

Government adds \$1.1 million to international mathematical research

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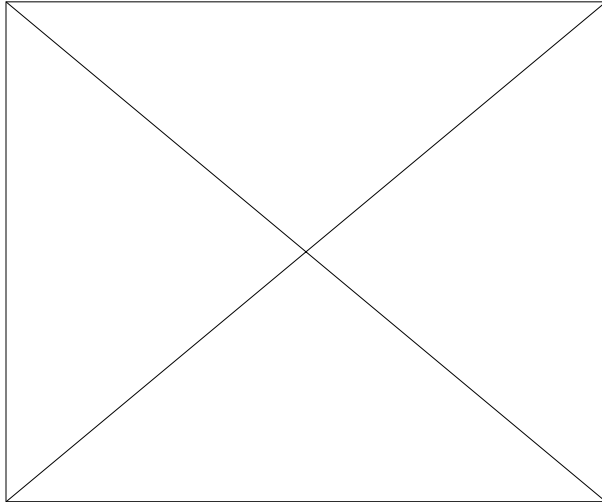
(CP) - The federal Industry Department is putting up \$1.1 million to help Canadian mathematicians collaborate with foreign colleagues on issues ranging from avian flu to terrorism.

The cash goes to the Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems, a national research network based in Burnaby, B.C., which will apply the funds to international partnerships.

The aim is to apply global mathematical brainpower to topics such as tracking the spread of diseases, developing new drugs, countering terrorist threats and managing financial risk.

"The universality of mathematics as the language of science and technology will foster the exchange of ideas and strategies to combat some of the most challenging issues of our time," says MITACS director Arvind Gupta.

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After leaving its key interest rate unchanged for the last year, the Bank of Canada could be about to signal that higher rates are on the way, some analysts are forecasting.

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Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion has called on the federal government to halt approvals of foreign corporate takeovers for three months so changes can be made to national ownership rules.

Ottawa creates a 'taxpayers' ombudsman'

The federal Tories have created the position of taxpayers' ombudsman to oversee a new "bill of rights" that will govern how the Canada Revenue Agency deals with the public.

Air Canada's carbon-offset program takes flight

Air Canada on Monday said it was introducing a carbon credits program to meet the needs of green-minded consumers concerned about climate change.

Alcan takeover talk heats up 🇨🇦

Speculation over more offers for Alcan ramped up Monday amid a flurry of reports on possible bidders for the Canadian aluminum producer.

Money Features



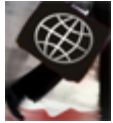
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20% of Chinese toys, baby clothes fail safety inspections

About 20 per cent of toys and baby clothes manufactured in China failed safety tests and could hurt children, the Beijing News reported Monday.

Britain requests extradition of suspect in ex-spy poisoning

The British ambassador on Monday handed Russian authorities a formal request for the extradition of a businessman suspected in the poisoning death of a former KGB agent turned Kremlin critic.

U.S., Iran had 'positive' discussion on Iraq in rare talks 🇺🇸

Iran proposed a three-party group to address violence in Iraq in the first talks with the United States in nearly 30 years, said a U.S. envoy who called the meeting "positive."

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2 charged were probably friends of slain Toronto teen: police 🇺🇸

Toronto police are crediting "courageous" members of a tight-knit school community for information that led to two teenagers' arrests after a student, Jordan Manners, was shot to death.

Polls busy despite rain, Elections PEI says

Cold, rainy weather hasn't kept Islanders from casting their ballots Monday for the next provincial government: Elections PEI officials says polling stations have been busy all day.

Farm income hits 3-year low

Canada's farmers reported their lowest income since 2003 last year, hurt by rising interest, wage and fuel costs, plus falling hog revenues and government payments.

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Health »

Swimming lessons no guarantee of kids' safety

Swimming lessons alone will not prevent children from drowning, a national safety awareness group said Monday, calling for parents to actively supervise their children in or around water.

Drug-resistant infections on rise outside of U.S. hospitals

Drug-resistant staph infections have spread to the urban poor in the U.S., according to researchers who say crowded living conditions in public housing and jails may speed up person-to-person spread of the infections.

Between-meal snacks OK for the elderly

Regularly nibbling on snacks can be good for older people who are susceptible to weight loss and poor nutrition, study suggests.

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Arts & Entertainment»

Stratford Festival opens with Bedford playing King Lear

A King Lear starring Tony Award-winning actor Brian Bedford in the lead role opens the Stratford Festival of Canada Monday evening.

The Police kick off reunion tour in Vancouver

The eagerly awaited Police reunion tour begins in Vancouver Monday night, more than 20 years after the chart-topping group disbanded.

Controversial First Nations art collection to be shown in Toronto

An exhibit of First Nations art that drew protests from native leaders when it opened in Prince Rupert, B.C., is now making its way to the Art Gallery of Ontario in Toronto.

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Technology & Science »

Sony develops film-thin, bendable video display

In the race for ever-thinner displays for TVs and cellphones, Sony may have developed one to beat them all — a razor-thin display that bends like paper while showing full-colour video.

Will that be a low fat or regular cow?

Scientists in New Zealand say they have stumbled upon a cow that naturally produces low fat milk and passes the trait on to her daughters.

Losing brain enzyme makes mice 'smarter'

When it comes to brain enzymes, less may be more — at least in mice — suggests research at a Texas university.

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MoisturePlus Contact Lens Solution withdrawn from marketplace

Health Canada is contacting Advanced Medical Optics on Monday to ensure the recall of its MoisturePlus Contact Lens Solution, the federal agency said.

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Sports »

Scores: NHL NBA

Senators begin Cup quest in Anaheim 🏒

The Ottawa Senators know what's at stake when they visit the Anaheim Ducks for Game 1 of the Stanley Cup final Monday night (CBC, 8 p.m. ET).

Young arms on tap for Jays-Yankees opener

Two young pitchers take to the hill Monday night in Toronto as the Blue Jays and visiting New York Yankees await the return of their most heralded starters.

Canadiens re-sign Markov

The Montreal Canadiens have retained their most reliable defenceman, with the club announcing Monday that Andrei Markov has agreed to a four-year deal.

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Missouri bookstore owner burns books to decry decline of printed word

Israeli man wrestles wild leopard that crept into his bedroom during night

New York couple hire private detective to find their missing rare dachshund

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