

HUTCHISON

May 4, 2020

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau,

SUBJECT: Government urged to fast track Canadian small business tech funding to save the economy.

I am writing in support of the excellent proposal you received on April 3rd from the Canadian Advanced Technology Alliance (CATA).

By way of background:

- As President of CCI, the first Canadian owned computer systems manufacturer, I was privileged to participate as a Founder of CATA.
- When I helped start CATA in 1978, I would not have believed that it would grow to the point it's at today.
- CATA now has 11,000 community partners and members including public agencies, academic institutions, tech companies, and entrepreneurs across Canada.

In 2019, I was very pleased that we were able to recruit as the new CATA CEO, **Suzanne Grant**, who has a proud history as a Canadian Armed Forces veteran, and an entrepreneur who has done business in over 17 countries.

You and your government have responded magnificently to the challenges created by COVID-19. Thank you for your very timely follow up to Suzanne's SR&ED proposal in [her letter](#) to you of April 3rd. I believe the Government of Canada would be wise to seriously consider the other very important proposal in her letter for the **one-time \$3.6 billion Canada Emergency Resilience and Rebound (Canada R&R) Fund**.

I have copied **Yvan Baker**, who I am proud to have as my new MP, having worked closely in our riding with his predecessors such as **Allan Rock** and **Michael Wilson**.

I hope you had a chance to review CATA's excellent proposal. Here's why: To ensure we hold on to our core national scientific and research strength, CATA has proposed this federal investment of **\$3.6 billion to support 12,000 Canadian advanced technology companies who are engaged in research and development**.

- As of last year, the Greater Toronto Area alone was creating more advanced technology jobs faster than all other major centres in North America. No one wants to lose this amazing base of capability.

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After over 40 years of effort and investment by CATA and many others, Canada is well positioned to capitalize on the new global trillion-dollar markets evolving in Smart Cities and AI.

These are two of the many opportunities in our global "Digital Revolution".

We have much to build on to help continue the move of science and technology to "centre stage" in Canada.

- One important initiative I did with Prime Minister **Brian Mulroney** during his term in office was to help create his National Advisory Board for Science and Technology, "NABST". Its broad goal was to identify and support policies to improve Canada's focus and priority for science and technology in our culture of a resource economy.
- Prime Minister Mulroney was the Board Chair of NABST and I was very privileged to be Co Vice Chair beside our federal Science Minister.

This CATA proposal could also do a lot to support a recovery of our national financial strength.

I ask that you encourage both Ministers **Bill Morneau** and **Navdeep Bains** to take an interest in this excellent proposal and give it their full support.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Please keep up the good work you do every day for Canada!

Yours very truly,



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