



Photo courtesy of Health Canada

Executive Summary

Introduction

Research, partnerships and networks

The cornerstones of Canada's S&T excellence

"The Canadian Way" of pursuing scientific research is founded on partnerships and networks, an approach that goes back to Canada's early years, when survival depended on working together. Excellence is also an essential ingredient at all levels of the Canadian innovation system, from governments, to universities, to industry, to the international partnerships that are helping the world's business community to see Canada as "one of the best places to do R&D."

International S&T collaboration

Agreements. Partnerships. Programs.

Canada's S&T community welcomes other countries' interest in partnering and networking with Canada. And because we're open to it, Canada's international collaboration is increasing, and for good reason: we offer generous research and development tax credit programs, we're one of the most connected nations in the world, and we have a highly skilled workforce, among other benefits.

Canada's R&D excellence

Science. Technology. Innovation.

Three key groups drive S&T in Canada: industry, governments (both federal and provincial), and universities. Government plays four roles: funder, facilitator, performer and regulator. Universities advance knowledge through basic research, while also preparing a highly skilled workforce for the future. And industry works with partners and governments to power the knowledge economy.

Partnerships and networks

Industry. Government. University.

Industry-government-university partnerships are one of the best incubators for the innovation process. In fact, their impacts can now be felt throughout Canada. These collaborations are fostered at the federal level by Canada's key S&T organizations, including three granting councils that support university research and partnerships, special funding programs (including some to encourage international collaboration) and science-based departments and agencies performing R&D.

Excellence in action

Canada's R&D sectors

The benefits of "The Canadian Way" are evident in many industry sectors in which Canada is a world leader and regions where several established and emerging R&D clusters can be found. Canadian companies are now pioneering the latest information and communication technology developments. We are taking great strides in the life sciences, particularly in pharmaceuticals, agricultural biotechnology and health research. And our aerospace, environmental and resource technologies and advanced manufacturing sectors show Canadian excellence at work.

For more information

To serve as your first line of contact for Canada's S&T community and programs, Canada has a network of Science and Technology Counsellors at Missions in six key OECD countries, as well as Trade Commissioner Service Officers who have S&T responsibilities in a number of Canadian Missions (see page 24).

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