FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:      | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| _             | Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. |
|---------------|--|
|               | Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See     |
| $\overline{}$ | Instruction 1(h)                                   |

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| Name and Address of Reporting Person*     Cheng Andrew   |   |            |   |                      | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Arbutus Biopharma Corp [ ABUS ] |                                      |   |                     |  |                  |                         |  |                                  | Relationship of Reporting Perso (Check all applicable)     X Director     Officer (give title below |  |  | 10% Ow   | ner<br>pecify below)   |
|--|---|------------|---|----------------------|---|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
|  |   |            |   |                      | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/28/2020                 |                                      |   |                     |  |                  |                         |  |                                  | (9  |  |  | 2.1.1.1  | ,  |
| (Street) WARMINSTER (City)   | PA (State)  | 18<br>(Zi  | 974<br>p)   |                      | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                    |                                      |   |                     |  |                  | 6. Indivi               | Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)     Y Form filed by One Reporting Person     Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |                                  |   |  |  |  |  |
|  |   |            | Table I -   | Non-D                | erivativ  | ve Secui                             | rities Acc  | quired, C           | Dispo  | sed of,          | or Bei                  | neficially   | Owned                            |   |  |  |  |  |
| Da   |   |            |   | Date                 | ansaction<br>hth/Day/Ye   | Execu                                |   |                     |  |                  | ies Acqui<br>3, 4 and 9 | ired (A) or Di<br>5)   | isposed Of                       | 5. Amount of Securities<br>Beneficially Owned<br>Following Reported                                 |  | Direct (                                       | ership Form:<br>D) or<br>t (I) (Instr. 4)                                | Indirect<br>Beneficial   |
|  |   |            |   |                      |   | (Monti                               | n/Day/Year)   | Code                | v  | Amount           | nt (A) or (D) Prid      |  | Price                            | Transaction(s)<br>and 4)  | (Instr. 3  | <u>,                                      </u> |  | Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)  |
| Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) |   |            |   |                      |   |                                      |   |                     |  |                  |                         |  |                                  |   |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Title of Derivative<br>Security (Instr. 3)  | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security |            | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Trans<br>Code (In |   | Derivative<br>Acquired (<br>Disposed | 5. Number of<br>Derivative Securities<br>Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed of (D)<br>Instr. 3, 4 and 5) |                     | 6. Date Exercisable<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                  | Underlying Derivative S |  |                                  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)   | 9. Numb<br>derivativ<br>Securitie<br>Benefici<br>Owned<br>Followin | ve<br>es<br>ially                              | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or<br>Indirect (I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|  | Security  |            |   | Code                 | v   | (A)                                  | (D)   | Date<br>Exercisable |  | xpiration<br>ate | Title                   |  | Amount or<br>Number of<br>Shares |   | Reporte<br>Transac<br>(Instr. 4)                                   | tion(s)  | (  |  |
| Stock Options  | \$2.16 <sup>(1)</sup>   | 05/28/2020 |   | A                    |   | 22,000                               |   | 05/28/2020          | ) <sup>(2)</sup> 0!  | 5/28/2030        | 2030 Common Stock       |  | 22,000                           | \$0   | \$0 22,000   |  | D  |  |

#### Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Reflects the closing price of the Company's common shares on the Nasdaq Stock Market on May 28, 2020, the date of the grant.
- $2. \ \mbox{The options}$  are fully vested and exercisable as of the date of the grant.

### Remarks:

/s/ David C. Hastings as attorney-in-fact 06/01/2020 for Andrew Cheng

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

  \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.

#### POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints the David C. Hastings, David Kille and James List of A

(1) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer and/or director of the Company, the undersigned's

(2) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned, in the undersigned's capacity as an officer and/or director of the Company, Forms 3, 4 and 5

(3) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to (A) complete and execute any su

(4) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of berth the undersigned hereby grants to each such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform any and every act and thing what:

The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not

This Power of Attorney shall remain in full force and effect until the undersigned is no longer required to file Forms 3, 4, and 5 with

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 15th day of August, 2019.

/s/ Andrew Cheng Andrew Cheng