



Science & Technology

Partnerships

Introduction

“We are better positioned than at any time in the last three decades to seize the opportunities of the global economy....To secure our continued success in the 21st century, Canadians must be among the first to generate new knowledge and put it to use.”

Canada's Governor General on opening Canada's 37th Parliament, January 2001

Research, partnerships and networks

The cornerstones of Canada's S&T excellence

The Canadian Way

In Canada, scientific research increasingly takes place within partnerships and networks—whether conducted in private industry, in government research institutions or in academia. In fact, as Canada entered the new millennium, networks had become a major contributor to The Canadian Way of pursuing research excellence.

Canadians have come by this penchant for collaboration naturally. From our earliest years as immigrants in a vast and forbidding land, we understood that survival depended on working together. By collaborating, we overcame the enormous challenges of a harsh climate and a small population spread over huge geographical distances.

Our earliest scientific and engineering exploits included completion of a 6,400-kilometre national railway that linked the country from the Atlantic to the Pacific. One of our first telecommunications breakthroughs was Canadian Alexander Graham Bell's invention of the telephone. It's not surprising, therefore, that we went on to create one of the most modern communications networks in the world.