

Innovation Systems and Economic Development: The Role of Local and Regional Clusters in Canada

SSHRC Major Collaborative Research Initiative

Milestones and Framework Document

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1.0 Project Framework

The goal of our research is to determine how the formation and growth of clusters contribute to economic development and long-run prosperity within a set of regions across Canada. We want to know how local networks of firms in these regions, along with the supporting infrastructure of institutions and organizations, interact to foster innovative dynamism leading to robust economic development. To what extent — and in what ways — do local, extra-firm relationships and interaction enable firms to make the transition to more innovative and knowledge-intensive forms of production?

The study will investigate the process of cluster development in a wide range of locales, in both knowledge-intensive sectors as well as more traditional ones, and in both metropolitan and non-metropolitan settings. The proposed initiative builds upon the unique research capabilities and partnerships of the Innovation Systems Research Network (ISRN), which was established in 1998 with initial network grants from SSHRC, NSERC and the NRC.

The members of the research team have benefited from three years of working together to construct a common intellectual framework and research agenda. Every aspect of the theoretical framework, research questions and methodology have been thoroughly discussed and vetted at our annual national conferences and more recently at project planning meetings of the management committee (see below). Every aspect of the project has been designed as part of an integrated and cohesive research agenda from the outset.

1.1 Management Structure

We shall use the existing structure of the ISRN to provide a management framework and organizational structure for the research over the next five years: a national office based in the Munk Centre of International Studies at the University of Toronto, and five regional subnetworks distributed across the country (at Simon Fraser, Ottawa U, Toronto, Laval and Fredericton). Each local cluster study will be conducted by a senior member of the appropriate subnetwork, and funds for each study will be distributed and administered through the heads of the regional subnetworks. Funds will also be allocated to allow each regional subnetwork to continue their networking activities established under the ISRN, as a way to maintain and strengthen interaction and knowledge transfer with our research partners in government agencies and the private sector.

We shall maintain the overall management structure that has served us well to this point. The *Management Committee* (MC) will consist of David Wolfe (Toronto), Meric Gertler (Toronto), Adam Holbrook (SFU), Réjean Landry (Laval), John de la Mothe (Ottawa U) and Norbert Schaefer (UNB), along with Jack Smith (NRC) representing our various government partners.

In addition, we have created a *Research Advisory Committee* which will include all the international collaborators listed in the proposal. The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) will first meet in Toronto on May 9, 2001, in a day-long session with the MC before the annual meeting to discuss the conceptual and methodological framework for the project. They will continue to meet annually on this occasion throughout the life of the project.

1.2 Research Plan

The research will proceed along three lines of inquiry: a statistical analysis of the data in Statistics Canada's 1999 Innovation Survey (SCIS); detailed case studies of the individual clusters in each region; and a cross-cluster/cross-region comparative analysis in the latter stages of the project.

I. Statistical Analysis:

The statistical work, to be carried out largely within the first two years of the project, will be coordinated by a subcommittee chaired by Meric Gertler at Toronto and Réjean Landry at Laval. The substantive work will be carried out by two postdoctoral students – Yael Levitte at Toronto and Nabil Amara at Laval, and one research associate – Rick Audas at UNB. There will be a meeting of the full statistical subcommittee (including postdocs and research associate) with Brian Nemes and Frances Anderson of Statistics Canada, during the first national meeting in Toronto, May 9-11, 2001, to co-ordinate this phase of the analysis.

This statistical work will allow us to measure the number and importance of product and process innovations produced by firms (dependent variable) and explore its relationship to a set of independent variables including: the importance of different external sources of innovative ideas, firm size, and the sophistication, internal resources or 'absorptive capacity' of the firm. We can also explore how this varies by key dimensions such as sector/industry and location (including a differentiation between metropolitan and non-metropolitan regions).

The data from the survey will be analysed to provide a systematic, consistent overview of innovation-generating behaviour in the key sectors selected below. Special emphasis will be placed on the relative importance of internal versus external sources of innovative ideas, co-operative/collaborative inter-firm interaction, relationships to innovation-supporting institutions and the use of government programs. Despite the relatively large sample size (6,000 manufacturing firms and 800 natural resource firms), we do not expect to be able to conduct this analysis at the level of every one of the individual sectoral and regional clusters identified below, due to potential problems of small cell counts when disaggregating by location and industry. Much of the analysis will therefore be conducted at the national and provincial level. Hence, the insights arising from this analysis will form a useful backdrop and complement to more detailed research carried out through the case study approach.

