



## CHAPTER 13

### **Innovation, Science and Technology**

The Government of Canada launched its science and technology strategy, *Mobilizing Science and Technology to Canada's Advantage*, in May 2007. The strategy outlines a new approach to ensuring Canada's long-term economic prosperity. It recognizes that innovation is essential to Canada's future competitiveness and productivity, and that increasing private sector R&D and its commercialization is the key to success. It outlines four S&T priority areas in which Canada excels: environmental S&T, natural resources and energy, health and related life sciences, and information and communications technologies (ICT).

Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada is developing a Global Innovation Strategy (GIS) that will provide international access to specialized knowledge, technology, talent and capital to innovative, growth-oriented firms, researchers with commercially oriented ideas and researchers who can

accelerate commercialization. The rationale is that Canada can improve the innovation performance of its private sector by creating effective, results-focused, international science, technology and innovation (STI) networks in regions of strategic importance to Canada. The GIS will contribute by:

- building innovation teams and coordinating global actions to connect Canadian researchers and businesses with international players and market opportunities;
- fostering greater access to global STI by supporting international R&D partnerships and ensuring that Canadian knowledge producers are aware of and can benefit from leading technology opportunities around the world;
- helping innovative Canadian companies to commercialize new products, processes and services in global markets; and