

What Stakeholders say about BIOCAP



Excerpts from Letters of Support Written to Government in 2006

In March and April 2006, BIOCAP stakeholders from industry, government, NGO's and Universities wrote hundreds of letters to Federal Government Ministers and MPs expressing their support for the refunding of BIOCAP Canada. In the letters, stakeholders provide countless examples of how BIOCAP has facilitated their work and made possible their achievements. The following is a short selection of excerpts from these letters of support.

The International Voice ...

"I do not receive financial support from BIOCAP; I am moved to write because I think this organization has created and supported programs of enormous importance to Canada, and to the world community, both scientifically and socially."

**Steven C. Wofsy, Division of Engineering & Applied Science, Department of Earth & Planetary Science
Harvard University (March 31, 2006)**

The Voice of Industry...

"DuPont's support for and interest in BIOCAP relates to our interest in identifying new business opportunities for DuPont to participate in Canada's developing bio-based economy. Over the past year, DuPont has participated in several BIOCAP sponsored workshops relating to bio-based products and energy. These workshops bring together participants from industry, academia, and government, and have been critical in helping us to identify technology and market opportunities for DuPont in Canada."

**Nicolas Cudre-Mauroux, Director – Research, Development & Engineering
DuPont (April 18, 2006)**

"BIOCAP-funded research has been the central component of the Canadian Steel industry contribution to the International Iron and Steel Institute's CO₂ Breakthrough program, an international, long term research and development effort."

**Jim C. Stirling, General Manager, Environment and Energy
Dofasco (April 4, 2006)**

"Lafarge planners have identified the urgent need for research into the use of biomass fuels as they are paramount to the future of our industry and our drive to sustainability. Through BIOCAP Canada Foundation, made-in-Canada technologies can be researched and developed to create economic sources of biomass (renewable) fuels and to use them effectively to manufacture Portland cement."

**Robert H. Cumming, M.A.Sc., P.Eng, Resource Recovery Manager
Lafarge (March 31, 2006)**

"BIOCAP has delivered concrete results to industry and has very important initiatives underway, especially in relation to ongoing funded research projects. I am unaware of other entities that can engage stakeholders in such an effective manner as BIOCAP."

**Bruce E. Holbein Ph.D., Principal
Holbein & Associates (March 29, 2006)**

"BIOCAP plays a keystone role in helping everyone in the Bio-value-chain evaluate the impact of their activities, whether it is Alternative energy, or Biomass-feed stocks for bio-chemicals, bio-medicinals, bio-composites, or bio-fibers. BIOCAP has a history of equipping us all (governments, corporations or individuals) to evaluate the long term impact of our decisions on health of this planet and our nation."

**John D. Baker, M.Sc., P.Ag.
Stonehedge Phytomedicinals (March 28, 2006)**

"The research, networking and communication activities of the foundation transcend traditional boundaries that separate government departments, industry sectors and academic disciplines. In doing so, new synergies are created, innovation is stimulated and we move closer to finding effective solutions to the complex environmental challenges."

**Dr. Bob Page, Chairman, Board of Directors, BIOCAP Canada Foundation
Vice President (Sustainable Development), TransAlta Corporation (March 28, 2006)**

“Canada with its vast expanses of agricultural land relative to its population, has a tremendous opportunity to take advantage of a bio-based economy more effectively than any other nation on earth without compromising its oil and gas sector. BIOCAP could play a crucial role in developing this bio-based economy.”

**David T. Dennis, President and CEO
Performance Plants (March 27, 2006)**

“Shell Canada has long recognized the potential of biological systems to capture and store greenhouse gases. It is for this reason that the company is a long-standing supporter of BIOCAP.”

**Tim Bancroft, Vice President – Sustainable Development, Technology and Public Affairs
Shell Canada (March 27, 2006)**

“Suncor is a founding sponsor and we continue to provide both financial and corporate support to the organization. We believe that programs currently in place have already, and will continue to have significant impacts on shaping Canada’s ability to develop pragmatic solutions for addressing climate change. Suncor believes BIOCAP is a key player in helping to develop transformative opportunities in the areas of clean energy and climate change.”

**Gord Lambert, Vice President, Sustainable Development
Suncor Energy (March 24, 2006)**

“BIOCAP funds research in forestry, aquatic systems, agriculture, bioenergy and bioproducts which are all pertinent to our industry, especially with the threat of forest fires, insects and disease which accompany our warming climate. Alberta’s Environment Minister, Guy Boutilier recently announced a large funding commitment to BIOCAP to help Alberta achieve our goals. Similarly, British Columbia has increased its annual investment to help Canada’s transition toward a sustainable bioeconomy. This is especially timely with the mountain pine beetle threat to our forests.”

