



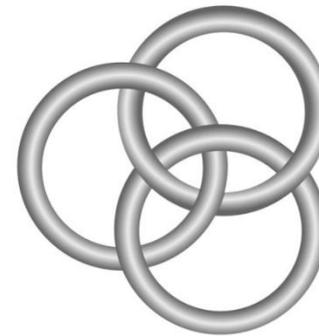
# Mitacs: Inspiring Innovation

**Dr. Robert Annan**  
**Chief Research Officer**

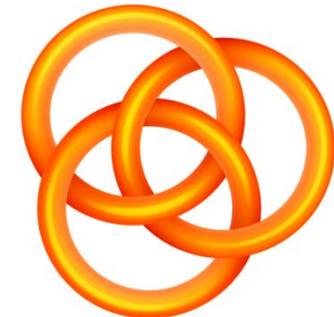
**April 23, 2014**

# Mitacs/Mprime NCE History

- ➔ **1999: Launched as a NCE**
  - MITACS: Mathematics, Information Technology, and Complex Systems
- ➔ **2003: Placed first industrial interns**
- ➔ **2007: Opened training programs to all disciplines**
- ➔ **2007: Federal Budget created a federal research internship program modeled on Mitacs program**
- ➔ **2009: Launched *Globalink* with 17 students from India**
- ➔ **2010: Launched *Elevate* Post-docs**
- ➔ **2011: Split into Mprime (NCE) and Mitacs (NFP)**



**MITACS**



**mprime**

# Mitacs Today

- ➔ Independent not-for-profit
- ➔ 2,100 graduate research internships and 100 postdocs
- ➔ 500 international students from eight countries
- ➔ 5,000 professional skills workshops
- ➔ Partnerships with 51 Canadian research universities, provincial, federal and international governments
- ➔ Headquarters at UBC, 20 regional offices, 120 staff
- ➔ Annual budget of ~\$50 million



# The Mitacs Mission

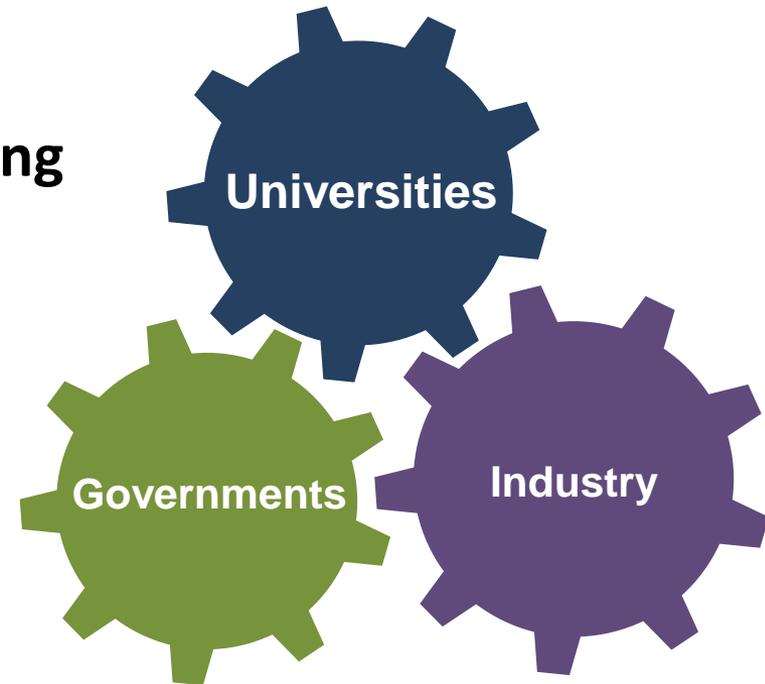
- **Position Canada as a global innovation leader**
- **Effective industry-academic research partnerships**
- **Develop and deploy highly-trained, highly-skilled talent**



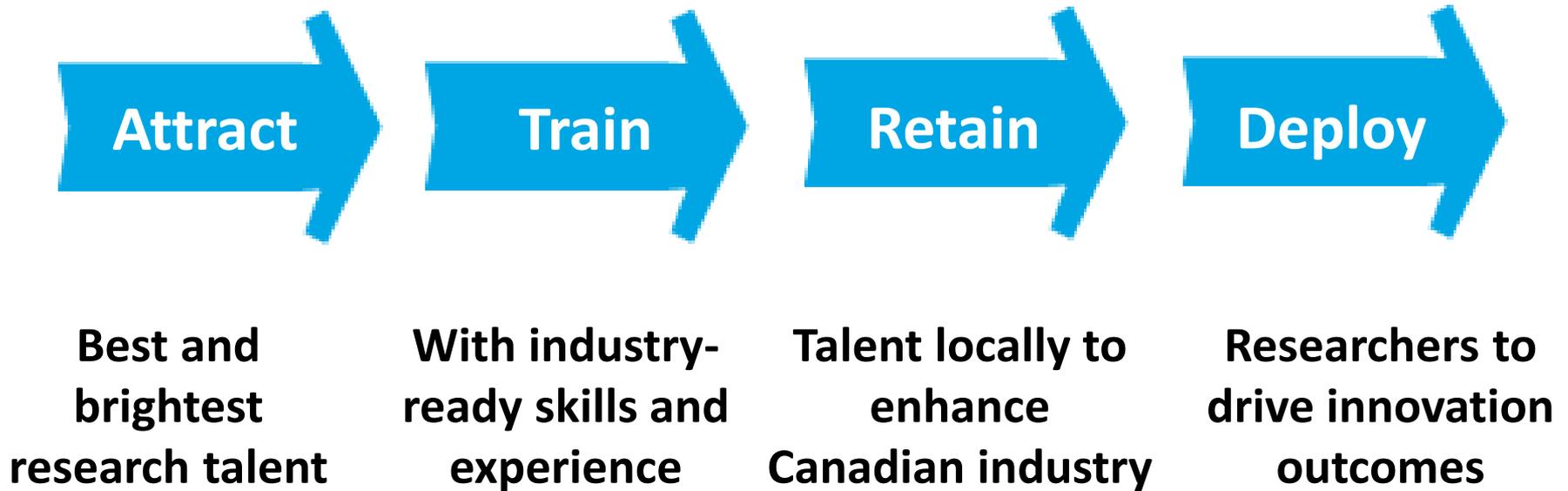
# How does Mitacs do it?

## ➔ Three Ingredients:

- **Relevant, flexible programming**
  - *Accelerate*
  - *Elevate*
  - *Globalink*
  - *Step*
- **Partnership approach**
  - Universities
  - Industry
  - Federal and provincial governments
- **Proactive business development**
  - Demand-driven innovation



# Research talent supply chain



# Branding best practices

- ➔ **Clear, simple principles you can repeat**
- ➔ **Present network activities through lens of overall program objectives**
  - **Demonstrate gap filling and synergy with others**
- ➔ **Robust, outcome-based evaluation**
  - **Mix of quantitative and qualitative**
- ➔ **Give credit to others and promote your key stakeholders**
- ➔ **Culture of transparency, quality and innovation**
  - “From day one, we said, ‘This is a network for the community, and it will be run by the community, and it’s going to run in a totally transparent manner.’”*
    - ❖ *Dr. Arvind Gupta, CEO and Scientific Director, Mitacs Inc.*