Derek Bell picks up a square block with an artificial limb designed and manufactured with 3-D printing technology developed by the University of Victoria. The Victoria Hand Project — victoriahandproject.com — creates affordable and functional artificial arms and hands for amputees in countries where access to prostheses is difficult and costly. During Biomedical Technology Industry Partnership Day, hosted by UVic's Centre for Biomedical Research, 160 participants and 50 businesses took part in tours and demonstrations on Friday that included the Willerth Lab, where researchers are reengineering skin cells back into pluripotent stem cells to advance personalized medicine and seek answers to incurable diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's; and the Hof Group lab, where researchers are working to fill the gap between cancer research discoveries and the development of anti-cancer drugs.

ADRIAN LAM, TIMES COLONIST