



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Hon. Gary Goodyear, Minister of State for Science and Technology, inaugurates CASC 2012 conference at the Canada Science and Technology Museum

OTTAWA, May 4, 2012 – The Canadian Association of Science Centres (CASC) proudly welcomed the Honourable Gary Goodyear, Minister of State for Science and Technology, to launch its 2012 conference, themed “Energy @ the centre” at the Canada Science and Technology Museum.

“By encouraging young people to develop interests in science, technology and innovation, we are helping to secure Canada’s future prosperity,” said Minister of State Goodyear. “Science centres play a crucial role in developing the researchers and entrepreneurs of tomorrow by engaging their minds and imaginations today.”

“Hosting the 10th edition of the CASC conference and Minister Goodyear are great honours for us,” says Denise Amyot, President and CEO of the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation. “Welcoming this conference at our museums has given us the occasion to showcase our accomplishments but also to share with many of our peers from across the country about best practices, which can only help us continually improve the educational experience we all offer to our visitors. Inspiring more youth to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and become the entrepreneurs and innovators of tomorrow is key to the prosperity of our country.”

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"By creating awe and inspiring curiosity in young people now, over 40 Science Centres in communities across Canada are growing our next generation of scientific and entrepreneurial talent," indicates Dov Bercovici, President of the Canadian Association of Science Centres. "The Canadian Association of Science Centres is delighted to work with both the Government of Canada and the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation in making the magic of science accessible to Canadians everywhere."

This 10th Annual Conference, hosted by the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation (CSTMC), is expected to gather more than 120 delegates from science centres and museums across Canada. This three-day conference features preconference activities, more than twenty learning sessions, and networking events that include a welcome reception, a trade show (Friday, May 4), and the prestigious national CASCADES awards gala (Saturday, May 5).

For more information about the CASC conference activities' schedule, please visit: <http://sciencetech.technomuses.ca/english/casc2012/index.html>

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About the Canadian Association of Science Centres:

The Canadian Association of Science Centres (CASC) is dedicated to building the capacity of its members to inspire a creative and prosperous Canada through

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**Canada Science and Technology
Museums Corporation**

*Canada Agriculture Museum
Canada Aviation and Space Museum
Canada Science and Technology Museum*

**Société des musées de sciences
et technologies du Canada**

*Musée de l'agriculture du Canada
Musée de l'aviation et de l'espace du Canada
Musée des sciences et de la technologie du Canada*

science and technology engagement. It represents more than 40 science centres and more than 20 affiliate supporters. It was founded in 1985 to create synergy among Canada's science centres and science-related museums, to assist in finding solutions to the challenges faced by these important public institutions, and to provide a single voice before government.

About the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation:

As a national institution within the Canadian Heritage Portfolio, the Canada Science and Technology Museums Corporation is responsible for preserving and protecting Canada's scientific and technological heritage, and promoting and sharing knowledge about that heritage. The Corporation and its three Museums — the Canada Agriculture Museum, the Canada Aviation and Space Museum, and the Canada Science and Technology Museum — tell the stories of Canadian ingenuity and achievement in science and technology, and demonstrate how these accomplishments have contributed to the building of our country.

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