We can then match this information to our selected industry/region clusters to give us a systematic baseline analysis of the extent of collaboration and cluster-type relations present. We can also learn useful information from the SCIS about the motivations underlying this kind of collaboration, the benefits arising from it, and the obstacles or challenges preventing further collaboration.

This documentation is essential in helping us to:

- (a) identify key *members or elements* of the *regional innovation system*;
- (b) identify key *assets and obstacles to collaboration* in the region/industry;
- (c) identify *region-wide characteristics* (i.e. those which appear to be common to all or most sectors in the region);
- (d) identify important *sources of innovative ideas inside and outside the region*;
- (e) make systematic quantitative *comparisons across locations* within each sector/industry (and also across industries) on a, b, c and d above.

The profile of each industry/region cluster arising from our analysis of the SCIS data will thus provide a preliminary benchmarking of the density, strength, and structure of local cluster relationships using explicit measures. This will facilitate cluster-to-cluster comparisons, as well as comparisons to national and international benchmarks.

II. Cluster Case Studies:

For the second line of inquiry, we will conduct 22 cluster studies (listed below). Most of these will take three years to complete. All investigators will employ a common framework that has been developed by the Management Committee, and which will be finalized through discussions with the full project team and RAC at the May 2001 annual meeting. The cluster studies will be based on 50 individual interviews/cases spread across the ten groups listed below. Interview guides will be customized to match the particular role of each of these stakeholder groups:

- a. 'Lead' firms (large, technologically dynamic, export-oriented)
- b. Smaller and mid-sized firms, including suppliers
- c. Industry associations, chambers of commerce
- d. Labour organizations
- e. Government agencies (federal, provincial, local)
- f. Technology transfer organizations
- g. Universities: offices of technology transfer; relevant departments and faculties
- h. Colleges and other training institutions
- i. Financial sector (venture capitalists, banks, other)
- j. Local political leaders and 'civic entrepreneurs'

The list of clusters has been determined through detailed discussions among the members of the Management Committee on the basis of existing research expertise and areas of interest, relevance to the local and regional economies across the country and the need for comparability. The final list of clusters (with cluster study leaders) is as follows:

Clusters	BC/Alberta	S. Ontario	Ottawa	Québec	Atlantic
Biotech/ Biomed	✓Holbrook	✓Gertler	✓Niosi/Dalpe	✓Niosi/Dalpe	✓Rosson
Culture/ Multimedia	✓Smith	✓Britton		✓Tremblay	
Photonics/ Wireless	✓Langford	✓Wolfe	✓de la Mothe (Doutriaux)	✓Landry	
Wood Products	✓Schuetze				
Food & Beverage (including wine)	✓Padmore	✓✓Donald Mytelka ¹			
Information Technology			✓de la Mothe (Doutriaux)		✓✓Schaefer Johnstone/ Haddow ⁴
Auto/Steel Aerospace		✓✓Warran Holmes/ Kumar ²		✓Niosi ³	

Notes:

1. Donald: specialty food and beverage cluster; Mytelka: Niagara wine cluster.
2. Warran: steel; Holmes/Kumar: automotive parts
3. Niosi: aerospace cluster in Montréal
4. Schaefer: New Brunswick IT cluster; Johnston/Haddow: Cape Breton IT cluster

The cluster analyses will examine:

- i. size and composition of the cluster
- ii. history of the cluster's evolution, including key events (intentional and accidental)
- iii. relationships between firms
- iv. relationships between firms and research infrastructure
- v. geographical structure of these relationships
- vi. role of finance capital (especially angel investors and venture capitalists)
- vii. role of local social capital and 'civic entrepreneurs'
- viii. other factors contributing to the growth of the cluster

A draft set of interview questions will form the basis for discussion among the researchers responsible for individual clusters on May 11 at the first national meeting.