**K.J. Plourde, Director, Forest Strategies
Alberta Pacific Forest Industries Inc. (March 22, 2006)**

The Voice of Government...

“...les résultats de recherches menées par BIOCAP son une source d’information très précieuse pour les professionnels des gouvernements provinciaux et fédéral qui, comme moi, sont chargés de dossiers touchant l’agriculture et les changements climatiques.”

**Marie-France Gagnon, Analyste des politiques
Ministère de l’Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l’Alimentation du Québec (April 7, 2006)**

“BIOCAP offers an existing national framework and governance structure for delivery of leading edge bioscience research. The research benefits Canada in many ways. In fact, BIOCAP has been so successful that Alberta Environment has been actively engaged as an overall funding member, and as a funding partner on numerous projects of mutual interest since 1999.”

**The Honourable Guy Boutilier
Alberta Minister of Environment (April 3, 2006)**

“BIOCAP, with their reach into university research communities, help industry and government to explore biosphere solutions to environment and economic challenges. It was for these reasons that British Columbia recently committed \$500,000 in support of BIOCAP.”

**Doug Konkin, Deputy Minister
BC Ministry of Forests and Range (March 28, 2006)**

“As agriculture struggles to identify new long-term financial opportunities, BIOCAP’s work will allow farmers to work with large partners like TransAlta or other industrial partners to meet shareholders demands for internationally recognized offset credits.”

**Jake C. DeBruyn P.Eng., Engineer, New Technology Integration
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (March 27, 2006)**

“It is very important that Canada adequately fund this organization which helps the country deal with “the” challenge of our age, global warming. I believe this issue transcends party politics, and is therefore worthy of support by your government.”

**Hon. Marlene, Jennings, C.P., M.P.
Notre Dame-de-Grâce (March 24, 2006)**

“My long standing personal involvement with BIOCAP convinces me of the organization’s relevance in critical areas such as understanding and mitigating the impacts of climate change, and identifying innovative solutions to the pressing need for clean energy and rural economic development.”

**Hon. Larry Bagnell, PC, MP
Member of Parliament, Yukon (March 23, 2006)**

The Voice of NGOs ...

“BIOCAP has become an important new player in the development of biomass energy research support for climate change...”

**Roger Samson, Executive Director
R.E.A.P. – Canada (April 7, 2006)**

“Our interest is similar to the Federal Government’s – to see renewable fuels from biomass be a growing part of our economy. The model that BIOCAP has developed has proven successful through its delivery of tangible products, strategic partnerships, outstanding forums for dialogue, and highly leveraged research and development. The model is proven to deliver and it would be a shame to lose this.”

**Marlo Reynolds, Executive Director
Pembina Institute for Sustainable Development (April 5, 2006)**

“BIOCAP insights have the potential to revitalize the agriculture sector in substantive ways and support the emerging bio-based economy.”

**Don McCabe, Vice-President
Soil Conservation Council of Canada (April 4, 2006)**

“During its relatively short existence, BIOCAP has made some very significant contributions to Canadian science and to public awareness on issues concerning sustainability and future opportunities in the new bioeconomy. Of particular note has been BIOCAP’s success in harnessing the scientific capacity at universities across Canada and directing this considerable talent to tackling particular problems and developing new opportunities in green manufacturing processes and products.”

**Ian de la Roche, President and C.E.O.
Forintek Canada Corporation & Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada (April 4, 2006)**

“Functional networks of this type and the ongoing work are not quickly rebuilt and would suffer though interruptions in funding. BIOCAP provides Saskatchewan with a unique opportunity to use networks of highly trained researchers and stakeholders from across the country to focus on issues of importance to Saskatchewan.”

**Dr. Ashley O’Sullivan, President & CEO
Ag-West Bio Inc. (April 3, 2006)**

“BIOCAP leads the way in critical thinking about the opportunities and challenges of the emerging bioeconomy...”

**Shelagh McDonald, Executive Director
Eastern Lake Ontario Regional Innovation Network (ELORIN) (March 30, 2006)**

The Voice of Universities and Researchers ...

“BIOCAP joue présentement un rôle très important en supervisant les travaux à l’aide des rapports périodiques qui lui sont acheminés et en donnant des avis experts sur les protocoles, etc.”

**Jean Lessard, Professeur
Université de Sherbrooke (April 7, 2006)**

“BIOCAP played an important role in developing collaboration between the University of Alberta, the University of British Columbia, BC Ministry of Forests and Range (MOF) and experts from power industry to establish a research program on the mountain pine beetle infested wood for energy and fuels.”

