

Federal government + provinces;

Industries (conglomerates - subsidiaries - SMEs).

3. The provinces are even more directly linked with industry, especially with SMEs (with less than 200 employees) that create, according to the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, over 44.6% of new jobs in manufacturing industries. Some sources state that innovation and the creation of new jobs by the SMEs amount to 70% (CRIQ).
4. In Canada, it has been observed that innovation is often "lost" in the commercial sense because inventors fail to recognize the need and benefits of patents. Thus, at trade fairs, Canadian corporations often display unpatented products which foreigners are free to appropriate without any form of compensation. Similarly, as a result of such carelessness, our trade delegations often lose opportunities to negotiate Canadian innovations and to obtain access to a market or an exchange value. While the sole function of the Canadian Patents Office has always been to provide protection, such offices in other countries often conduct research, provide comparative trade data and forecasts and may even give invaluable encouragement to innovations. The cost of patents (and future renewals) could be used to nurture an active policy of motivation and promotion. This need has finally been understood and a new policy based on promotion, though more heavily on protection, is now being proposed.
5. The Patents Office constitutes a unique data bank on new technology. Serious analyses of these data provide information on the principal sources of innovation throughout the world, the sectors which are affected, those which are neglected (unfilled gaps in which inroads can often be made), trends in innovation and their commercial potential. Furthermore, they reveal where the ownership of the inventions reside and, consequently, the best means of acquiring them.

The technology acquisition process

- Bearing in mind that 95% or more of the technology used in Canada comes from foreign sources, we are obliged to acquire it or fall irretrievably behind in our industrial and commercial development. The conditions in which