



Council of Canadian Academies
Conseil des académies canadiennes

Media Backgrounder

SUMMARY OF RELEASE

Report Title:	Better Research for Better Business
Report Type:	Expert Panel Assessment Report
Report Author:	The Expert Panel on Management, Business, and Finance Research
Organization:	Council of Canadian Academies (the Council)
Sponsor:	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)
Release Date:	May 25, 2009
Release Method:	Electronic release and dissemination followed by distribution of printed material.
Spokespersons:	Panel: David Zussman (panel Chair) and Jean-Marie Toulouse, (member) Council Staff: Peter Nicholson, President, Council of Canadian Academies
Contact:	Samantha Rae, Manager, Communications, Council of Canadian Academies – 613-567-5000 ext. 256 samantha.rae@scienceadvice.ca

SUMMARY OF THE CHARGE

In November 2007, SSHRC asked the Council of Canadian Academies to assemble an expert panel to conduct an independent assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of management, business, and finance (MBF) research in Canada. The formal overarching charge to the Council was as follows:

What are the overall, identifiable, strengths and weaknesses of the university-based research community in the areas of management, business, and finance broadly defined, according to appropriate indicators?

To assist the panel in its task — and to help identify the specific types of information that would be useful to SSHRC in the development of its long-term strategy — several sub-questions were also posed regarding:

- the number and distribution of MBF researchers in Canada
- the level and type of collaborations engaged in by these researchers
- the international standing of Canadian MBF research
- the strengths and weaknesses in specified research areas
- the recommended balance between direct research funding and capacity building
- the identifiable opportunities where targeted funding could make a significant impact.

BACKGROUND

The Government of Canada's 2007 Budget acknowledged the important role of research in developing business and managerial capability by allocating an additional \$11 million per year to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council targeted to research in management, business and finance.

In response to this targeted funding allocation, SSHRC has engaged in consultations with the research community, and several stakeholder groups, in order to develop a long-term strategy to support research, training, and knowledge mobilization in management, business, and finance. In November 2007, as part of this larger effort, SSHRC asked the Council of Canadian Academies (the Council) to assemble an expert panel to conduct an independent assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of management, business, and finance (MBF) research in Canada.

THE EXPERT PANEL ON MANAGEMENT, BUSINESS, AND FINANCE RESEARCH

The members of the expert panel were:

David Zussman (Chair), Jarislowsky Chair in Public Sector Management, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa and Commissioner, Public Service Commission of Canada (Ottawa, ON)

Peter Aucoin, C.M., FRSC, Eric Dennis Memorial Professor of Government and Political Science and Professor of Public Administration, Dalhousie University (Halifax, NS)

Robert L. Brooks, Former Vice-Chairman, The Bank of Nova Scotia (Oakville, ON)

Sheila A. Brown, Executive Director, Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs and Former President & Vice-Chancellor, Mount Saint Vincent University (Bedford, NS)

Fred Gorbet, C.M., CIT Chair in Financial Services, Associate Director, Financial Services Program, Schulich School of Business, York University (Thornhill, ON)

John H. McArthur, Dean Emeritus, Harvard Business School (Wayland, USA)

Randall Morck, Stephen A. Jarislowsky Distinguished Chair in Finance and University Professor, University of Alberta (Edmonton, AB)

Michael Ornstein, Director, Institute for Social Research, York University (Toronto, ON)

Jean-Marie Toulouse, FRSC, O.Q., Professor, Department of Management, HEC Montréal (Mont-Royal, QC).

REPORT REVIEW

This report was reviewed in draft form by the individuals listed below – a group of reviewers selected by the Council of Canadian Academies for their diverse perspectives, areas of expertise and broad representation of academic, business, policy and non-governmental organizations. The reviewers were not asked to endorse the conclusions nor did they see the final draft of the report before its release.

Peter Baskerville, FRSC, Chair, Modern Western Canadian History; Professor, History & Classics and Humanities Computing, University of Alberta (Edmonton, AB)

C. Scott Clark, President, C.S. Clark Consultants; Adviser, Independent Evaluation Office, International Monetary Fund (Ottawa, ON & Washington, DC)

Brian Lee Crowley, President, Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (Halifax, NS)

Georges Dionne, FRSC, Canada Research Chair in Risk Management; Professor, Department of Finance, HEC Montréal (Montréal, QC)

Dezsö Horváth, C.M., Dean, Schulich School of Business; Tanna H. Schulich Chair in Strategic Management; Professor of Policy, York University (Toronto, ON)

John Kimberly, Henry Bower Professor of Entrepreneurial Studies; Professor of Management and of Health Care Systems, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania; Executive Director, Wharton/INSEAD Alliance (Philadelphia, PA)

Robert Lacroix, CM, FRSC, O.Q., Professor Emeritus, Université de Montréal; Fellow, CIRANO (Montréal, QC)

Joanne Oxley, Associate Professor of Strategic Management, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto (Toronto, ON)

Nancy Reid, FRSC, Canada Research Chair in Statistics; University Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Toronto (Toronto, ON)

Kerry Stirton, President, North Point Advisors (Westport, CT)

The report review procedures were monitored on behalf of the Council's Board of Governors and Scientific Advisory Committee by **Dr. Marg Conrad**. The role of the report review monitor is to ensure that the panel gives full and fair consideration to the submissions of the report reviewers.

ABOUT THE COUNCIL OF CANADIAN ACADEMIES

Mandate: The mandate of the Council of Canadian Academies is to provide independent, expert assessments of the science that is relevant to matters of significant public interest. Here *science* is interpreted to encompass any knowledge-generating discipline, including the natural, social and health sciences, engineering, and the humanities. The Council facilitates access to the best available scientific knowledge with the objective of informing public debate and decision-making in Canada.

Mission: The primary mission of the Council is to manage the conduct of assessments of what is known, and also what is not known, about the science that is relevant to important public issues. The Council does this via the appointment and support of independent expert panels, whose membership includes authorities from both Canada and abroad.

Value: To effectively address important issues such as climate change, nanotechnology, innovation, and new infectious diseases, Canadians need access to credible, independent assessments of the underlying science. The Council provides a standing capacity to undertake such assessments and thus helps keep Canada abreast of emerging issues, gaps in knowledge, and the implications of advances in science worldwide. The procedures by which the Council appoints and manages expert panels are designed to ensure the quality and independence of panel reports. All Council reports are made public in both English and French to allow both decision-makers and the people of Canada to benefit from this source of expert knowledge.

Organization: The Council of Canadian Academies is an independent, not-for-profit corporation. Its Board of Governors includes nominees from the Council's three founding member Academies — RSC: The Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada; Canadian Academy of Engineering; and Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. The Board and Council staff are advised by a Scientific Advisory Committee of eminent authorities in key disciplines of knowledge. The Council is independent of government, but benefits from a \$30 million founding grant from the Government of Canada in support of the Council's core operations through 2015.