Equipment used in the waste-water purification process (waste produced by cheese production and washing water).
(Coopérative agro-alimentaire Agropur)

In the last few years, more discoveries have been made and new applications have been developed. At present, Canadian biotechnology researchers work mainly in such key sectors as health, the agri-food and forestry industries, the control of environmental pollution and mining.

The National Research Council (NRCC), which is Canada's national laboratory, fulfils its mandate to promote the development of expertise in biotechnology and help industry carry out commercially promising research activities through the National Biotechnology Program. In order to do this, the NRCC takes advantage of its high-level network of laboratories that includes the Biotechnology Research Institute in Montreal, the Plant Biotechnology Institute in Saskatoon and the Biological Sciences Branch in Ottawa.

This network is continually growing and encompasses a large number of Canadian universities and private-sector companies seriously committed to biotechnology. From coast to coast numerous Canadian companies that are deeply involved in research and development (R&D) efforts in biotechnology are beginning to thrive as a result.

It is expected that the biotechnology market will be worth some 60 billion dollars by the year 2000.[1] Though not a world leader, Canada is now starting to claim a share of this promising market. Relying on creative individuals, as well as sophisticated equipment and cutting-edge expertise, Canada aims to capture a position in the forefront of research in biotechnology, and to take advantage of the innumerable possibilities offered by this new and powerful technology.

1. Roger Miller, *The Strategic Management of Biotechnology R&D for the Successful Industrialization of Biotechnology*. Second Industrial Biotechnology Conference, NRCC, 4 and 5 December 1986.