

Wednesday, June 10th, 2015

LSC 3 - Life Sciences Centre

2350 Health Sciences Mall

**12-1pm**



## Dr. Deborah Griswold

*Hematopathologist, St. Paul's Hospital*

### **“Von Willebrand factor in health and disease: an unfolding story”**

Von Willebrand factor (VWF) is a large multimeric protein that plays a key role in hemostasis. Deficiency or abnormalities of von Willebrand factor cause von Willebrand disease (VWD), the most common congenital bleeding disorder, with an estimated prevalence of up to 1% of the population. Recent studies have led to an improved understanding of the synthesis, release, proteolysis and cleavage of VWF as well as the genetic abnormalities in the different types of VWD. This talk will provide an overview of the structure and function of VWF and how new knowledge is shaping the laboratory approach to investigation of this common bleeding disorder.