III. Comparative Analysis:

Comparative analyses will begin in Year 4. We will look at clusters within a region, clusters across the country, new sectors versus traditional sectors (eg wireless versus wood products), and metropolitan versus rural issues. Our goal is to generate a set of comparative papers across regions and clusters in years four and five. The heads of each regional subnetwork will be responsible for coordinating the cross-cluster analyses in their own region. Additionally, we will undertake cross-regional comparative analyses for the six major sectors for which we are conducting studies in more than one region: biotech/biomed (Holbrook, coordinator); cultural industries/multimedia (Gertler, coordinator); photonics/wireless (Wolfe, coordinator); food/beverage/wine (Padmore, coordinator); information technology, including telecom equipment (de la Mothe, coordinator); auto/steel/aerospace (Warrian, coordinator).

We will use both quantitative results from our analysis of SCIS and structured, qualitative results from our interviews to make these systematic comparisons between different case studies. Given that we have selected multiple clusters in the same or similar industry/sector, this analysis will permit us to better understand the following questions:

1. How does each cluster compare to the other(s) in its industry (or to national standards and benchmarks) in terms of competitive performance and the character, strength and structure of cluster relations?
2. To what extent are the character, strength and structure of cluster relations dependent on the dominant industrial sector?
3. To what extent do location-specific characteristics determine cluster characteristics and performance?

Finally, we aim to produce a study of ‘lessons learned’, with a strong policy focus examining the following issues:

- ▶ identify a set of ‘best practices’ that work elsewhere to assist local and regional development agencies to identify policy instruments and design programs that promote cluster formation and monitor their progress;
- ▶ develop guidelines to design and animate interactive learning and governance in the various parts of local innovation systems, as well as provide narratives and exemplars about trends in firm location decisions;
- ▶ provide universities and public research laboratories with better insights into their roles in cluster formation and how they can participate more effectively.

1.3 Budget Structure

Our expenditures fall into three broad categories:

- a. Cluster study direct costs
- b. Networking and communication costs (for each regional subnetwork)
- c. National office central functions (statistical analysis, national meetings, publications)

Cluster studies will each be funded at between \$72,000 and \$75,000 over three years, with the timing of each study staggered to spread expenditures as evenly as possible over the five-year life of the project (see Budget and Milestones Chart below for details). Exceptions are the Southern Ontario wine and steel clusters, which will be funded at between \$40,000 and \$45,000 per year. Variations in cluster budgets reflect different travel needs and other logistics related to the characteristics of each case.

Networking and communication costs will be funded on a per-subnetwork basis over the life of the project. Each subnetwork will receive \$23,000 per year, plus \$5,000 for equipment (in Year 1 only) for the purpose of organizing regional meetings with public and private sector partners, communication and outreach activities such as electronic newsletters, web sites, working papers, and other related expenditures.

National office central functions will include expenditures associated with all national meetings (including the travel costs of international collaborators), statistical analysis (with some funds for this going directly to RQSI in Québec and ACISN in New Brunswick), central outreach and communications functions such as project website maintenance, working papers, publications arising from the annual meetings, and public relations.

1.4 Deliverables

The deliverables for the project will include:

- a. a set of papers arising from the statistical analysis.
- b. papers arising from individual cluster studies. This should result in a set of 22 individual papers. A considerable number of them will be presented at the annual ISRN meetings and included in the publication from Queen's University's School of Policy Studies. We will continue to post all of our papers on the ISRN website.
- c. a set of papers arising from the comparative analysis. This will include up to 11 comparative analyses of the individual cluster studies: 5 regional cross-cluster studies comparing the similarities and differences across the various clusters studied within each region; 6 cross-regional studies comparing the nature of the various clusters in the different parts of the country (for those cases where the same industry will be studied in more than one region). These will primarily be presented at the ISRN annual meetings in Years 4 and 5.

