



Ag-West Bio Inc.

BIO-BULLETIN



News from Saskatchewan's Life Science Sector

National Biotech Week: Celebrating Innovation

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A BIOTECCanada initiative, National Biotechnology Week celebrates the innovation of Canadian scientists and entrepreneurs. Saskatchewan launched Biotech Week (Sept. 17-24) with a luncheon at Innovation Place for more than 60 participants.

Minister of Innovation Rob Norris spoke of the talent and ambition, and the “remarkable pioneering work that has taken place, from a Canadian and global context, right here.” He cited employment statistics that give the province a rosy glow: Saskatchewan has the lowest unemployment rate in the country, and “We have more than 7000 jobs open and available to the people of this province and around the world, and there is increasing interest in the opportunities that are here.”

Ken Loeppky, Vice President of Research Park Operations told the story of the award winning Innovation Place research parks; and 15 year-old [Rui Song](#) (national winner of the 2010 Sanofi-Aventis BioTalent Challenge), wowed the audience with wisdom beyond her years, sharing her experience of the SABC competition and her love of biotechnology.

Education Outreach Days included workshops for high school students at the U of S College of Agriculture and Bioresources and NRC-PBI, and a workshop at Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIASST) for teachers and counsellors.

The Second Annual Biotech & Beer at Boffins was a great finale for the week, with Saskatoon’s Mayor Don Atchison, Dr. Reno Pontarollo (CSO for Genome Prairie) and Jerome Konecni (Director General of NRC-PBI) addressing the 50+ guests who gathered to raise a toast to the science of biotechnology.



The Anderson Burko Band provided entertainment at Biotech & Beer



Saskatoon Mayor Don Atchison at Biotech & Beer at Boffins





Director General
of NRC-PBI
Jerome Konecni,
joins the band at
Biotech & Beer



Dr. Reno Pontarollo, CSO for
Genome Prairie, at Biotech &
Beer

Outreach Day at
NRC-PBI. Students from
Montgomery School's Science
Trek program talk to scientists
Ivor Smith and Allan Feurtado
(below)





