The Canadian Light Source (CLS), located on the campus of the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, is Canada's National Synchrotron Facility. There are 19 Canadian universities that partner in this project, as well as federal and provincial governments and industry. The CLS, at 2.9 GeV and a natural emittance of about 18 nm-radians, is one of the first of the new breed of medium energy synchrotrons and will provide high brilliance light to a diverse group of researchers. The broad focus of the research program will be on material, environmental and the life sciences. Photon beamlines of particular interest to the life sciences include two infrared lines, a soft x-ray spectromicroscopy beamline, a hard X-ray spectroscopy line and a state of the art protein crystallography beamline. A biomedical imaging beamline has been proposed. The CLS is scheduled to open for operations in early 2004.