2.0 Milestones

Time Frame	Milestones	Deliverables
Q1, 2001	Confirmation of Study Participants Organization of Research Agenda Planning for ISRN National Meeting – May, 2001	Milestones document
Q2, 2001 National	Research Advisory Committee Meeting, May 9 ISRN National Meeting and Official Launch, May 10 & 11 – approve cluster framework & interview guide Consultations with Statcan on Data Analysis, May 11	ISRN Papers, Vol. 2
Innocom (BC/AB)	Launch Wood Products Cluster Study	
PROMIS (Ottawa)	Launch Telecom Equipment Cluster Study Launch Photonics Cluster Study Launch Biomedical Equipment Cluster Study	
RQSI (Quebec)	Launch Aerospace Cluster Study Launch Biotechnology Cluster Study	
Q3, 2001 Statistical Analysis	prepare descriptive statistics for cluster studies (2 reports)	
Innocom	Regional Meeting – Cluster Framework and Interview guide Workshop on Innovation for PCO/PRS Launch Food/Wine Cluster Launch Wireless Cluster Study	
ONRIS (S. Ont.)	Regional Workshop – Cluster Framework and interview guide – consult public sector partners, MEST, MEDT Launch Steel Cluster Study	
PROMIS	Research plan for Telecom and Photonics cluster study Data analysis of existing indicators for Biomed cluster	
RQSI	Data analysis of existing indicators for Biotech cluster Data analysis of existing indicators for Aerospace cluster	
ACISN (Atlantic)	Regional Workshop with public sector partners (NRC, ACOA, IC, & NB Govt. Launch NB IT Cluster Study Launch Cape Breton IT Cluster Study	
Q4, 2001 Statistical Analysis	continue work on 2 reports	
Innocom	Food/Wine Cluster – 25 Interviews Wireless Cluster – 20 Interviews in Calgary Wood Products Cluster – 25 Interviews Launch Multimedia Cluster study Launch Biotechnology Cluster study	

ONRIS	Steel Cluster – refine interview guide and interview list	
ACISN	NB IT Cluster – develop contact database Cape Breton IT Cluster – develop contact database	
Q1, 2002 National	Management Committee Meeting – plan national meeting	
Innocom	Innocom Regional Meeting Food/Wine Cluster – 25 interviews Wireless Cluster – 20 interviews in Calgary Wood Products Cluster – 25 interviews Multimedia Cluster – define cluster Biotechnology Cluster – define cluster	
ONRIS	ONRIS Regional Meeting Steel Cluster – begin interviews Launch Wine Cluster study	
PROMIS	Telecom Equipment Cluster – begin interviews Photonics Cluster – begin interviews	MBA Research Papers
ACISN	NB IT Cluster – 25 interviews Cape Breton IT Cluster – 25 interviews	
Q2, 2002 National	ISRN Annual Meeting and RAC meeting	Initial Cluster Reports
Statistical Analysis	complete first two analytical reports	Reports on Cluster Characteristics
Innocom	Food/Wine Cluster Wireless Cluster – define Vancouver cluster Wood Products Cluster Multimedia Cluster – map research networks Biotechnology – map research networks	Initial Report Initial Report Initial Report
ONRIS	Steel Cluster – 25-30 interviews Wine Cluster – begin interviews Launch Auto Parts Cluster study	Initial Report
PROMIS	Telecom Equipment Cluster – 25 interviews Photonics Cluster – 25 interviews Biomed Cluster – 25 interviews	Initial Report Initial Report Initial Report
RQSI	Biotech Cluster – 25 interviews Aerospace Cluster – 25 interviews Launch Multimedia Cluster Study Launch Photonics Cluster Study	Initial Report Initial Report
ACISN	NB IT Cluster Cape Breton IT Cluster Launch Halifax Biotech Cluster study	Initial Report Initial Report

Q3, 2002 National		ISRN Papers 3
Statistical Analysis	begin next round of analytical studies (2 reports)	
Innocom	Biotech Cluster – 25 interviews Multimedia Cluster – 25 interviews	Conference Paper
ONRIS	Regional Fall Workshop Steel Cluster – complete interviews Wine Cluster – continue interviews Auto Parts Cluster – cluster definition based on preliminary analysis of secondary data Launch Wireless/Photonics Cluster study Launch Multimedia Cluster study	
RQSI	Multimedia Cluster study – 25 interviews Photonics Cluster study – 25 interviews	
ACISN	Regional Workshop with public sector partners (NRC, ACOA, IC, & NB Govt. Halifax Biotech Cluster study – develop contact database	
Q4, 2002 Innocom	Workshop on Innovation in the Public Service Wireless Cluster study – 20 interviews in Vancouver Wood Products Cluster Biotech Cluster – 25 interviews Multimedia Cluster – 25 interviews	Conference Paper
ONRIS	Steel Cluster – analysis of interview data & integration with statistical overviews Wine Cluster – complete interviews (25-30) Auto Parts Cluster – refine interview guide; preliminary interviews Photonics/Wireless – refine interview guide and develop contact database Multimedia Cluster study – refine interview guide; update & reconcile databases	Draft Report Interim Report Background Paper
PROMIS	continue interviews	
RQSI	continue interviews	
ACISN	Halifax Biotech – 25 interviews	
Q1, 2003 National	Management Committee Mtg – review progress, plan National Conference, draft interim report	
Innocom	Wireless Cluster – 20 interviews in Vancouver Food/Wine Cluster	Conference Paper Draft Report

