

In fact, your investments show the rest of the world how attractive Canada is as a part of the critical North American pharmaceutical research network.

The Prosperity Action Plan points to the fact that Canada's future prosperity will increasingly depend on brain power -- on how we develop and apply science, technology and engineering to our workplace and at home. At the same time, Canada faces a critical shortage of scientists and engineers.

The Canada Scholarship Program was established by the government to address this problem. With scholarships divided equally between men and women, Canada scholars in science, engineering and technology are recognized for their academic achievement. Your association's continued support, together with that of other members of the corporate community, has been key to the Program's success.

I would like to congratulate the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Canada for showing its continuing support and leadership to this program by supporting the new program of Innovators in the Schools. It is this type of innovative partnership that will be essential if Canada is to secure a prosperous future. We know that the Action Plan recommends bold action from the federal government, among others. As we look ahead, I can tell you that we are fully prepared to take the necessary steps to build future prosperity for Canadians.

You and I also know that there is little that the federal government can do on its own to create Canada's economic future. Your commitment to the Action Plan will be equally essential. Once again I urge you to get on board.

Thank you. Merci.