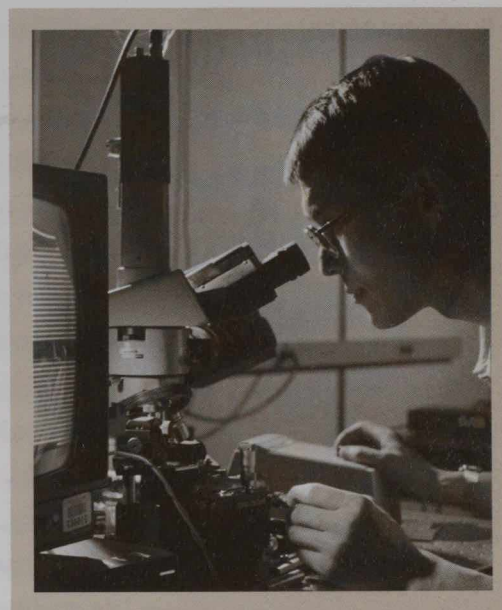


BIO-INDUSTRIES

- ▶ **2000 sales of \$1.9 billion**
- ▶ **Exports of \$718 million**
- ▶ **358 firms, mostly SMEs**

A key element of Canada's knowledge-based economy, the biotechnology sector has expanded and diversified rapidly over the past decade. Canada's steady growth is due largely to its strong base of scientific expertise and its continuous research and development (R&D) investment⁵. R&D investment is projected to rise to almost \$1.5 billion in 2002.

Biotechnology is an enabling technology that can improve competitiveness across a wide range of industries, including agriculture and agri-food, aquaculture, environment, forestry, health care, mining and energy. Canada has positioned itself as a leader in several fields of research, with a special emphasis on genetics, cancer and cardiovascular disease, as well as particular areas of product development, such as new drug therapies for neuro-degenerative diseases, bone disease and viral infections.



*In the picturesque rural setting of Lakefield, Alberta, **Lakefield Research** has grown into a multi-disciplinary, multi-national facility, exporting cutting-edge Canadian technology and expertise to clients around the world. The company provides a range of laboratory services to the mining, metals, minerals and environmental industries, from analysis of rocks, soils and water samples for metals and minerals, to leading edge process development for metallurgical extraction, operations improvement, and environmental testing and consulting. "We're creating jobs for Canadians and we're bringing high-tech work back to Canada from around the world," says company President and CEO, Dr. Larry Seeley.*

⁵ Canada's biotechnology industry invested \$827 million in R&D in 1999, up 19% over the \$695 million invested in 1998.