a research cluster - a great benefit to businesses, from start-up companies to international success stories. Outstanding science R&D infrastructure, a talented workforce, quality raw materials and a solid business environment make Saskatchewan the perfect place for bio-business.

About Ag-West Bio:


Ag-West Bio coordinates Global Biotech Week activities in Saskatchewan. As Saskatchewan's bioeconomy catalyst, Ag-West helps to grow biobusiness through support and mentoring, funding, strategic alliances, building networking opportunities and communications. www.agwest.sk.ca

2026 Steering Committee for Biotech Week in Saskatchewan:

Ag-West Bio (chair), Agriculture in the Classroom, Genome Prairie, Innovation Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Polytechnic, University of Saskatchewan, Global Institute for Food Security, Saskatchewan Science Centre, 9 Mile Legacy, Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists, plus a retired scientist and a university student!

For more information about Global Biotech Week activities in Saskatchewan, visit globalbiotechweeksask.ca or contact [Alejandra Toro](#) at Ag-West Bio.





Each year the **Global Biotech Week Saskatchewan** committee develops an exciting program that includes events and activities targeting the bioscience industry as well as public outreach. **In 2025 over 3100 people participated in Saskatchewan. Here are some of the activities:**

Nuit Blanche: Beautiful Science, The Story of a Forest: Beautiful Science – Hosted by Ag-West Bio: The Story of a Forest creates a virtual forest experience through projections, soundscape and physical objects – the perfect stage from which to share dendrochronologist Dr. Colin Larocque's research on forests – their life cycle, how they communicate, and the stories their tree rings tell. Over 2000 attendees visited the venue.

Taste of Innovation: Roots & Resilience: Bridging Land, Science, and Story Through Food and Tradition – Hosted by The Prairie Food Link: This special lunch showcasing innovative Saskatchewan foods and ingredients!

Science Teacher Workshop – Hosted by Agriculture in the Classroom: Teachers participated in a full day of professional development hosted by Agriculture in the Classroom. They learned about the fascinating world of ag-biotech in our province through tours and hands-on biotech activities at the Global Institute for Food Security, Canadian Light Source and Global Agri-Food Advancement Partnership.

From Design to Data: Leveraging Automation for Engineering Biology – Hosted by The Global Institute of Food Security: The latest digital tools for engineering biology can generate millions of predictions about proteins, microbes, and cells in minutes. Turning those predictions into real-world solutions, however, requires the ability to build and precisely test living systems at a massive scale.

Advancements in Ag Research webinar: The University of Saskatchewan College of Agriculture and Bioresources hosted “Cultivating Knowledge” a webinar series focused on genetics (plant, human, animal) and featuring ‘atypical’ agriculture topics, such as health and social sciences

Cafe Scientifique: Sick to your stomach? Battling the bugs of foodborne illnesses: Global Biotech Week has been co-hosting the Biotech Edition of Café Sci since 2013! In 2025, Dr. Kaidi Wang, Dept. of Food & Bioproduct Sciences, USask was our guest speaker. Her research explores microorganisms used in fermentation and applying new technologies to improve their performance.

Healthy People, Healthy Animals – Hosted by VIDO: A 2-day symposium in infectious disease prevention

Canadian Light Source Tours – Hosted by the Canadian Light Source: the CLS opens its doors to the public, participants of the Global Biotech Week had the opportunity to tour the facilities and learn about the works being done at CLS

Tapped In: How Brewers and Biotech are Reading the Room – Hosted by 9 Mile Legacy Brewing

Company: This webinar takes a wide-angle look at how fermentation is being reimaged in response to demands for healthier, more sustainable, and more intentional products.

Biotech at the Market – Hosted by Ag-West Bio: This event is all about the science behind fermentation and distillation.

The Science Zone @ All in for Literacy: Elementary students are invited to participate in All in for Literacy, hosted by Saskatoon Public Schools Foundation. The Global Biotech Week Science Zone booth, managed by Ag in the Classroom provides hands-on bioscience activities during the event.

The Amazing Biotech Race – Hosted by Ag-West Bio: Innovation Saskatchewan R+T Park Saskatoon, SK Bioscience students search for clues and participate in quick lab challenges and learn about Saskatoon bioscience companies along the way. The race is followed by a networking reception.



Food Centre's Fermentation Facility Tour –Hosted by the Food Centre: The Food Centre’s Fermentation & Bioengineering (FAB) team is reshaping how we think about food and agriculture. From precision fermentation to probiotic-packed beverages and sustainable bioproducts.

Biotech + Beyond: Biotech Careers panel discussion – Hosted by Saskatchewan Science Centre and University of Regina: A great panel discussion directed toward university students, talking about their career journeys and how biotech plays a role in their specific jobs.

UpCycled Art Poster Competition: Elementary students from schools around the province participated in an art poster competition on the themes of biology/nature and pollution. The 125 posters that were entered can be viewed [here](#).

[Click here](#) to watch the highlights reel.



Champion - \$2500+

Acknowledgement at **ALL** events (or as many as you wish)

- Company logo on promotional material and website
- Opportunity to display logo at ALL events (or your choice)
- Opportunity to speak (2 mins) at one event of your choice



GOLD - \$900 - \$2000

Acknowledgement at **three** events of your choice

- Company logo on promotional material and website
- Opportunity to display logo during three events



SILVER - \$450 - \$850

Acknowledgement at **two** events of your choice

- Company logo on promotional material and website
- Opportunity to display logo during two events



BRONZE - \$200 - \$400

Acknowledgement at **one** event of your choice

- Company logo on promotional material and website
- Opportunity to display logo during one event



Friends of Global Biotech Week

- Opportunity to donate specific item for any event:
(Examples: door prizes or swag for student events)
- Company logo on website

