

## Ontario's Regional Economic Development and Innovation Newsletter

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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### **CFI Invests \$38.9 Million to Expand World-renowned Underground Science Facility**

Earlier this month the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) - in conjunction with Ministry of Industry - announced a \$38.9 million investment towards the establishment of a new international facility for underground science in Canada. The investment will transform the existing Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) into the only world-class research facility of its kind. The new SNOLAB will conduct experiments that build on the success of the original SNO project. The CFI's investment will cover the cost of excavation of a new underground experimental cavern, surface support, new labs at Laurentian University, experimental equipment as well as operational support for the next five years.

**New Book Announcement: *Regional Innovation Policy for Small-Medium Enterprises***

This book (edited by Bjorn T Asheim, Arne Isaksen, and Franz Todtling, provides an extensive evaluation of the numerous policy instruments used by regional governments in Europe to promote innovation activity in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). The instruments are compared and benchmarked in order to identify 'good practice', in an effort to bridge the gap between the theory of regional innovation and real-world policy implementation. The authors argue for a new policy paradigm and highlight the value of an interactive style of policy intervention.

### **New Book Announcement: *Innovation and Knowledge Creation in an Open Economy: Canadian Industry and International Implications***

This book, written by John R Baldwin and Petr Hanel, is a study of innovation, innovative intensity, and sources of knowledge creation derived from a detailed investigation of innovation in Canadian manufacturing firms. It covers a wide variety of topics including the sources of innovation, intellectual property practices, and methods of financing and practices in research and development in both small and large firms. The first chapter, "The Economics of Knowledge Creation", is available online as a preview.

**EDITOR'S PICK**

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### **Partners on a Mission: Federal Laboratory Practices Contributing to Economic Development**

*Office of Technology Policy, US Department of Commerce*

This report examines the experiences of federal labs and their influence on local economic development. The study finds that federal labs pursue a variety of activities that tend to benefit the communities and states in which the labs are located and that the labs themselves also tend to profit from these links. Involvement in local economic development helped to attract more qualified employees as the area in which the lab was embedded became more economically attractive, strengthened local R&D and demand for lab services, and enhanced entrepreneurialism and increased tech transfer both within the lab environment and in the region more generally. This study provides a comprehensive summary of the many activities related to economic development that federal labs pursue and outline the benefits to the community and to the labs themselves.

**INNOVATION & RELATED POLICY**

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### **Canada's Journey to an Information Society**

*Statistics Canada*

This volume is Statistics Canada's second compendium publication on the subject of information and communications technologies (ICTs) in Canada. It builds on the

material provided in the first compendium publication, "Networked Canada: Beyond the information highway", as well as the ongoing Connectedness Series. This paper provides a profile of Canada's ICT sector, including key indicators of change and addresses economy-wide issues covering ICT diffusion and utilization. The final two sections consist of collection of thematic analyses focussing on the high-tech labour market, the digital divide, broadband use and deployment, and the use of ICTs by Canada's cultural industries, and a detailed examination of Canada's international involvement in the Information Society, with particular emphasis on assistance to developing countries.

## **AUTM Licensing Survey: FY 2002**

*AUTM*

The AUTM Licensing Survey: FY 2002 provides information about licensing activities at 222 U.S. and Canadian universities, hospitals and research institutions, a record high for the 12th annual publication. Despite the severity and depth of the national recession, the survey reports marked increases across the board for sponsored research expenditures, invention disclosures, U.S. patent applications, licenses and options, license-related income and new products.

## **Technological Change and Institutions: A Case Study**

*Saeed Parto, MERIT*

The arena of mobile telecommunication in Europe has undergone a technological transition from analogue (first generation) to digital (second generation) technologies. While this transition is immediately attributable to shifts in demand and supply patterns, closer examination reveals that there are numerous other intervening factors that have facilitated this transition. The paper concludes with a discussion of the implications from this study for an institutional perspective on technological change.

## **REGIONAL INNOVATION & CLUSTERS**

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## **European Innovation Scorecard 2003**

*European Commission Enterprise Directorate*

This trend chart on innovation encompasses the monitoring of innovation performance, the collection and analysis of data on innovation support measures, and the exchange of good policy practice. It aims to build a comprehensive and up-to-date picture of innovation policy-making across Europe. The the database (Trend Chart) related to this report includes a comprehensive account of 700 support measures and a detailed analysis of policy implications.

## **Boston Indicators Report 2002 - Creativity and Innovation: A Bridge to the Future**

*Charlotte Kahn and Geeta Pradhan, Boston Foundation*

Technological and civic innovation gave fueled Boston's growth. Three "legs", a

strong institutional and physical infrastructure, a culture of innovation, and strong human capital, are the foundation for Boston's ability to innovate and reinvent itself. This most recent report finds that the human capital leg is at risk due to the loss of a significant percentage of young workers and the subsequent increase of this population in competitor cities. The report addresses this and other challenges to the sustainability of innovation and prosperity in the region.

## **The Cluster as a Market Organization**

*Peter Maskell and Mark Lorenzen, DRUID*

The authors use an institutional analysis to examine how industry uncertainty and ambiguity translate into firm strategies of organization in the market. They conclude that these and other industry characteristics (such as the standardization of products) determine whether firms are likely to organize hierarchically, in networks or clusters. Their conclusions are supported by an empirical examination of the pop music and furniture industries in Europe.

