

# **Marla Sokolowski**

**University Professor, Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology at University of Toronto**  
Toronto, ON, CA

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## **Biography**

Marla B. Sokolowski's innovative work is esteemed worldwide as a clear, integrative mechanistic paragon of the manner in which genes can interact with the environment, thus impacting behaviour. She has trail-blazed the development of a branch of Behaviour Genetics that addresses the genetic and molecular bases of natural individual differences in behaviour and is best known for her discovery of the foraging gene. She has published well over 135 publications and given close to 200 invited lectures. Professor Sokolowski is an award winning teacher and highly accomplished lecturer. She has supervised over 20 postdoctoral fellows and 35 graduate students with many of her trainees ascending to prestigious national and international academic positions. She has received Distinguished Visiting Professorships in the US and Europe where she contributes regularly to graduate education. Professor Sokolowski became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1998 for her pioneering work in the field of Behavioural Genetics and holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Genetics and Behavioural Neurology since 2001. In 2004 she became a Fellow of Massey College and in 2007 she received the Genetics Society of Canada's Award of Excellence. She co-directs the Child and Brain Development Programme of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research where she is the Weston Fellow. She was the Director of the Life Sciences Division of the Academy of Sciences of the Royal Society of Canada from 2009-2012. She was named a University Professor at University of Toronto in 2010 and was the Academic Director of the Fraser Mustard Institute for Human Development at University of Toronto from 2012 to 2014. In 2013 she was awarded the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal.

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## **Industry Expertise**

Research, Education/Learning

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## **Areas of Expertise**

Genetics, Molecular Biology, Scientific Writing, Higher Education, Public Speaking, Data Analysis, Mentoring

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## **Affiliations**

Co-Director Canadian Institute for Advanced Research ? Child & Brain Development Programme, Weston Fellow Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Fellow Royal Society of Canada, Senior Fellow Massey College

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## **Education**

**University of Toronto**  
Ph.D. Behavioural Genetics

**University of Toronto**  
B.S. Zoology

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## **Accomplishments**

**Canada Research Chair in Genetics and Behavioural Neurology**  
Canada Research Chairs Program

**The Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal**  
To honour significant contributions and achievements by Canadians

**University Professor**  
University of Toronto

**Award of Excellence**  
Genetics Society of Canada

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