

June 26, 2019

Good day,

You are receiving this important update as a user of the NFK lab, as a supervisor of a user, or as someone who requested to receive these updates.

There are some changes coming to how NanoFabrication Kingston is managed. Please note the following message from Drs. Rob Knobel and Richard Oleschuk.

Dear Users of NanoFabrication Kingston,

As of June 30th, Queen's University's partnership with CMC Microsystems in running NFK will end. This partnership has been a great boon to the Kingston community of nano-scientists and engineers. It was only with CMC's persuasion, support, funding (and ability to secure government funding) that NFK exists at all. For over 5 years we have benefited from the intelligence, professionalism and expertise of many staff from CMC who have worked to make NFK a supportive place where cutting-edge research can be done. Thanks to Ian McWalter, Dan Gale, Craig Jeffrey, Zhao Lu, Farouk Azizi, Gord Harling, Rob Dumont, Graham Gibson and everyone at CMC. We understand the pressures that have led to the end of the lab management partnership, and we remain big supporters of CMC and the many ways it helps research in Canada.

NanoFabrication Kingston will continue to operate, now funded through Queen's and external grants. We will maintain the same high standards of training, maintenance, support and excellence that have been in place. To maintain this, Graham Gibson has accepted the position of lab operations manager, reporting to the department of Chemistry. He starts on July 2nd, however we will be setting up Queen's-specific management systems over the next few weeks.

There will be some changes in lab operations, in governance and in some of the technical aspects of the lab over the next few weeks as we work to replace some of the support that CMC provided. We ask for your patience, your constructive suggestions, and your cooperation as we continue to grow the capabilities of NFK. We will continue to benefit from CMC Microsystems, as do all the Micro-Nano Technology (MNT) labs across Canada. In particular, CMC will continue to offer academic membership to Canada's National Design Network, which we

strongly encourage as it allows access to peer-reviewed financial assistance for prototyping projects at labs like NFK and to a huge suite of CAD tools.

Thanks to CMC for your years of cooperation! We wish you continued success!

Sincerely,

Rob Knobel - Physics and Engineering Physics

Richard Oleschuk - Chemistry