



**Thunder Bay Regional
Health Sciences
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Northern
Cancer Fund



Northern
Cardiac Fund



Health Sciences
Discovery Fund

Media Release
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Personal Genomics and Genetic Counselling;

The final presentation of the Health Sciences Discovery Fund GEEE! In GENOME Speakers' Series

There are good business and healthcare arguments supporting genetic testing, but most consider genetic counseling to be a critical component. Genetic and genomic tests are becoming widely available both in the clinic and through companies like 23andMe and Navigenics. But just how useful is the information they provide? How can consumers and patients understand the results?

Learn the answers at the final presentation in the Health Sciences Discovery Fund GEEE! In GENOME Speakers' Series. *Personal Genomics and Genetic Counselling* will be presented at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, October 29 with guest speakers Dr. Shane Green and Janice Little.

Dr. Green is the Director of Outreach at the Ontario Genomics Institute (OGI), in Toronto. He is responsible for overseeing OGI's public outreach and education initiatives, which aim to increase awareness and understanding of genomics and related sciences and their impacts on society. Shane also provides support to researchers funded through OGI in considering the ethical, economic, environmental, legal and social issues ("GE³LS") related to their research.

Janice Little (BScN, RN) is a Genetics Nurse Counsellor with the Northwestern Ontario Regional Genetics Program at Thunder Bay District Health Unit. She has been a registered nurse for 33 years. She is one of five genetic nurse counselors who service the entire Northwestern Ontario region. Her main areas of interest are in prenatal and cancer genetics. Janice will discuss the role of the genetic counselor and the importance of genetic counseling in this rapidly growing field of medicine.

This Health Sciences Discovery Fund GEEE! In GENOME Speakers' Series presentation will be held at Thunder Bay Art Gallery. Admission is free.

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!

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 is produced by the Canadian Museum of Nature, presented nationally by Genome Canada, 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 an interview** with Health Sciences Discovery Fund GEEE! In GENOME Speakers' Series **guest speakers**, please contact:

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