



2026
IGEM
TORONTO
INFO PACKAGE

Join us in engineering a
cleaner, sustainable future.

iGEM TORONTO

among University of Toronto's largest student research teams

100+

cross-disciplinary
student researchers

Global

exposure, conversing with
researchers and stakeholders internationally

20+

years in
operation



*iGEM Toronto brings together top undergraduate and graduate students **across engineering, science, and business** to develop **synthetic biology** solutions against **the most pressing real-world problems**. We engage the broader community and ensure our work meets **rigorous human-practice standards**.*

*Each year, we represent the University of Toronto to compete at **the iGEM Grand Jamboree**, the biggest synthetic biology competition in the world with 5000+ attendees annually.*

OUR TRACK RECORD

iGEM GRAND JAMBOREE PERFORMANCE

2023

- Best Model
- STANDING: **GOLD**



2024

- Best Model
- Best Entrepreneurship award
- Top 10 global project
- STANDING: **GOLD**



2025

- Best Overgraduate Therapeutics Project
- Top 10 Overgraduate Team Overall
- Nominated for Best Overgraduate Model
- STANDING: **GOLD**



**THIS
YEAR**
(so far...)



Selected to showcase our
work at **Web Summit**
Vancouver 2026

Judge's Choice Award at
Global iGEM Biohackathon
Competition (Selected from
330 total teams)



THE PROBLEM



Microplastics are Persisting at Scale

Microplastics are now found in human organs and ecosystems worldwide, with **no scalable method for removal**.

Less than 10% of PET plastic used in bottles is recycled, and **existing enzyme solutions are too slow and unstable** for real-world conditions.

WE ARE BUILDING: THE PETABITE

OUR SOLUTION

A full-stack platform to discover, optimize, and deploy plastic-degrading enzymes at scale

LOGAN: World's largest plastic-degrading enzyme database
300M+ enzyme families derived from 1B+ sequences

+

AI-guided discovery + high-throughput validation
Closed-loop system linking machine learning and wet-lab assays

+

Building for real-world performance
Conducting scalable testing and real-world validation

Economic Burden



\$19 Billion in losses driven by plastic waste and environmental damage

Health Risks



Microplastics damage **cells**, trigger **inflammation**, and contribute to **long-term** health risks

Why Does It Matter Now?

No scalable solution exists today to remove microplastics from real-world environments.

Demand for Sustainability



Rising regulatory pressure and consumer demand are driving **rapid growth** in sustainable materials and waste solutions

Current Solutions Fail



Current enzymes are **slow and unstable** and perform **poorly** outside controlled lab conditions

OUR ADVISORS



Dr. Artem Babaian
Principal Investigator
Laboratory for RNA-Based Lifeforms



Dr. Rayan Chikhi
Researcher & Group Leader
Institut Pasteur



Dr. Christopher Lawson
Principal Investigator
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BioZone



Dr. Chelsea Rochman
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We are also grateful for the guidance, support, and resources from advisors and sponsors affiliated with the following institutions:



WHY SUPPORT iGEM TORONTO?

In-Person Engagement



Speak at University of Toronto in Fall 2026 to students, researchers, industry professionals, and members of the public.

Global Visibility



Gain visibility through international competitions, industry events, and iGEM Toronto outreach initiatives.

Scientific Impact



Support cutting-edge synthetic biology research tackling microplastic pollution through scalable enzyme design.

SPONSORSHIP TIERS & BENEFITS

SPONSOR TIERS	DIAMOND	PLATINUM	GOLD	SILVER
Brand Visibility				
Logo on iGEM Toronto website	Featured	Featured	✓	✓
Logo on sponsor slides	✓	✓	✓	✓
Logo on team apparel	✓	✓	✓	
Logo on conference signage & printed program	✓	✓		
Dedicated sponsor spotlight/social feature	✓	✓		
In-person Engagement				
Opening remark introduction	✓	✓		
Resume book (opt-in)	Priority	Standard		
1-1 Introductions within iGEM Toronto's research ecosystem	5	2		
Corporate pass to iGEM-Toronto-hosted events	4	2		



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