Prostate Centre's Translational Research Initiative for Accelerated Discovery and Development

The Vancouver Prostate Centre (VPC) is a vibrant translational cancer research facility housing an outstanding team of 23 scientists and clinicians focused on the discovery, development, and translation of cancer therapeutics. Through its Prostate Centre's Translational Research Initiative for Accelerated Discovery and Development (PC-TRiADD), key components of the translational research machinery are integrated under one organization, facilitating seamless management of the complex processes involved in discovery, preclinical development, and clinical research in close partnership with national clinical trials and research networks as well as industry. PC-TRiADD symbolizes the foundational role of science, medicine, and business in translational cancer research; its ***mission*** is to serve as an academic-industry hybrid research centre that fosters the paradigm of team-driven translational health research, and was funded as a national Center of Excellence for Commercialization of Research (CECR) from 2008-18. PC-TRiADD aims to: ***discover*** molecular mechanisms of cancer therapeutic resistance; ***exploit*** this knowledge to discover new patent-protected drug products and biomarkers; ***develop*** new services and products; ***improve*** cancer outcomes; and to ***promote*** regional growth of biotechnology.

PC-TRiADD is supported by 5 integrated research cores: Genomics, Molecular Pathology, Functional Genomics, Therapeutics Development, and Clinical Trials (***Figure. 1***). CECR helped restructure our cores to form a contract research enterprise consisting of 4 business units that offer access to a unique combination of technologies, human tissues, cancer models and clinical expertise. The enterprise as a whole is greater than the sum of its parts because it enables translation and commercialization of discoveries into new interventions under one management team. This innovative and visionary strategy has led to major scientific, clinical, and commercial successes. In addition to supporting discovery research and product development at VPC, these cores provide novel resources and services that attract considerable revenue from industry and academic partners. While we focus on prostate cancer, many of our services and discoveries have utility in other cancers. Our CECR has the full support of UBC, BC Cancer Agency (BCCA), VGH, the Province of BC, as well as many industry and academic partners.

PC-TRiADD Objectives: (i) to drive its discoveries and IP-protected products from the lab to the clinic and marketplace; and (ii) to commercialize its discoveries, services, and products to spin-off biotech while attracting contract research revenue from academic and industry partners.

Specific aims are to:

- Accelerate discovery and development of cancer therapeutics and biomarkers
- Commercialize our novel patented products and services
- Promote regional and national growth of the biotechnology sector
- Expand partnerships with industry, academia, and national clinical trials networks
- Attract, train & retain the best scientists, clinicians, and other Highly Qualified Personnel (HQP)
- Improve outcomes of cancer patients in BC and across Canada

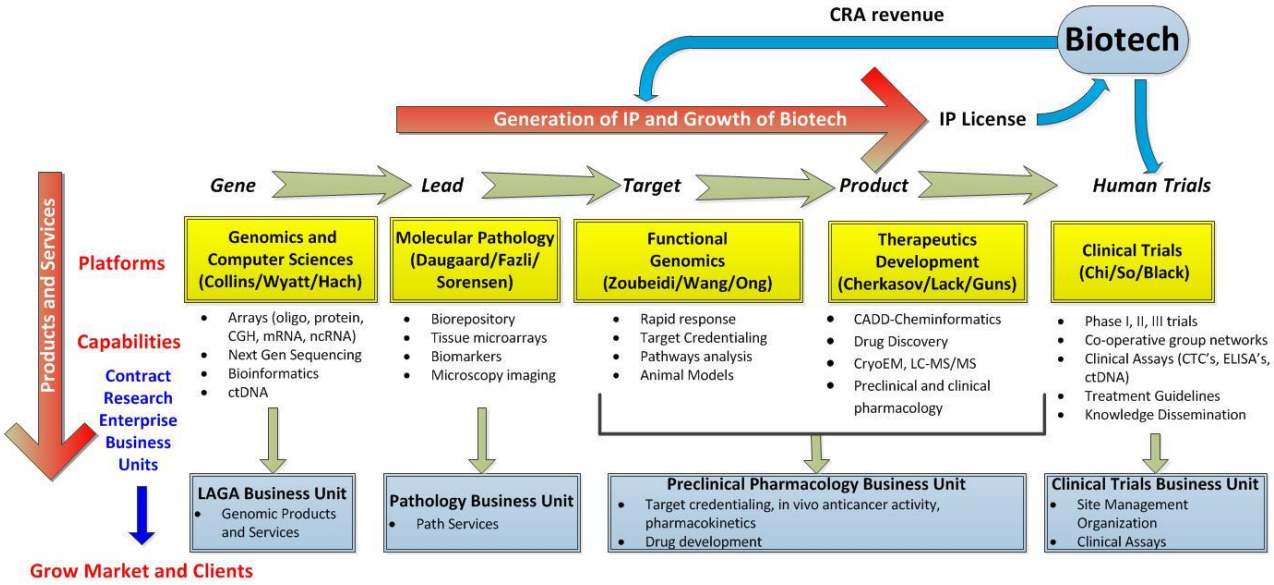

Figure 1: PC-TRiADD cores help accelerate discovery of targeted drugs and biomarkers with seamless development and transfer of promote regional growth of biotechnology and enhance health-care in Canada. **Five core platforms** (yellow boxes) integrate genomics, target validation and functional credentialing with therapeutics development and clinical trials to generate new IP and licensed products with the creation, growth, and retention of biotech companies. These capabilities also attract contract research revenue with academia and industry for access to our novel technologies, products, resources, and services. **Four business units** (blue boxes) leverage development of our own discoveries, as well as attract diversified revenue sources from academic and industry clients to support sustainability.