

SECTION 2: *A Solid, Efficient Infrastructure*

Introduction

CANADA OFFERS BUSINESS people a comprehensive infrastructure to support their ventures. Key among Canada's many advantages are its well-educated and highly skilled population, an expanding research and development (R&D) base with world-class facilities, plentiful supplies of every type of energy, an efficient transportation network and a communications infrastructure that is among the world's finest. At the same time, Canada enjoys a financial sector that offers a broad spectrum of services from an industry that is highly developed, stable and extremely sophisticated. Taken together, these factors form a firm foundation for business development in Canada. They are characterized by a combination of the highest quality standards and some of the lowest costs to be found among the advanced industrial economies. The Canadian industrial sectors that have created, maintain and expand on this infrastructure rank among the world's most competitive. Indeed, their expertise is eagerly sought for infrastructural projects around the globe.