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**Leveraging Federal Science: How Provinces Can Make a Difference in Strengthening Canadian Knowledge Production**

Organized by: Council of Canadian Academies

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**Takeaways and recommendations**

* The provincial role in science policy and investment is often ignored at the federal level, resulting in a disjointed and fractured system across Canada.
* Provincial science policies can bring clarity to provincial research priorities and effectively leverage federal science policy, according to a recent report from the Council of Canadian Academies (CCA) (Science Policy: Considerations for Subnational Governments).
* Quebec science policy is anchored around the position of the Chief Scientist who has a good network to assist with coordination and dissemination.
* The CCA report offers an opportunity to discuss science and technology at the subnational level which has not taken place in 30 years.
* Through the Fonds de Recherche du Québec (FRQ), Quebec has successfully advocated for funding increases to the provincial granting councils. Quebec scientists are also very competitive at the federal level.
* The Alberta government, which commissioned the CCA report, has recognized that there are direct economic benefits stemming from support for fundamental research and has completed a needs assessment and outcomes map of the science system.
* The CCA report is allowing Alberta to further its science policy considerations and engagement.
* Provincial leverage of federal science investment is a complicated dance that requires carefully conceived coordination.
* Federal-provincial coordination is challenged by different visions of success, tensions between researcher-driven and priority-driven research, and differing perspectives on the function and management of the research enterprise.
* Matching requirements of federal science programs is a major provincial concern. If not matched, federal money is left on the table.
* Subnational science policy should be developed and deployed to help prepare for the imminent arrival of key disruptive technologies.
* Provincial science policy must also include discussion and interaction with cities where the biggest impact of research and new technologies will be felt.
* Science at the federal, provincial and municipal levels are all part of the same ecosystem. It’s time to start acting like one.