ONRIS	Auto Parts Cluster – begin field interviews Photonics/Wireless Cluster – begin field interviews Multimedia Cluster – 25 interviews in film segment & locational analysis of spatial pattern of activity Launch Food & Beverage Cluster study Launch Biotech Cluster study	
PROMIS	Telecom Equipment Cluster – 25 interviews Photonics Cluster – 25 interviews Biomed Cluster – 25 interviews	
RQSI	Aerospace Cluster – 25 interviews Biotech Cluster – 25 interviews Photonics Cluster – 25 interviews	
ACISN	NB IT – 25 interviews Cape Breton IT – 25 interviews	
Q2, 2003 National	ISRN Annual Meeting and RAC Meeting Complete Interim Report to SSHRC	Conference Papers Interim Report
Statistical Analysis	Complete two analytical reports	Reports on Cluster Characteristics
Innocom	Wireless Cluster – comparative analysis of Calgary and Vancouver Biotech Cluster Multimedia Cluster	Conference Paper Interim Report Interim Report
ONRIS	Steel Cluster – complete final report Wine Cluster – draft final report Auto Parts Cluster – 25 interviews Multimedia Cluster – draft report Food & Beverage Cluster – finalize interview guide and develop contact database Biotech Cluster – finalize interview guide and develop contact database	Conference Paper Conference Paper Conference Paper
PROMIS	Telecom Equipment Cluster – interim report Photonics Cluster – interim report Biomed Cluster – interim report	Conference Paper Conference Paper Conference Paper
RQSI	Aerospace Cluster – interim report Biotech Cluster – interim report Multimedia Cluster – interim report Photonics Cluster - quantitative analysis	Conference Paper Conference Paper Conference Paper Conference Paper
ACISN	NB IT Cluster Cape Breton IT Cluster Halifax Biotech Cluster	Conference Paper Conference Paper Conference Paper

Q3, 2003 National	Interim Review Meeting – September	ISRN Papers 4
Innocom	Wireless Cluster	Conference Paper
ONRIS	Regional Fall Workshop Wine Cluster – final report Auto Parts Cluster – analyse interview data Photonics/Wireless Cluster – 25 Interviews Biotech Cluster – 25 interviews	Conference Paper Conference Paper
PROMIS	Telecom Equipment Cluster – revise report Photonics Cluster – revise report Biotech Cluster – revise report	
RQSI	Aerospace Cluster – comparative analysis Biotech Cluster – comparative analysis Multimedia Cluster – 25 interviews	
ACISN	Regional Workshop with public sector partners (NRC, ACOA, IC, & NB Govt. Halifax Biotech – 25 interviews	
Q4, 2003 National	Management Committee Mtg to discuss results of Interim Review and plan cross-cluster studies	
ONRIS	Auto Parts Cluster – 25 interviews Photonics/Wireless interviews – 25 interviews Food & Beverage Cluster – 25 interviews	
ACISN	NB IT Cluster – analyse results Cape Breton IT Cluster – analyse results	
Q1, 2004 National	Plan National Conference Initiate first round of cross-cluster studies	
Statistical	Integrate statistical analysis with cluster studies	
Innocom	Regional Meeting Conclude Wood Products Cluster study	
ONRIS	Auto Parts Cluster study – complete interviews and begin analysing data Multimedia Cluster study – 25 interviews Photonics/Wireless Cluster study – complete interviews and analyse interview data	
PROMIS	Conclude Telecom Equipment Cluster study Conclude Photonics Cluster study Conclude Biotech Cluster study	