**Amit Kumar, Assistant Professor
University of Alberta (April 6, 2006)**

“...it takes a lot of time, energy and funding to bring people together and work together. There are few organizations in Canada to assist in the integration of such broad across-different-discipline research programs.”

**Tak Hang Chan, Professor Emeritus, Department of Chemistry
McGill University (April 6, 2006)**

“I believe, with the efforts of the research networks spawned by BIOCAP, and the programs directly funded by it, Canada will emerge as an international leader in the management of greenhouse gas emissions.”

**Herbert J. Kronzucker, B.Sc., M.D., Ph.D., Professor of Life Sciences/Professor of Botany
University of Toronto (April 4, 2006)**

“BIOCAP plays a vital role in conveying industrial needs for sustainable practices, to academic research communities.”

**Dr. Emma Master
University of Toronto (April 4, 2006)**

“I currently have considerable momentum in my research on the economics of soil carbon, and I worry that without a funding source such as BIOCAP, much of this momentum will be lost.”

**James Vercaemmen, Professor, Sauder School of Business & Food & Resource Economics,
University of British Columbia (April 4, 2006)**

"BIOCAP is a unique organization – not only nationally, but worldwide..."

**William C. Plaxton, Professor of Plant Biochemistry and Queen's Research Chair
Queen's University (April 3, 2006)**

"Rising energy prices – and the expectation that they will remain high – is but one of the reasons why continued support of BIOCAP is critical."

**Murray Fulton, Professor, Agricultural Economics & Economics Director, Centre for the Study of Agriculture, Law & the Environment
University of Saskatchewan (March 31, 2006)**

"Climate change is arguably the greatest challenge that Canada will have to face in the next century, and our ability to meet these challenges will take the concerted effort of many innovative minds."

**Dr. Claudia Wagner-Riddle, Associate Professor, Department of Land Resource Science
University of Guelph (March 31, 2006)**

"The BIOCAP Canada Foundation is the most effective funding source and facilitator of Canadian research and partnership-building in the sustainable environment area that I have seen in Canada."

**A.P. Watkinson, PhD, P. Eng., Professor Emeritus of Chemical Engineering,
University of British Columbia (March 29, 2006)**

"The Conservative Party has repeatedly claimed they want a "made in Canada solution" to climate change and our energy needs. What better example can one find for a foundation that can provide "made in Canada solutions" than the BIOCAP Foundation? "

**John P. Smol, FRSC, Professor, Canada Research Chair in Environmental Change
Queen's University (March 29, 2006)**

"With very modest funding, compared to other expenditures within the federal government, BIOCAP has been able to mobilize the considerable expertise of the Canadian research community..."

**T. R. Moore, Professor, Department of Geography and Global Environmental and Climate Change Centre
McGill University (March 28, 2006)**

"BIOCAP has become an important part of the landscape in Canada for climate-related research, not only in funding but in coordinating, integrating and communicating the research results to decision makers."

**Jing M. Chen, Ph.D., Professor and Senior Canada Research Chair
University of Toronto (March 28, 2006)**

"BIOCAP has identified an industrial collaborator for me, in the form of DuPont Canada, and this has led to a proposal being submitted to NSERC in the area of bio-sourced chemicals (for a future post-petroleum petrochemical industry). This would have been impossible without BIOCAP's assistance."

**Dr. F. M. Kerton, Assistant Professor of Green Chemistry
Memorial University of Newfoundland (March 28, 2006)**

"What I find particularly interesting in the research supported by BIOCAP is the Foundation's strong support of research in social science. In my opinion, the socio-economic dimensions of applied science research initiatives are too often left out from the main research agendas."

**Jean-Philippe Gervais, Ph.D, Canada Research Chair in Agri-industries, and International Trade
Université Laval (March 28, 2006)**

"BIOCAP Canada is quite extraordinary and a unique organization. I can not think of another organization that has been so successful at bringing together the private sector, public utilities, government and non-governmental agencies, and university researchers to work on basic and applied science, and socio-economics of bioenergy and biofuels."

**Nigel T. Roulet, James McGill Professor of Geography, Director of the McGill School of Environment
McGill University (March 26, 2006)**

"As your Government develops a made-in-Canada solution for greenhouse gas emissions in concert with the provinces, I firmly believe that BIOCAP-funded research, with its emphasis on science-based decisions for government policy and investment, will play a central role."

**R. Kerry Rowe, PhD, D.Eng. ,FRSC, FCAE, FEIC, FASCE, FCSCE, FIE (Aust), Vice-Principal (Research)
Queen's University (March 24, 2006)**

