

## Cascadia Innovation Corridor-based alliance transforming cancer care through research powered by technology and data science

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**Vancouver, B.C.**; The <u>Cascadia Innovation Corridor</u> congratulates the <u>Cascadia Data Alliance</u> on advancing important research to improve cancer outcomes through \$1.2 million in new funding and credits for Microsoft Azure's cloud computing service awarded to cross-institutional research teams. The collaborations among leading Cascadia health researchers will use the power of technology and data science to transform cancer care globally through the launch of three research pilots.

The research partners will leverage these funds to explore new ways for using technical solutions and best practices, data and methods standardization, and Microsoft Azure cloud services that could be broadly applied in future research.

The <u>Cascadia Data Alliance</u>, was launched in 2019 to create a Pacific Northwest data-sharing ecosystem comprising some of the region's powerhouse institutions, working together across disciplines to accelerate innovation and save lives from cancer and infectious diseases. The Alliance's member organizations include <u>Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center</u>, the <u>University of Washington eScience Institute</u>, <u>BC Cancer</u>, the <u>University of British Columbia</u> <u>Data Science Institute</u> and the <u>Knight Cancer Institute at Oregon Health & Science University</u>.

"Congratulations to the members of the Cascadia Data Alliance for providing the leadership to bring together our strengths in Cascadia," stated Gov. Chris Gregoire, Co Chair of the Cascadia Innovation Corridor and CEO of Challenge Seattle. "This is one of the many and growing number of meaningful collaborations bringing people, ideas, organizations, and technology together that is defining the <u>Cascadia Innovation Corridor</u> as a sustainable Global Mega Region leveraging the Pacific Northwest's strengths to solve some of the world biggest challenges."

"As we have seen through COVID-19, working together to protect our personal and economic health is essential," said Greg D'Avignon CEO of the Business council of British Columbia and Co-Chair of the Cascadia Innovation Corridor. "Creating exciting collaborations comprised of the best minds, companies, research universities and health institutes with the purpose to save lives from cancer and infectious disease, now and into the future, demonstrates the potential of the Cascadia Innovation Corridor."

The Cascadia Innovation Corridor (CIC) initiative brings together business, academic, and government leaders from both sides of the border to explore new strategies for the region, maximize our shared competitive advantages, and elevate our global economic position as a

leading sustainable mega region addressing local and global challenges and opportunities. CIC is facilitating cross-border knowledge exchange and jointly advancing and integrating our common infrastructure needs. In doing so, CIC fosters support strategies that accelerate the Pacific Northwest economy, creates an innovative ecosystem that attracts capital and the world's top talent, and builds a network of connected people, companies, capital, universities, colleges, and researchers.

For more information about the Cascadia Data Alliance announcement visit <u>https://www.fredhutch.org/en/news/center-news/2020/11/cascadia-collaboration-awards.html</u>

For more information on the Cascadia Innovation Corridor, visit connectcascadia.com

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