

INNOVATION NOW

A MONTHLY SHOWCASE OF CANADIAN RESEARCH THAT IS TRANSFORMING OUR DAILY LIVES

Economic impacts

Making the oil sands industry leaner and cleaner

Research funded by the Government of Canada, through the Canada Foundation for Innovation, is boosting the oil sands industry in Alberta. Processes developed at the University of Calgary are reducing the cost and environmental impact of extracting bitumen for oil and gas companies like Nexen, Inc., which employs more than 2,000 people in Alberta alone.

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Clinical trials on a global scale

Hamilton's Population Health Research Institute takes the pulse of large groups of patients around the world. A joint initiative between Hamilton Health Sciences and McMaster University, the institute has created 245 high-paying full-time jobs in Hamilton and has generated employment for an estimated 125 nurses, technicians and staff at testing sites across Canada.

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A Canadian hub boosts a burgeoning field

Université Laval's world-class expertise in optics and photonics is at the centre of a growing multi-million dollar business in Quebec City. Over 40 optics and photonics companies employ more than 2,500 people and generate \$350 million in annual revenue.

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Spotlight on research

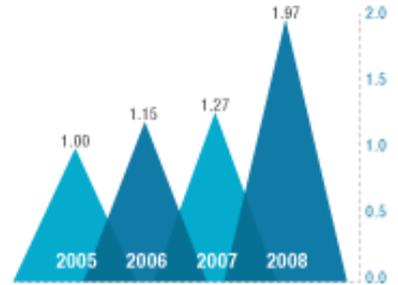
Vital signs — Making sense of life-saving data for premature babies

Every year in Canada, approximately 28,000 babies are born before they reach 37 weeks of gestation. These preterm births are the leading cause of infant mortality in developed countries. Since more than one-third of brain growth and significant lung development occur during the final weeks of a normal gestation period, preterm births result in increased rates of respiratory distress, temperature instability, neurocognitive problems and hospital readmissions. Premies pose a serious concern for our public health system, and emotional distress for parents.

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DID YOU KNOW?

RESEARCH HELPS CANADIAN BUSINESS GROW



Constantly seeking solutions to their business challenges, companies are increasingly seeking answers at universities and research hospitals. In 2008, almost \$2 billion worth of research was contracted to these institutions — a large portion of that from the private sector alone.

[Click for the full story.](#)

CFI-funded research in the news

ENGINEERING — Mining robot built in Sudbury tested in Chilean mine (*CBC News Online, Feb. 21, 2012*)

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MEDICAL ISOTOPES — Scientists at the Canadian Light Source at the University of Saskatchewan are closer to producing medical isotopes without using a nuclear reactor (*Saskatoon StarPhoenix Online, Feb. 24, 2012*)

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ÉNERGIE — Les inventions hallucinantes du Prof Wu : Dans cinq ans, les téléphones seront rechargés par l'énergie ambiante! (*Le Devoir, 27 février 2012*)

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TECHNOLOGY — Technology opens up new worlds for children with autism (*The Globe and Mail, Feb. 14, 2012*)

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450-230 Queen St. | Ottawa, ON | K1P 5E4 | 613-947-6496 | feedback@innovation.ca | innovation.ca

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