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- 1 University of Toronto.
Source: Shutterstock
- 2 Be'er Sheva: Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.
Source: State of Israel Ministry of Tourism
(<http://gallery.tourism.gov.il>)

In 1994 the Canada-Israel Industrial Research & Development Foundation (CIIRDF) was established with a mandate to promote and financially support scientific research cooperation between firms in both Canada and Israel. Israel and Canada have recognized strengths

in areas such as photonics, wireless technologies, nanotechnologies, life sciences and advanced materials, and CIIRDF aids in promoting these industries.

The foundation features a prominent Canadian scientist as president and is run by a binational board chaired by the Chief Scientist for Israel's Ministry of Industry and Trade. Now in its 15th year, CIIRDF has delivered more than 150 collaborative projects. Since its inception, CIIRDF has been very successful in making the technology sectors in both countries more competitive and in opening markets for each other's services. Between 2004 and

2009, more than 300 companies in both countries have also explored business-research partnerships through the CIIRDF technology matchmaking service, which connects companies in one country with prospective partners in the other.

Canada and Israel signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in the fields of cultural, academic and sports relations in February 1999. The agreement has helped to broaden and deepen our cultural and academic ties. Israeli studies courses are available

in Canada and Canadian studies are offered in Israel, and sports and youth organizations often work with each other.

