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Mr. James Rajotte, M.P. for Edmonton-Leduc, and
Chair of the House Finance Committee
House of Commons
Parliament of Canada
Ottawa ON finapbc-cpb@parl.gc.ca

July 23, 2014

Dear Honourable Mr. Rajotte,

Thank you for your June 6th invitation to input on our 2014 pre-budget consultations. I am glad your Committee encourages my input in this process, by providing this written submission with my fundamental proposal for the forthcoming 2015 budget.

We will grow in strength as a culture and as a G7 economy if we imbue our culture with science, technology and innovation. We can only build on core strengths once we have created core strengths in the first place. Government must massively fund science, technology, engineering and mathematics activities if we want to become a real player in the knowledge economy.

Having been a Canadian 'david' working in the U.S. forests of Goliaths this past year, I must ask you to better appreciate the scale of the commitment to science and technology, research and development that American culture makes. By working at Scripps Research Institute in San Diego's biotech valley I discovered that not only does California grow sequoias on a gigantic scale but science campuses, science centers and science-based communities.

The total U.S. research and development budget for 2013 was \$142.2B (AAAS). So our Tri-council's \$2.8B is not even two percent of what my American host scientists receive. Per capita, if we Canadians did have a 'core strength' to speak of, it should be 7X better funded! Please start now in 2014-2015.

Medicare works, Obamacare is starting to work, so please let's get working on "HarperCares About S&T"! Not double, but QUADRUPLE the budgets for Tri-council's envelope, and show us Canadians that Harper Cares, indeed.

My 37 years of being a medical school professor in Canada has been lean beyond the pale. The spin-out and start-up companies that I have sparked flounder or flee south because of the lack of core facilities, the lack of critical mass in our scientific cadres. Scientists in Canada move on new ideas as if they are another log barge on the Gatineau River while scientists and engineers south of the Saint Lawrence Hyper-Loop their risky ventures to global markets with more resilient slingshots. Canadian innovators cannot wage tactical battles without weapons. Arm us with competitive budgets to discover novel genes, biomaterials, bioprocesses, wellness products and devices.

Quadruple the Tri-council budget, then we might start talking about having some core strength in competitive S&T activities of global merit.

I implore you, as Chair, to bring this critical alarm bell to the House Finance Committee.

Most sincerely,

Mr. Illimar Altosaar, Inventor,
US Patent 7,214,862
Canadian Patent Applications 2555137, 2410702, 2451001, 2400887
U.S. Provisional Patent Appls. 61887986, 61/552,258
World Patent Appl. No. WO2013059907
Founder, ProteinsEasy Corp. March 28, 2007 (6743994 Canada Corp., OCN 3026116)

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