

# **Allison McDonald**

**Associate Professor of Biology at Wilfrid Laurier University**

Waterloo, ON, CA

Expert in plant and animal physiology with a focus on how organisms make energy. Advocate for women and persons with disabilities in STEM.

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## **Biography**

My research focuses on how organisms make energy in order to grow, repair, and reproduce. We study plants, animals, yeasts, and bacteria in my lab. We are most interested in the electron transport systems in mitochondria and chloroplasts. We are also doing work that will eventually contribute to the treatment of human mitochondrial diseases. In addition to my research, I am a strong advocate for disabled scientists and women in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Plant and Animal Physiology and Biochemistry, Bioenergetics (Mitochondria and Chloroplasts), Human Mitochondrial Diseases and Disorders, Origin of Life and Endosymbiosis, Women in STEM, Working as a Disabled Scientist

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## **Affiliations**

Adjunct Faculty, Dept. of Biology, University of Waterloo, Member of the Centre for Women in Science, Wilfrid Laurier University

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## **Event Appearances**

**Equity in Science Panel (Moderator)**

Biology Seminar Series

**The control of reactive oxygen species generation by terminal oxidases.**

Canadian Oxidative Stress Consortium

**Using blogging in a biology graduate course to evaluate learning.**

Western Conference on Science Education

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## **Education**

**University of Toronto**

Ph.D. Cell and Systems Biology

**Queen's University**  
M.Sc. Biology

**Queen's University**  
B.Sc. (Honours) Biology

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## **Accomplishments**

### **Post-doctoral Fellow Research Grant, Canadian Society of Zoologists**

I received \$500 of funding to travel to do research at Stanford University in California.

### **NSERC Post-doctoral fellowship**

I was awarded \$40,000/year to conduct research at Western University from 2008-2010.

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