



Why a National Biotechnology Week?

- National Biotechnology Week is a world first-- unique to Canada. It has been created by more than 30 partners, who represent the community of biotechnology innovators from throughout Canada
- The week has been designed to showcase and introduce Canadians at large to the outstanding capacity Canada has for biotech research, discovery and development.
- Canada is second only to the United States in the number of biotech companies located here. Canada is world renown for its research capacity in area's such as vaccines development, stem cells, healthier foods, new treatments for diabetes and AIDS, cancer, diagnostics and the burgeoning industrial technologies such as bio fuels as well as technologies for environmental remediation.
- The global environment of this transformative technology has never been as rich with promise as it is today. The knowledge revolution spurred on by such milestones as the mapping of the human genome can be likened to that of the industrial revolution over a century ago or the arrival of the computer age more than 30 years ago.
- Canada has embraced its capacity to innovate in the past with outstanding achievements like the development of a polio vaccine and with the creation of the CANADARM to serve space exploration. It is the same spirit of discovery and development that is guiding biotechnology research and discovery in Canada today.

Statistics

Globally, Canada ranks:

- # 1 in terms of biotech R&D expenditure per employee;
- # 2 to the US in terms of number of biotech companies;
- # 3 in terms of biotech revenue generation (behind the U.S. and Britain)

Canada has almost 500 biotech companies

- These companies, which are mostly small and medium-sized enterprises, employ roughly 12,000 people.
- In 2003, the companies had revenues of over \$3.8 billion and invested over \$1.4 billion in research and development.

2004 National Biotech Week Highlights

- More than 100 events and announcements
- Dozens of meetings with municipal, provincial and federal officials
- Municipal and Provincial declarations of recognition
- More than 2,500 Canadians participating
- Millions of media impressions
- More than 25 partner companies throughout Canada will be hosting regional activities and events. Please visit our website, www.imagenation.ca for a complete list of the week's events.

Join us along with our Canadian researchers, scientists and companies in this showcase of biotechnology and Canadian innovation.