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Minister of State
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In an increasingly competitive and ever-changing world, our government knows that science policy needs to be both flexible and forward-looking.

Our original Science and Technology Strategy, released in 2007, helped guide the government through significant investments across the board. Even during the global economic recession, Prime Minister Stephen Harper's commitment to funding Canadian science did not waver.

In all, since 2006 we have provided more than \$11 billion in new resources for basic and applied research, talent development, research infrastructure, and innovative activities in the private sector. Our government's record support is

Updated Science Strategy Expands Harper Government's Focus on Innovation

New federal research priorities include Advanced Manufacturing

essential to strengthening our position as an international science, technology and innovation leader.

In fact, Canada leads the G-7 in terms of R&D investments at universities, colleges and research institutes. Evidence of these investments can be witnessed across the country: The University of Victoria boasts the world's most powerful microscope. The Perimeter Institute is widely seen as the world's foremost centre for theoretical physics, an anchor institution for Waterloo's growing "Quantum Valley." Université Laval's arctic research programs are benefitting Canada's northern communities. And ground-breaking chemistry research by Dalhousie's Axel Becke, the most recent Gerhard Herzberg prize winner, is among the most cited in the world. We excel internationally in genomics, aerospace, clean energy, cybersecurity – the list goes on.

However, Canada must continue to leverage its competitive strengths and expand its strong entrepreneurial spirit into a broader

business innovation culture. The updated strategy, *Seizing Canada's Moment: Moving Forward in Science, Technology and Innovation 2014* provides a vision and a roadmap toward addressing persistent challenges in business innovation, while sustaining our strength in discovery and developing, attracting and retaining the most talented researchers in the world.

It sets out how we will harness the power of Canadian ingenuity, discovery, and invention to create jobs, increase prosperity and improve our quality of life.

It reaffirms and builds on two existing pillars from the first strategy, namely "people" and "knowledge," and it enhances and broadens the scope of the third pillar to include "innovation."

By focusing on people, we will strengthen the skills and capacity that keep Canada at the forefront of research and innovation. We continue to invest in knowledge – in the form of research and infrastructure – as we strengthen support for excellence across the spectrum

of discovery-driven and applied research activities, and we will make Canada a world leader in targeted research areas to create long-term economic advantages.

The third pillar will foster innovation, building greater partnerships among businesses and the research community to help Canadian companies compete and win in the global marketplace.

We are also expanding the scope of our targeted research priorities.

In addition to the environment, natural resources and energy, health and life sciences, and information and communications technologies, we have added agriculture and advanced manufacturing as priority areas. To the casual observer, advanced manufacturing might appear to be an odd choice-however, the 1.7 million Canadians employed by manufacturing support the development of new materials, processes, and high-value products, essential to countless scientific disciplines and industries ranging from biopharmaceuticals to telecommunications.

Economic Action Plan 2014 significantly supported the objectives of the new strategy with the announcement of the Canada First Research Excellence Fund. The Excellence Fund is a legacy investment of \$1.5 billion over ten years to drive Canadian university and college research from world-class to world-leading, creating long-term economic benefits for Canada.

The Excellence Fund has been designed to offer institutions maximum flexibility in making strategic research investments in the pursuit of global excellence, including through greater Canadian and international collaborations across multiple disciplines and with or without industrial partners.

Powered by investments like the Excellence Fund and guided by Canada's updated strategy, our government will continue to strengthen Canada's leadership position in science and business innovation while creating jobs, prosperity and an improved quality of life for Canadians.