



Media Advisory | For Immediate Release | February 14, 2012

Governor General to Visit TRIUMF on February 16 Behind-the-scenes tour will showcase Canadian talent, innovation

(Vancouver, BC) --- On Thursday, His Excellency, the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, will visit TRIUMF to meet an international cohort of some of the world's top scientists in physics, chemistry, and nuclear medicine, and take a behind-the-scenes tour of the unique facilities.

A highlight of the tour will be an extremely rare trip to the jewel of the lab, TRIUMF's main cyclotron accelerator. It is the largest device of its kind in the world and was recently recognized as one of Canada's top 11 engineering milestones. This engine at the heart of TRIUMF powers the production of medical isotopes, treatment of eye cancer in partnership with BC Cancer Agency and UBC, qualification and testing of aerospace components, and fundamental research programs in materials science and particle and nuclear physics. The tour will include a sneak preview of the forthcoming ARIEL laboratory that will house Canada's next flagship accelerator flagship and use superconducting technology.

The visit is part of a larger itinerary for the Governor General that includes participation in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) annual meeting. The AAAS meeting is being held outside the U.S. for the first time in 30 years and will attract more than 8,000 scientists from around the world to Vancouver from February 16-20, 2012, with events ranging from technical symposia and public evening lectures to family science activities and career development workshops on almost every topic in science and medicine. Learn more about Canada@AAAS at <http://science.gc.ca> and <http://www.triumf.ca/aaas>.

Media are invited to join the Governor General on this rare tour of TRIUMF. Meet at TRIUMF reception for tour start at 12:45 p.m. sharp. Cameras are permitted and encouraged. Wear comfortable shoes (no high heels) and be prepared for several steep flights of industrial-grade stairs. Advance registration to communications@triumf.ca is encouraged; on-site registration will be available.

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About TRIUMF

TRIUMF is Canada's national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics. Together with its partner AAPS, Inc., TRIUMF also seeks to commercialize its technologies for the benefit of all Canadians. Located on the south campus of the University of British Columbia, TRIUMF is owned and operated as a joint venture by a consortium of the following Canadian universities, via a contribution from the federal government through National Research Council Canada: University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, University of Calgary, Carleton University, University of Guelph, University of Manitoba, McMaster University, Université de Montréal, University of Northern British Columbia, Queen's University, University of Regina, Saint Mary's University, Simon Fraser University, University of Toronto, University of Victoria, University of Winnipeg, and York University. See <http://www.triumf.ca>.