



Cleantech Hub Quarterly Update | April 2023

Cleantech Hub

Cleantech Hub Updates

[Two Cleantech Hub researchers are among this year's UBC Faculty Research Award recipients.](#) Dr. Liu received a UBC Killam Accelerator Research Fellowship, which aims to support "early-career researchers ready to launch the next stage of their careers." Dr. Arjmand received a UBC Killam Research Prize which "recognizes outstanding research and scholarly contributions."

An XRD Micronizing Mill ([XRD-MILL MCCRONE](#)) was purchased and ready to use for preparing samples for subsequent X-ray diffraction analysis. The mill rapidly reduces troublesome 0.5mm particles to submicrometer sizes required for quantitative and qualitative analytical methods.

[German President's visit to UBC highlights clean energy and climate change solutions.](#) The President of Germany, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, and a 70-member German delegation visited UBC and met with researchers working on challenges related to clean energy, digital manufacturing, quantum materials, and smart energy storage. Dr. Arjmand's research team spoke to the German delegation about the project on embedding enhanced properties into next-generation materials.

[Congratulations to Amandine Drew who won John Tiedje Fellowship in Clean Energy and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation.](#)

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New Projects



The battery Innovation Cluster

The Battery Innovation Cluster is taking a holistic approach to creating renewable solid-state batteries that meet the increasing demand for environmentally responsible energy sources. The team led by Dr. Jian Liu combines interdisciplinary expertise in engineering, chemistry, business, and management to design and manufacture solid-state batteries, understand environmental, economic & social impacts, and explore the feasibility of establishing a local supply chain and energy solutions made in Canada.

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Net Zero Cluster Using Solar Energy

Solar Energy for Net Zero Cluster co-led by Dr. Alexander Uhi collaborating to develop solutions and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by working towards identifying low-cost materials for high-volume manufacturing, advancing devices for light-generated electricity and solar fuels, and examining power grid challenges for solar energy integration.

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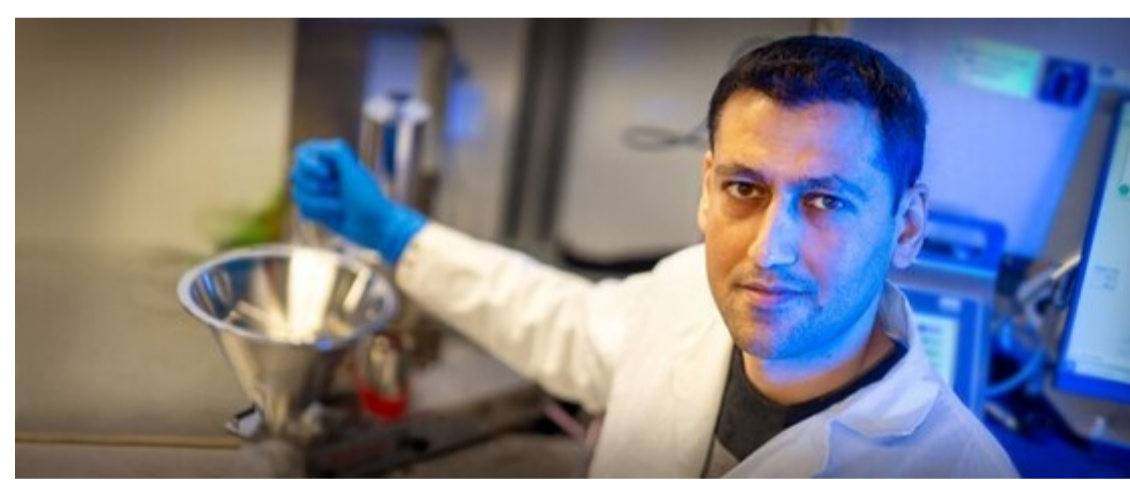
New Partners, Investments



InnoTech Alberta and Dr. Bichler signed a new research partnership

Dr. Gary Fisher, Director of MARIOS consortium and Program Lead of AMFI, InnoTech Alberta, and Dr. Lukas Bichler's research team are collaborating on the development of new functionally graded materials. These new materials are expected to have unique properties, especially high strength, and high abrasion resistance, and will find use in diverse engineering applications.

Researcher Spotlight



Dr. Mohammad Arjmand and his interdisciplinary research team are exploring solutions to the world's obsession with plastics

In Canada, 79 percent of plastics are dumped in landfills or natural settings, which creates huge social and environmental problems. Dr. Armand knew he needed to do something for the community, beyond academia, and that's where the idea first sparked. "The reality is that we can't readily remove plastics from our daily life, but we can devise solutions to prevent sending so much of it to the landfill."

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Student Spotlight



Parisa Najimi's research focuses on conserving valuable metals and reducing pollution from corrosion inhibitors

Parisa is deeply passionate about leaving a lasting impact on society and the environment. What excites her about her area of study is its potential to conserve our planet by preserving valuable metals and reducing corrosion inhibitors that also pollute. She truly believes the health and well-being of our planet for future generations can be preserved by combining education and action.

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