When most people think about Canada, they think about its wonderful and warm people, natural beauty, and yes, its cold climate. But Canada is a nation of innovators and entrepreneurs who have had a big impact on the quality of life of people around the world. Indeed, Canada is a global leader in innovation: foreign investors can expect to find deep clusters of innovation in a wide variety of sectors throughout the country.



Light bulb

If you think Edison invented the light bulb, think again. In 1874, two Canadians— Henry Woodward and Mathew Evans—patented the first electric light bulb after testing it successfully in Toronto. They then sold the patent to Thomas Edison. So, the next time you turn on the lights, Think Canada.

Telephone

The next time you pick up the phone, Think Canada. Alexander Graham Bell, a man considered to be one of the most important inventors of the 19th century, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, but made many of his greatest scientific discoveries, including the telephone, on Canadian soil.

Insulin

For millions of diabetics around the world, insulin medication is the difference between life and death. The man who discovered insulin, Dr. Frederick Banting, was Canada's first Nobel Prize winner.



Cobalt-60 "Bomb" Cancer Treatment

Around the world, millions of cancer patients have a new lease on life because of another Canadian's invention. Harold Jones improved the survival rate of hundreds of thousands of cancer patients through his development of the Cobalt-60 machine as well as his early work with CT scanners in mammography.



Standard Time

Time is Money. Did you know that standard time was invented by a Canadian, Sir Sandford Fleming, one of the architects of the Canadian Pacific Railway? The next time you check your watch to make it to that conference call across different time zones, Think Canada.



BlackBerry™

The wireless hand-held phone with email and Internet connectivity is developed and manufactured in Canada by Research in Motion (RIM). Can you live without your Canadian BlackBerry™?

Compound 3TC for HIV/AIDS Treatment

3TC was invented by Bernard Belleau and Nghe Nguyen-Ga at the Montréal-based IAF BioChem International, Inc. laboratories in 1989. Initially designed as an antiviral agent, 3TC is essential in the treatment of HIV/AIDS (in combination with AZT).

Radio Voice Transmission

Many feel that Reginald Fessenden—not Marconi—should be considered the true "Father of Radio". Fessenden, a Canadian, transmitted history's first wireless voice message in 1900. Then, in the year 1906, on Christmas Eve, he made the first radio voice broadcast singing a carol to ships in the Atlantic and as far away as the Caribbean.