## **EVENTS**

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### **CANARIE's Third Pan-Canadian E-learning Workshop**

#### **Vancouver, 12-13 January, 2004**

This event will bring together several hundred people who are involved in the development of technology-enabled education and training. The main objectives of the Workshop are to provide a forum for E-learning Program projects to demonstrate their results and a venue at which the emerging Canadian e-learning community can meet. The theme of this Workshop is E-learning to Learning and will be of interest to educators, developers, and strategic planners at all levels of education (K-12, post-secondary and workplace training).

### **Licensing Converging Technologies - Bridging the Gap NEW!**

#### **San Francisco, 11-13 February, 2004**

This meeting will address the convergence of three technologies and how they will affect numerous industries, from electronics and new materials science to pharmaceuticals and patient specific therapies. What are these technologies? How are they converging? How will it affect the future of our business endeavors? What are the implications for licensing and intellectual property? The conference will examine the impacts of nanotechnology, biotechnology and information and communication technologies on a variety of industries and across a range of applications.

### **Urban Impacts of the Information society: Facts, Fiction and Policies Telecities and MUTEIS conference**

## **The Hague, 17-19 March, 2004**

The "information revolution" and the emerging Information Society entail fundamental changes in social interaction and relationships, and modifications in the socio-economic and spatial organization of activities. The main driver in this process is the rapid development and application of Information Society Technologies (ISTs). The main inhibitors are the fictions that emerged from the discussion of the New Economy. Better knowing the drivers and inhibitors is crucial for contemporary urban management. This conference will explore the urban economic and social impacts of information society technologies (ISTs), as well as the way new technologies urge local governance in cities to change their policies. Academics and senior city managers, planners and researchers will discuss practical case studies, experiences and state of the art research under the following themes: urban policies for and patterns of IST adoption, spatial behaviour in the context of global IST developments, patterns of digital infrastructure and use, and the relationship between IST, productivity and competitiveness.

## **New Directions in Technology Management: Changing Collaboration Between Government, Industry and University**

### **Washington D.C. 3-7 April, 2004**

This Conference of the International Association for Management of Technology will discuss new directions in technology management and their influence on innovation and the creation of economic growth and prosperity. Special attention will be given to the necessary mechanisms of knowledge generation, science and technology policy, and the collaboration required to accomplish national and organizational objectives. Best practices in technology development and utilization will be presented. The academic institution's role in preparing the needed human resources for the technological environment of the 21st century will also be addressed.

## **The Europe of Knowledge 2020: A Vision for University-based Research and Innovation**

### **Liege (Belgium), 25-28 April, 2004**

This conference will explore the issues raised by the Commission's communication published in February 2003 on "the role of universities in the Europe of Knowledge". The conference will address in a series of parallel sessions that address the following issues: the creation and certification of knowledge, the changing nature of research teaching, P3s, the role of universities for research in the regions and the challenge of inter-disciplinary research. This conference aims to produce an agreed roadmap to help European universities to realize fully their ambitions in the 21st century.

## **Smart City Summit 2004**

### **Ottawa, 27-28 April, 2004**

The Smart City Summit combines Ottawa's Business and Technology Trade Show with a major business and technology conference that draws international attention

from business and government. It is also Ottawa's premier mega-networking and business development event, catering to technology and business decision-makers and federal, provincial and municipal government attendees from across Canada. In just three short years, the Summit has evolved into a dynamic local and international marketplace for business innovators encompassing a major conference, trade show, keynotes, networking, and innovation awards.

## **Regionalization of Innovation Policy - Options and Experiences**

### **Berlin, 4-5 June, 2004**

Globalization leads to a greater relevance of regional factors for innovation processes. There is a growing consensus in the academic field, as well as among politicians, that innovation policy should include this regional dimension, i.e. regional innovation systems. But it is still not quite clear how this could or should be done in practice. In general, there are two approaches to the regionalization of innovation policy. One strategy is attempting to improve the quality of the innovation system in certain regions. The main questions here concern appropriate instruments for such a strategy and the selection of regions. A second strategy that may be complementary to the above-mentioned one is to scale down national innovation policies in such a way that they take into account the various regions (for example, by focusing measures on certain clusters). In some countries, interesting attempts at such a policy that are worthy of investigation have been made (for example, the BioRegio or the InnoRegio program in Germany). This conference will bring together scholars working in the field of innovation systems and policy at the national and regional level.

## **DRUID Summer Conference on Industrial Dynamics, Innovation and Development NEW!**

### **Copenhagen, Denmark, 14-16 June, 2004**

This conference aims to promote the general understanding of the interplay between industrial dynamics, innovation and development; investigate arrangements organized at various scales to enhance and utilize knowledge geared towards economic development; examine the role of entrepreneurship and innovation at various stages of economic development; the geographical reach and development consequences of knowledge spillovers; and to consider the implications for managerial strategy and public policy. Participation in the conference is restricted. Potential participants must supply a detailed abstract of at least 2 pages to [summer2004@druid.dk](mailto:summer2004@druid.dk) no later than January 30, 2004.

## **The 4th Congress on Proximity Economics Proximity, Networks and Co-ordination**

### **Marseilles, 17-18 June, 2004**

This conference is geared towards all of the scientific community interested in the

proximity concept, as it relates to everything from industrial organization to networks of public health. The call for proposals, which is open until October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003, will give priority to either theoretical or empirical communications likely to produce a better understanding of the conceptual links between proximity, networks and coordination.

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