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Biotechnology in New Brunswick

New Brunswick's strong R&D and knowledge assets, coupled with abundant forestry, agriculture, and marine resources, are spawning an innovative bio-industry cluster. With plentiful forestland and proximity to the sea, New Brunswick is a world leader in tree improvement and the development of "green" technologies for forest pest protection, as well as a global leader in the development of "green" fish therapies, fish brood stock and new species for aquaculture. And, not surprisingly, as home to the head office of multi-billion dollar company McCain Foods, supplier of nearly one-third of all french fries produced in the world, New Brunswick has a potato innovation cluster comprising more than 75 companies and research organizations. In tandem with its strong engineering capabilities, New Brunswick is also making a real mark in the area of environmental management.

New Brunswick's cluster includes a wide range of companies and research organizations in fields such as agricultural biotechnology, food processing, aquaculture and marine technologies, forest protection and enhancement, natural health products, environmental management and biomedical sciences. Growth in the past decade has been substantial:

- **Company growth:** from approximately half a dozen companies using biotechnology in 1997 to 25 actual biosciences companies and over a dozen companies using biotechnology in 2007
- **Institutional Capacity:** depending on the institution, double to quadruple the amount of bio-science professionals in our research institutions between 1997 and 2007
- **Intellectual Capital:** a substantial expansion in our plant, fish and human genetic/genomic resource base, and more than ten new patents in a variety of bio-science disciplines

New Brunswick's bio-industry climate:

- Intensive and sustainable, management of biomass
- Sophisticated capabilities in production and processing of biomass resources
- Strong knowledge assets and highly skilled workforce
- Export driven focus
- Well branded large companies with highly skilled professionals
- Ocean and/or road access to large affluent markets in Western Europe and Northeastern US
- Highly competitive business costs and climate
- Flexible suite of research grants
- Favorable tax treatment of R&D expenditures

Source:

BioAtlantech www.bioatlantech.nb.ca

Business New Brunswick <http://www.gnb.ca/0398/index-e.asp>

New Brunswick's bioscience cluster :

- An economy strongly based in marine, forest and crop resources
- 2nd largest concentration of workers in plant science and associated disciplines, in all of Canada
- 3 universities with advanced degrees in biosciences
- 5 federal research institutions directly involved in biosciences
- 5 other research institutes directly involved in biosciences
- More than 25 companies directly involved in biosciences;
- At least a dozen additional companies using biotechnology



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