

Queen's University Pre-Budget Submission



The Honourable Wayne Easter, MP
Chair, Standing Committee on Finance
House of Commons
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Easter,

On behalf of Queen's University, I would like to express my thanks to the members of the Standing Committee on Finance for the opportunity to participate in the pre-budget consultations. Queen's is very pleased to contribute to the development of the 2017 federal budget. We would also like to express our thanks to the government for its support of post-secondary education, research and innovation. In particular, we appreciate the commitment to research and innovation infrastructure demonstrated through the Post-Secondary Institutions Strategic Investment Fund.

Established in 1841 by Royal Charter of Queen's Victoria, Queen's University is renowned for its outstanding student experience and outcomes; its professional faculties in business, medicine, law, education and engineering; its top programs in arts and science; and for its internationally recognized researchers and research programs. The Queen's student body is diverse, with seven per cent of students

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- Cluster project fund. This fund would make investments in projects that respond to a cluster's unique challenges and opportunities. The cluster's innovation partners would develop proposals, which could take a wide variety of forms (e.g. facility upgrades, international trade missions, training or mentorship programs, work-integrated learning initiatives, etc.) and the proposals would be assessed competitively. All funded projects would need to publish a post-project report on best practices and lessons learned, to help other clusters accelerate their own growth.
- Scientific advancement fund. This fund would invest in specific research areas that innovation partnership councils identify as a major, widely experienced 'next generation' R&D challenge. Proposals would be competitively assessed, would require the cluster's innovation partners to be invested in the project and would require agreement about how project IP would be managed.
- Establishing mechanisms to collect and publish data that can benchmark the performance of globally competitive innovation clusters.

Queen's is a world-leading research institution and ranked 11th among Canadian universities for research intensity, according to the 2014 Infosource rankings. While leading in several sectors including fuel cells, geotechnical engineering, nuclear materials, cancer trials and cardiopulmonary therapeutics, Queen's supports world-renowned research in fundamental physics, and supports ongoing research activity with links to SNOLAB and TRIUMF. This focus, in conjunction with cluster development in the region, provides expertise to advance nuclear technologies and alternative energy sources.

In particular, Queen's is recognized as having one of the leading particle astrophysics research programs in the world. It is the scientific home of Dr. Art McDonald, co-winner of the 2015 Nobel Prize in Physics, and aims to be a world leader in the next generation of globally important particle astrophysics experiments. Further to this, Queen's has applied for funding under the Canada First Research Excellence Fund to make its

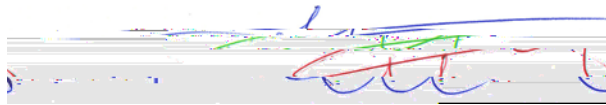
commercialization and economic development in the South Eastern Ontario region. With support from the provincial government, announced in the 2007 budget, and with

foundation for success, from the beginning of graduates' careers to life-long learning and innovation throughout their lives.

To remain on the cutting edge of innovation, support from a variety of partners is necessary, including the federal government. Should the government identify further funding to support innovation, Queen's is well-positioned to help the government deliver on its innovation agenda as we continue to work with municipal, community and business partners, including in the advancement of the clean-tech sector in Eastern Ontario.

We would like to thank the government for the opportunity to provide input for Budget 2017. During the budget process, we would be pleased to discuss this letter and other ways Queen's can contribute to the government's plan. For more information, or should you have any other questions or comments, please contact University Relations at 613-533-6000 ext. 33410 or vpuniversityrelations@queensu.ca

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Fraser', is written over a grey horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with some red and green ink visible in the background.

Michael Fraser
Vice Principal, University Relations