

Anita Ludwar

Venture Leader

Creative Destruction Lab – Rockies (CDL-Rockies)

MBT Class of 2016

In 2015 Anita graduated from the University of Calgary with a B.Sc (Hon) Chemistry, and B.Sc Cellular, Molecular, Microbial Biology. A classmate had previously completed the MBT program, and recommended that Anita consider the program in light of her interest in practical applications of biotechnology. Following informational interviews with MBT instructors and alumni, she chose to enroll in the program to better understand how technical innovations are translated into practical use.



An important component of the MBT program is the professional development opportunities; both from courses and networking events. Through one of these courses Anita was introduced to the Chief Scientific Officer at Genome Alberta, where she later accepted a role for her summer internship. Here she worked as a Business Analyst in collaboration with Innovate Calgary to build a business and strategic development plan for an antimicrobial technology developed at the University of Calgary. The business modules in the MBT program were foundational when analyzing market opportunities, conducting patent scans, and building a business case for this technology. Following her internship she accepted a full-time role with Genome Alberta as a Business Analyst, before transitioning into the Business Development Officer role. During her time with Genome Alberta, Anita helped to build business cases for research projects, spearheaded community initiatives, and came to manage the Genomic Applications Partnership Program (GAPP), a funding opportunity for academic and end-user partnerships.

The MBT program exposes students to a number of potential career paths, and provides foundational business training that can be applied to a variety of vocations from Clinical Trial Management to Entrepreneurship. For Anita, the program provided a tremendous amount of networking opportunities that lead to her employment following graduation, and gave a suitable primer in areas such as intellectual property, finance and market analysis to help her succeed in the workplace. Anita now works as a Venture Leader at CDL-Rockies, which is an objectives-based program for massively scalable, seed-stage science- and technology-based companies. Managing ventures that are going through the program is a major component of this role, in addition to program recruitment and awareness.