

Minister of
Innovation, Science and
Economic Development



Ministre de
l'Innovation, des Sciences et du
Développement économique

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H5

FEV 01 2016
FEB

Ms. Catharine Fraser
President
Research Council Employees' Association
P.O. Box 8256, Terminal Alta Vista
Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3H7

Dear Ms. Fraser:

Thank you for your letter of November 13, 2015, congratulating me on my recent appointment as Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, as well as conveying the current issues for scientists and researchers working at the National Research Council Canada. I appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this very important matter.

Our goal is to support scientific research, ensure government science is available to Canadians and assist other science-based departments to guarantee that scientific analysis is considered when the government makes decisions. To this end, the Honourable Kirsty Duncan, Minister of Science, will create a Chief Science Officer mandated to ensure that government science is fully available to the public and that scientists are able to speak freely about their work. All these actions have been designed to provide the appropriate environment for public servants working in science and innovation.

Investments in scientific research, including an appropriate balance between fundamental research to support new discoveries and the commercialization of ideas, will lead to good jobs and more sustainable economic activities.

Additionally, this Government is committed to building a relationship of respect and trust with Canada's dedicated public service. The Government respects the collective bargaining process and will negotiate in good faith with unions to reach agreements. Our goal is to ensure that agreements are fair and reasonable for employees and for all Canadians.

Once again, thank you for writing and please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "N. Bains".

The Honourable Navdeep Bains, P.C., M.P.

c.c. The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, P.C., M.P.

Canada The word "Canada" in a serif font, with a small Canadian flag logo to its right.

