

ITAC

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
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Edmonton • Toronto • Ottawa • Montréal

March 9, 2016

The Honourable Navdeep Singh Bains P.C., M.P.
Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development
C.D. Howe Building
235 Queen Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H5

Dear Minister,

On behalf of the Information Technology Association of Canada (ITAC), I wanted to personally thank you for both your time and attention during our Hill Day on February 23. ITAC intends on being a strong partner and will provide constructive advice on how Canada can move its Digital Agenda forward.

As discussed, we live in an era where the knowledge economy drives innovation – the commerce is on intangibles – and that is why building a sustainable innovation agenda is imperative. Policies that encourage this are tax instruments that promote research and development, programs that accelerate commercialization, a robust IP regime and easy access to talent.

The digital economy is the single most important driver of innovation, competitiveness and growth for Canada. As you know we have a very strong and collaborative relationship with your Department and we appreciate the openness and transparency. We are committed to work with your team.

Minister, as we discussed, there needs to be a structured process in order to ensure that we provide you and your department with the industry input necessary for policy development. Specifically, our request is that ITAC be invited to participate in the formal consultation process on the creation of the Innovation Agenda and fostering the Digital Economy.

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Finally, we would like to invite you to address the 150 ICT senior executives that attend ITAC's Board of Governors. Our industry is eager to hear about the Government's Innovation Agenda and how we can help to achieve the Government's objectives.

With your help, ITAC, as the national voice of the ICT sector, will work closely with your department in order to collaborate and support key policy objectives which will drive Canada's Innovation Agenda forward.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Karna Gupta', with a horizontal line underneath.

Karna Gupta
President and CEO

Please find attached the document we created as the Hill Day Leave behind for future reference. Additionally, we have attached all bios for those that participated in Hill Day 2016. At your request we have also included a copy of the Talent report that highlights the ICT skills gap Canada faces. For more information on how ITAC is driving a long-term talent strategy in Canada go to: [ITAC Talent](#)