Mr. Wilson and Mrs. McDougall said they were confident that the research carried out by these organizations would result in enhanced bilateral co-operation in science and technology research and would ensure Canada remained at the forefront of such research.

"The Japan Science and Technology Fund has proven to be a valuable tool in enhancing Canada's international competitiveness," said Mr. Wilson. "Such research is crucial if Canada is to expand and enhance its trade readiness."

"The JSTF is filling identifiable gaps in Canada's scientific and technological capabilities and helping to meet our long-term and industrial trade interests," said Mrs. McDougall. "This kind of research gives substance to our efforts to diversify our relationship with Japan."

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