



**THE CANADIAN CONSORTIUM FOR RESEARCH
LE CONSORTIUM CANADIEN POUR LA RECHERCHE**

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Canadian Consortium for Research (CCR) Response

COMMUNIQUE

For immediate release

2005 BUDGET - MIXED REACTION FROM RESEARCH COMMUNITY

(Ottawa - 2005 February 23) – The Canadian Consortium for Research (CCR) greets the 2005 Federal Budget with a mixture of caution and disappointment.

On the research front, modest increases in granting council budgets and the indirect costs of research suggest continued Federal Government support for the research enterprise in Canada. However, the level of these increases is not sufficient to meet the needs created by the influx of a new generation of faculty and students.

In post-secondary education, the lack of any initiative to address federal transfers, infrastructure renewal and tuition pressures is profoundly disappointing. Post-secondary education continues to rate second to health care as the most significant concern of Canadians, and the CCR expected this would be acknowledged in this budget.

“We are looking to the Federal Government to take leadership on these issues,” stated CCR Chair Paul Ledwell. “By strengthening its commitment to all areas of research and addressing the needs of our institutions of higher education, the Government will be responding to a clear priority of Canadians.”

The formal inclusion of funding for the Canadian Academies of Science and Genome Canada are both positive initiatives. “These are welcome by the research community, but collectively we must do more. We are committed to working with the government to build greater capacity in research, post-secondary education, and government science in Canada,” emphasized Ledwell.

The Canadian Consortium for Research (CCR) was established in 1976. It consists of the 18 organizations listed below that represent researchers in all disciplines across Canada. While the majority of these researchers are based in universities, the constituent organizations have numerous members in government laboratories and in private sector research centres. With approximately 50,000 researchers and 450,000 students represented in these member groups, the CCR is the largest organization in Canada whose primary concerns are the funding of research in all sectors and support for post secondary education.

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