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MEDIA RELEASE

Upcoming Café focuses on science behind vaccination

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A panel of Simon Fraser University scientists will address the research, outcomes and scientific basis behind vaccination at the last in a series of Cafés Scientifique on Wednesday, Mar. 20 at 7 p.m. at the CBC's Vancouver studio.

The public is welcome to attend this free event, moderated by CBC's On the Coast host Stephen Quinn, which will include a panel discussion followed by a question and answer segment. Panellists include:

SFU Dean of Science Claire Cupples, who will discuss the "arms race" between microorganisms and humanity;

Jonathan Choy of SFU's Department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, who will explain how the immune system functions and how immunization strategies trigger it to protect us against common infections;

Nienke van Houten, of SFU's Faculty of Health Sciences, who will demystify measles infection and discuss why we are still at risk.

Cupples says: "There is a lot of emotion about vaccines but the scientific evidence for their value is very clear. Café Scientifique provides an excellent forum for scientists to discuss the evidence behind vaccination."

Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), SFU's Faculty of Science and the SFU Alumni Association are sponsoring the series.

The CBC studio is located at 700 Hamilton Street. To reserve your free seat, send an email to cafesci@sfu.ca.

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