RQSI	Conclude Aerospace Cluster Study Conclude Biotech Cluster Study	
Q2, 2004 National	ISRN Annual Meeting and RAC Meeting Initial Round of Cross-Regional and Cross-Sectoral Cluster Studies – BC/AB, Ottawa, Atlantic, Steel/Auto/Aerospace, IT (including telecom equipment)	Conference Papers
Innocom	Conclude Wireless Cluster study Biotech Cluster study Multimedia Cluster study	Conference paper Conference paper
ONRIS	Multimedia Cluster study Photonics/Wireless Cluster study Biotech Cluster study Food & Beverage Cluster study	Conference paper Conference paper Conference paper Conference paper
RQSI	Multimedia Cluster study Photonics Cluster study	Conference paper Conference paper
ACISN	Conclude NB IT Cluster study Conclude Cape Breton IT Cluster study	
Q3, 2004 National		ISRN Papers 5
Innocom	Conclude Biotech Cluster study Conclude Multimedia Cluster study	
ONRIS	Regional Fall Workshop	
ACISN	Regional Workshop with public sector partners (NRC, ACOA, IC, & NB Govt.	
Q4, 2004 ONRIS	Auto Parts Cluster study – conclude interviews and final analysis of data, draft report Multimedia Cluster study – analyse data and draft final report Photonics/Wireless Cluster study – final report Food & Beverage Cluster study – draft final report	
RQSI	Multimedia Cluster study – complete interviews Photonics Cluster study – complete interviews	
ACISN	Halifax Biotech Cluster study – analyse data	
Q1, 2005 National	Management Committee Mtg – plan annual meeting, coordinate cross-regional and cross-sectoral cluster studies	
Innocom	Regional Meeting	

RQSI	Conclude Multimedia Cluster study Conclude Photonics Cluster study	
Q2, 2005 National	ISRN Annual Meeting and RAC Second Round of cross-regional and cross-sectoral cluster studies – S. Ontario, Quebec, Multimedia, Biotech, Wireless/Photonics, Food & Beverage Plan Final Report	Conference Papers
ONRIS	Conclude Photonics/Wireless Cluster study Conclude Multimedia Cluster study Biotech Cluster study Food & Beverage Cluster study	Conference paper Conference paper
ACISN	Conclude Halifax Biotech Cluster study	
Q3, 2005 National		ISRN Papers 6
ONRIS	Fall Regional Workshop Biotech Cluster study – draft final report Food & Beverage Cluster study – draft final report	
ACISN	Regional Workshop with public sector partners (NRC, ACOA, IC, & NB Govt.	
Q4, 2005 National	Draft Final Project Report & Final Report to SSHRC	Final Report
ONRIS	Conclude Biotech Cluster study Conclude Food & Beverage Cluster study	

3.0 MCRI Participants

Principal Investigator

David Wolfe, Centre for International Studies/Political Science, University of Toronto

Co-Investigators

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Financial University under The Government Development in Canada Local economic development Project made by Students of group SOC 1-1 Ksenia Anisimova Anastasia Gandra Ulyana Revkova Tutor N. V. Savchenko Moscow 2016. 2. Plan. History Concept Phases Success of of of of Canada LED LED LED. 3. Canada. is the world's eleventhlargest economy as of 2015, with a nominal GDP of approximately US\$1.79 trillion. With the publication of Dr. David Birch's controversial but highly acclaimed research on the role of small business in economic development, a new wave of LED practice. 7. Phase three: broadened foundation for effective LED (early 1990s). Canada's economy has traditionally been understood in terms of its geography (see Regionalism). Three developments played major roles in this trend. The first was the completion of the St. Lawrence Seaway in the early 1950s, which enabled ships to bypass Montreal and thus drastically reduced its importance as a major port. This was exacerbated by political instability (see October Crisis, Quebec Referendum 1980 and Quebec Referendum 1995) and French-only language legislation. In Canada, as in other developed nations, it is today the location of manufacturing and of service industries that largely determines the emergence and persistence of regional income disparities. Regional Economic Policies. 2 In 2001 the Innovation Systems Research Network (ISRN), funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, launched the project "Innovation Systems and Economic Development: The Role of Local and Regional Clusters in Canada", that will examine the impact and importance of clusterdriven innovation in Canada. With the closure of the Science Council of Canada in the early 1990s this is technically true although there is a Prime Minister's Advisory Council on S&T, established in 1996, which provides with expert, non-partisan advice on national S&T goals and policies and their application to the Canadian economy. Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED; legally, the Department of Industry; French: Innovation, Sciences et Développement Économique Canada) is the department of the Government of Canada with a mandate of fostering a growing, competitive, and knowledge-based Canadian economy. ISED specifically supports Canadian innovation efforts, trade and investment, enterprise growth, and customized economic development in Canadian communities.