



Funding supports development of diagnostic tool for mollusk health

The Atlantic Veterinary College received funding recently through the InnovationPEI Pilot Fund in support of research to develop a diagnostic tool for mussel health management.

Under the direction of Dr. Ahmed Siah, a research associate with the College's Department of Pathology and Microbiology, the project will develop a diagnostic kit to identify molecular biomarkers of mollusk health. This kit will be used as a novel early intervention tool to diagnose the early stages of mollusk pathology development in order to administer treatment effectively.

“With its early detection capabilities and ability to monitor health of wild and cultured stocks, this tool will aid in ensuring that PEI maintains a competitive advantage in an industry that is so crucial to our economy,” explains Dr. Ahmed Siah. “In addition to the positive impact on the PEI aquaculture industry, this technology will add value to the Atlantic Veterinary College's aquaculture diagnostics which are in demand worldwide.”

The InnovationPEI Pilot Fund was developed through the Island Prosperity Strategy to provide seed money to entrepreneurs and scientists to test innovative ideas with commercialization potential.