Dr. Marlene Paibomesai work as a dairy specialist with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. Through this position Marlene help supports the dairy cattle, dairy goat and dairy sheep industries in Ontario. She completed a PhD in the Pathobiology Department at the University of Guelph with Dr. Bonnie Mallard. Her research was focused on epigenetic regulation of the bovine immune system. Marlene is a member of Whitefish River First Nation and grew up in Kemptville, Ontario. In addition to this Marlene is an avid birdwatcher, emerging artist, and sports enthusiast.

Nelson graduated from the University of Guelph in 2015 after completing both his BSc in Molecular Biology and Genetics and PhD in Biomedical Sciences. He transitioned into industry soon after and began his career at Thermo Fisher Scientific as a Biosciences Account Manager for over 3 years. Most recently, Nelson transitioned into management serving as the Supervisor for a new sales team in their Clinical Next-Generation Sequencing Division. He loves the opportunity to still be involved with the scientific community and discovery process while enabling customers with his company’s latest technologies.

Dr. Kathleen Thompson Crispi completed a BSc in Biological Sciences with a minor in Microbiology from the University of Guelph. During this time, she worked at St. Michael’s Hospital in Toronto researching autologous stem cell therapy to restore the functional capability of endothelial progenitor cells in patients with multiple risk factors for coronary artery disease. Working on this project is where her passion for research developed, which lead her to pursue a PhD in Immunology and Genetics in the lab of Dr. Bonnie Mallard at the University of Guelph. Currently, she works as the External Research and Laboratory Manager for Trouw Nutrition Ag research, where she is responsible for designing, executing, analyzing and reporting results of research studies including nutrition and disease challenge models in a commercial poultry, swine and dairy operation.