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GEEE! In GENOME Speakers' Series presentation highlights local CSI successes

The popularity of crime scene investigation (CSI) has exploded! Programs such as *CSI: New York* have generated an enormous interest in the science behind crime investigation.

You can learn first-hand about the exciting CSI scene in Thunder Bay at the GEEE! in GENOME Speakers' Series, presented by the Health Sciences Discovery Fund of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation.

"CSI Thunder Bay" will take place at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, September 23, 2008 at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery.

Everyone is welcome to listen to the scientists of Molecular World and Lakehead University's Paleo DNA Lab discuss the fascinating work they do:

Stephen Fratpietro and Dr. Carney Matheson's portion of the presentation will familiarize the public with the Lakehead University Paleo DNA lab and what they do in terms of genetic analysis and other services they offer. After a brief introduction to DNA analysis and types of DNA relationships, he will focus on one particular ancient DNA project recently worked on at the lab. The project involved the genetic analysis of a mummified corpse found in a tomb near Rennes-le-chateau, France and was featured in a documentary entitled "Bloodline".

Curtis Hildebrandt and Arlene Lahti of Molecular World Inc. will discuss the technologies used to help solve three specific crime cases:

- The Ronald Woodcock case for OPP in Southern Ontario; MWI's work in this case ensured that a dangerous man was convicted of committing approximately 80 murders and remained behind bars.
- MWI assisted RCMP in Winnipeg to solve a cold case. From samples that were previously tested at another lab, and were deemed unsuitable for analysis, MWI linked evidence to a single suspect.
- MWI helped close a 20-year-old missing person's case in Alberta through advanced DNA testing technologies.

Through The GEEE! In GENOME Speakers' Series, the Health Sciences Discovery Fund is bringing discovery to life! The Health Sciences Discovery Fund raises funds to support excellence in medical research in Northwestern Ontario, including the activities of the Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute of the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre.

The GEEE! In GENOME exhibit is open to the public at Thunder Bay Art Gallery until November 2, 2008. The national touring exhibition explores the ABCs of the exciting world of genomics in a fun, interactive exhibition for all ages!

The GEEE! In GENOME is produced by the Canadian Museum of Nature and presented nationally by Genome Canada, presented locally by the Ontario Genomics Institute, the Thunder Bay Regional Research Institute, and the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre in partnership with RBC Royal Bank.

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For further information, or **to arrange interviews with GEEE! In GENOME Speakers' Series guests**, please contact:

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