

The Expanding World of Nanofabrication

An update from the Kingston NanoFabrication Lab – June 30, 2015

Good day,

You are receiving this email as a registered user of KNFL, and all of you have at least taken the orientation training. I wanted to give you all an update on the status of the lab during its commissioning phase:

1. **Staff.** As of July 1, I will be managing the lab in a full-time capacity as an employee of CMC Microsystems, as per the agreement signed between Queen's and CMC. You can continue to contact me for access to the lab, but from now on please use gibson@cmc.ca for this purpose as my @chem.queensu.ca email will no longer be active.
2. **Tool installation.** As of today, most of the tools at KNFL have been installed and tested at least once. This includes the new tools (Oxford Laser, Raith E-Beam Lithography/SEM and IMP Maskless Photolithography) as well as relocated tools (spin coater, baking plate, mask aligner, microscope, plasma cleaner). The thermal/e-beam evaporator is nearly ready. Training on these tools will be available shortly, if not already, so if you are interested in using any of these, please email me to make arrangements. The new set of tools (sputter coater, reactive ion etcher, mask aligner) are in the Request-for-Quotes stage and will hopefully be purchased by the end of the year.
3. **Lab Readiness.** The pressure in the lab has been balanced, but the temperature is still off. The main cleanroom is clean and tests better than Class 1000 for particle count. The deposition room (Class 10 000) will be thoroughly cleaned when the evaporator is ready. Processes are in place to use and dispose of chemicals, and the inventory of chemicals is up to date. Protocols are still being decided upon for regular cleaning, gowning, conduct, etc., but as documents are written or updated you will receive notice by email. In the meantime, users have begun to start booking and using tools.
4. **Lab Access.** As a reminder for those who have yet to use the lab, the steps after receiving the orientation are: 1. Contact me to go through the check-in procedure with you (~15 minutes); 2. Arrange for training on a tool you want to use; 3. Book the tool; 4. Use it and fill in the log sheet.
5. **Website.** The website for the lab is under construction and will be available soon. It will contain a number of functions that will make it useful, including tool and process descriptions, SOPs and manuals, updated documents for safety and protocols, and a booking calendar so tools can be more easily booked.

As always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

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