

Just over two weeks have passed since our third annual CANGlia meeting in Montreal, hosted at The Neuro by Dr. Jo Anne Stratton and her team. This year we opened with a public lecture on glial cells in rare disease with an introduction by Dr. La Piana. The Child family shared Olive's inspirational journey with Alexander Disease and her decision to not look for answers but instead to help future patients have a path to follow. Our two-day meeting included two keynote speakers, symposia spanning topics from glial cells in development to glial cells in demyelination, aging, and neurodegenerative disease. We had two poster sessions featuring the work from trainees at different levels of study as well as selected trainee talks. Lastly, we had a grand challenges workshop to identify new frontiers for glial research in Canada, which CANGlia looks forward to supporting over the coming year. We want to kindly thank all those for participating and we look forward to seeing you next year in Vancouver in collaboration with The American Society for Neurochemistry (ASN)! As always, none of this would be possible without the generous support of our sponsors – we thank you!



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PUBLIC LECTURE

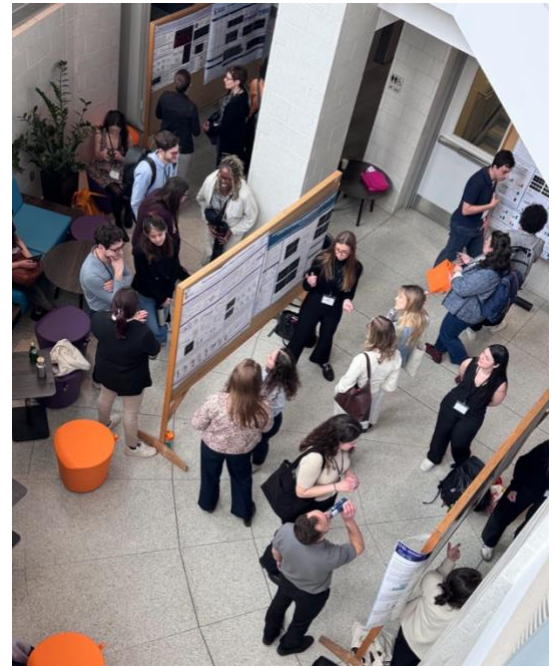
Olive and Jason Child gave an impactful talk on their experience living with Olive's Alexander Disease diagnosis that was inspiring with an overall attitude of hope for the future.

Dr. La Piana spoke about her research on glial cells in rare disease.



AMAZING GLIAL SCIENCE THROUGHOUT!

There was a wonderful display of research from trainees! Thank you to Glial Health Research for supporting a total of eight trainee awards for both poster and oral presentations.



KEYNOTE LECTURES

We were very excited to have Dr. Michael Williamson and Dr. Cagla Eroglu share their research with us. Dr. Williamson showed how CD51 expression delineates functionally distinct astrocyte subpopulations. Dr. Eroglu spoke about how astrocytes sculpt synaptic circuits together with other glial cell types.



GRAND CHALLENGES

This year Dr. Salmaso and Dr. Mechawar led a collaborative workshop to identify challenges and opportunities for new directions in glial research in Canada. Using a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats), the group generated a lot of exciting ideas for the future of glial research and the CANGlia team is looking forward to building on to this together with the CANGlia community. The follow-up report will be circulated in the coming weeks.



BANQUET

Thank you all for participating in CANGlia 2026!

