



FEB - 2 2015

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Dear Dr. Baron:

Thank you for your letter of December 2, 2014, recognizing our government's continued funding for scientific research, identifying the priorities of the Canadian Society for Molecular Biosciences, and inquiring into the future directions of funding for science in Canada. We appreciate your interest in the continued health of Canada's science, technology and innovation (ST&I) ecosystem.

Our government believes in the importance of research and its role in building a broad base of knowledge, understanding and expertise relating to a range of technological, health, social and economic issues. Since 2006, the federal government has provided more than \$11 billion in new resources to support basic and applied research, talent development, research infrastructure, and innovation. Canada remains the G7 leader in research and development expenditures in the higher education sector as a share of the economy.

Building on this, Economic Action Plan (EAP) 2014 provides significant new support to the higher education research sector, illustrating the federal government's commitment to this priority area. The \$1.5-billion legacy investment in the Canada First Research Excellence Fund will enable Canadian post-secondary institutions to excel globally in research areas that create long-term economic advantages for Canada. Launched on December 4, 2014, by Prime Minister Stephen Harper, the Fund will position Canada's post-secondary institutions to compete with the best in the world for talent and breakthrough discoveries.

EAP 2014 also contains an annual \$46-million top-up for the granting agencies: \$15 million to the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, \$15 million to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, \$7 million for the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and \$9 million to increase the government's support for indirect costs of research at post-secondary institutions to \$342 million per

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year through the Research Support Fund. Please note that these funds are intended to support the undirected research of the open competition grants administered by the three granting councils.

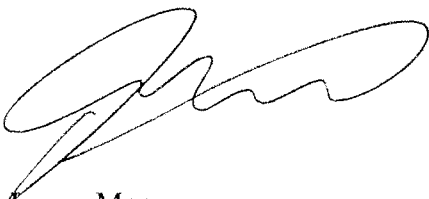
Our government has also made additional investments in basic science research, beyond increases to the granting agencies. EAP 2014 committed \$222 million over five years to the TRIUMF physics laboratory. It also committed \$15 million over three years to support the Institute for Quantum Computing's strategic plan to carry out and commercialize leading-edge research in quantum technologies.

Going forward, the updated ST&I Strategy, *Seizing Canada's Moment: Moving Forward in Science, Technology and Innovation 2014*, will see the federal government continue to provide record support across the full spectrum of research endeavours in universities, colleges and polytechnics to maintain Canada's strengths. The Strategy also sets out a roadmap to guide future federal ST&I investments to enable Canada's post-secondary institutions to continue their work with private sector partners to enhance our nation's global standing in business innovation. Continued world-leading performance in post-secondary research, and addressing our business innovation challenges, will remain key priorities for our government.

We remain steadfast in fostering quality research, developing connections between researchers and Canadian society, and demonstrating the impact of the research we fund.

Please accept our best wishes.

Sincerely,



James Moore
Minister of Industry



Ed Holder
Minister of State (Science and Technology)

c.c.: The Honourable Rona Ambrose, P.C., M.P.