





# Impacts of the Networks of Centres of Excellence

The Canadian Stroke Network turned research into better health outcomes for Canadians with the Canadian Stroke Strategy. The strategy, which was implemented in every province and territory in Canada, makes the CSN a world leader in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of stroke and reduces the burden of the disease on society, families and the health-care system. The Canadian Stroke Strategy addresses the signs and symptoms of the disease for easier diagnosis, and expands Canadians' understanding of the necessity of rapid treatment.



Research from the Institute for Robotics and Intelligent Systems has led to the creation of no less than 31 active spin-off companies in sectors ranging from environmental to health to engineering. Technologies developed through this network have proven capable of sustaining many companies long-term. On average, spinoff companies from IRIS leveraged three million dollars each from various sources, an incredible contribution to the Canadian economy with the addition of new entrepreneurs, start-up organizations, and product development and commercialization.



Stronger, safer bridges and a major change to the Canadian Highway Bridge Design Code (CHBDC) are just two of the research impacts from the ISIS Canada network. The Intelligent Sensing for Innovative Structures research network spearheaded the update to the CHBDC to include the use of its technology for strengthening and reinforcing bridges with Fibre Reinforced Polymers (FRP). This new technology will have major economic and safety impacts on the design and creation of civil structures in Canada.



The Industrial R&D Internship Program allows industrial organizations to have access to a wealth of knowledge from graduate students and post-doctoral fellows, and in turn allows those students to gain valuable work experience in an industrial setting. The incubator for these internships is the MITACS network, who developed this program for training Highly Qualified Personnel. It proved so successful that the federal government, through the NCE, chose to create its own program based on the MITACS model to give students experience with real-life industrial problems, and hands-on training they would not otherwise have received. ACCELERATE Canada, a not-for-profit consortium led by MITACS, was chosen, through competition, to run the IRDI program.



A multi-partner collaboration led the Sustainable Forest Management Network to the development of new and better forest management practices. The research and partnerships between government, industry, First Nations and academia within SFM has informed and influenced the policy, planning and practices of many forest-based organizations, as well as First Nations, in many regions across Canada.



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