An Assessment of Innovation Trends and Policy in New Brunswick

The Centre for the Study of Living Standards has established an expert panel on the future of the New Brunswick economy. The project includes a major research program on the economic characteristics and performance of the province’s economy, including innovation performance.

This Directed Research project will contribute to this research program by providing an assessment of innovation trends and the policy framework supporting innovation in New Brunswick. The project will consist of three parts. The first part will be an examination of innovation trends in the province, including a review of innovation metrics such as R&D spending, patents, total factor productivity, tech start-ups, and the proportion of firms engaged in innovation, with comparison to other provinces. The weakness of business R&D in New Brunswick will receive particular attention. The second part will be a review and assessment of the innovation ecosystem (Sharpe and Long, 2012) in New Brunswick, with particular attention to policies and programs at both the federal and provincial level that support innovation in New Brunswick. Policies include tax policy, R&D subsidies, grants to business, business-university collaboration, among others. The third part of the project will consist of a set of recommendations, for both government and the private sector, based on the evidence provided in the first two parts of the project, to improve the innovation performance of New Brunswick.

The Directed Research project will provide the student an opportunity to acquire detailed knowledge on the topic of innovation, both the measurement of innovation and policies to support it.

Reference


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