

For full details about this program, including application form and instructions, please [visit our website](#).

### Meet Your Indigenous Summer Studentship Advisors!

Do you have questions about the BioCanRx Indigenous Summer Studentship? Below, you will find individuals who are here to answer them! Topics can be anything from what it's like to conduct research generally, to conduct cancer immunotherapy research, to work away from home, to set your own work-life balance – you name it! Each advisor offers something a little bit different. Don't hesitate to reach out to more than one - they are excited to help.

#### Aaron Prosper



Aaron Prosper is a member of Eskasoni First Nation and now resides in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. In 2017-2018, Aaron served as President of the Dalhousie Students' Union, becoming the first Indigenous person to serve in this role. A graduate of Dalhousie's Bachelor of Science (Neuroscience) program, Aaron is currently the project manager of the Nova Scotia Mi'kmaw Nation Cancer Care Strategy and a graduate student at the University of Prince Edward Island. Aaron's areas of research include: Cancer, Epigenetics, Mental Health & Addictions, Indigenous Health, and Indigenous Ethics & Research Methodologies. Outside of his academic work, Aaron is a member of the Eastern Eagle Singers, a contemporary Mi'kmaw drum group based out of Sipe'knekatik First Nation.

**Email: [Aaron.Prosp@dal.ca](mailto:Aaron.Prosp@dal.ca)**

#### Jade Atkins



I am a first-generation university student with Indigenous heritage, originally from rural Nova Scotia. I completed my Bachelor of Science degree at Dalhousie University and my Master of Science degree at Saint Mary's University, both in Halifax, Nova Scotia. I am currently in my sixth year of my PhD program at Carleton University in Ottawa under the supervision of Dr. Hillary Maddin. My research, on amphibians, integrates palaeontology and developmental biology to help us understand how changes in development drives morphological diversity. I am available to chat with applicants who need help in navigating the application process, who are interested in learning more about conducting research, or who would like some help and advice with navigating academia. Please contact me by email and we can set up a meeting.

**Email: [Jade.Atkins@Carleton.ca](mailto:Jade.Atkins@Carleton.ca)**

### Julian Lum



I obtained my Ph.D. from the University of Ottawa and pursued a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania. My research program is interested in understanding how cellular metabolism regulates tumorigenesis (growth of tumours). I am studying how autophagy promotes tumour cell survival and whether these pathways can be used as novel targets for T cell therapy. Other areas of interest include: cancer stem cells, metabolic control of T cells, and immunotherapy.

I am a BioCanRx Network Investigator, and have trained BioCanRx Summer Students in previous years. I also sit on the BioCanRx's Highly Qualified Personnel Development Committee and Adjudication Committee that adjudicates summer studentships.

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### Megan Mahoney



I currently work at BioCanRx, a federally funded Networks of Centre of Excellence focused on cancer immunotherapy. Since joining BioCanRx in 2017, she has developed and overseen training initiatives aimed at bridging the gap and growing the talent pool in translational expertise related to cell and virus-based therapies. Prior to joining BioCanRx, I was Operations Manager for the Biotherapeutics Manufacturing Centre (BMC) Virus Facility at the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute. In this role, I oversaw the operational activities of the BMC, which specializes in virus and vaccine development and manufacturing services for products destined for pre-clinical and clinical research. I am also a program advisor for the Science to Business Network and a program committee member for the Canadian Science Policy Centre. I received my PhD in Neuroscience from Queen's University in 2014.

I have led the Summer Studentship program for many years and would be glad to answer any questions that you have about the application process or cancer-related careers, make introductions or help you find researchers. Email is the best way to reach me, and we can follow up with a call or Zoom.

**Email: [memahoney@biocanrx.com](mailto:memahoney@biocanrx.com)**

### Taylor Jamieson



I am a Métis student, originally from Winnipeg, Manitoba. I completed a Bachelor of Science Honours degree at the University of Winnipeg and am presently in my fifth year of the MD/PhD program at the University of Ottawa. I am currently completing my PhD under the supervision of Drs. Ilkow and Bell at the Cancer Centre within the Ottawa Hospital Research Institute. My research aims to explore the expression of microRNAs from oncolytic viruses to overcome resistance to conventional cancer drug therapies. I look forward to chatting with applicants who might want to learn more about cancer research and what a summer studentship might look like in our centre, I also welcome the opportunity to discuss potential career paths in both academic and clinical settings while I navigate both as an MD/PhD student.

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