



Pacific Animal Foundation

A Network of Caring in the Urban Wilderness

Mayor and Council of City of Vancouver
City Hall
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

October 17, 2019

Dear Mayor Stewart and Vancouver Council:

Re: A Changing Paradigm – Moving away from Animal Testing

I am writing today, as President of Pacific Animal Foundation, a registered Canadian charity, to bring to Council's attention, several websites and articles that indicate substantial progression in the area away from using animals in testing for medical research. A direct quote from the following article states:

“However, the 21st Century has already seen the development of a wide range of non-animal methods incorporating complex cell cultures, organs-on-a-chip and computer modelling. These methods are more relevant to human biology and are already enabling the replacement of animals as the default option in life science, particularly in the areas of toxicology and regulatory testing, but also in biomedical research.

This recently published study says the time has now come to prioritise the Replacement of animals used for scientific purposes, over refinement and reduction strategies.”

Moving beyond the Three Rs in Biomedical Research – European Union Science Hub -

<https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/science-update/moving-beyond-three-rs-biomedical-research>

Johns Hopkins University, world renowned medical facility, is, in fact, America's first research university (1876) and home to nine world-class academic divisions working together as one university. The university established the Bloomberg School of Public Health - Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing.

<http://caat.jhsph.edu/>

<http://caat.jhsph.edu/about/index.html>

Many countries, including Canada, now have national Centers for Alternatives to Animal Testing including Canada and are adopting the 3R's in medical research. The Canadian Centre in Canada is located at the University of Windsor, Ontario and is found at the following website:

<http://www.uwindsor.ca/ccaam/>

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And a recent TEDx talk is found at the following link which I would urge you to watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=14&v=6O6kOcZH_mg

The technological advances are moving at a tremendous rate and the focus is leading in the direction of human-based cell modelling, and organ on a chip solutions as a means of better understanding answers and refining custom medical care for humans.

<https://newfrontiersin3d.com/>

Daily, there are more advances and emerging technologies which will assist the medical community in their quest for disease treatments.

St. Paul's Hospital claims on its new website: **“The future of health care in BC starts at the new St. Paul's”** and, if that is to be true, then the hospital **MUST** move forward with the changing times and paradigm and away from animal testing for research.

https://helpstpauls.com/newstpauls?gclid=Cj0KCQjwoqDtBRD-ARIsAL4pviBd0301aBYVysWPheZGbvBzws0qvcyGPYAp2FRwkTdxVyoGt_ApAwaAt3OEALw_wcB

I strongly urge the Mayor and Council to reject any approval for animal laboratory facilities for testing of animals at the new St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver ! They need to head into the future.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Lana Simon, Director
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