

CONCLUSION

In this working paper, Science, Technology and Economic Development, a variety of issues have been presented for discussion. A selection of some of these issues, and others not yet identified, could serve to reconfirm the mandate for innovation in the private sector as a means to achieving the national goal of economic renewal.

Four science and technology priorities have been offered for consideration:

1. Increase private sector investment in innovation;
2. Accelerate the rate of diffusion of technology/information;
3. Redefine the role of government research and development; and
4. Recognize the importance of academic research and development.

Issues presented within each priority serve as a basis for ongoing discussions between the two levels of government.

To properly focus future discussions, initial Federal-Provincial consensus on two issues would be desirable. These are:

1. *The accelerated application of technological advancements to Canadian products is the number one priority in the national effort to revitalize the economy.*
2. *An expeditious solution to the current university financial crisis must be found.*

It is the joint responsibility of the Federal, Provincial and Territorial governments to ensure that Canada exploits the opportunities inherent in technological advancement to their fullest potential.