Memorandum 18:01

Date: January 4, 2018
To: Presidents and Administrative Officers
Local, Federated and Provincial Associations
From: David Robinson, Executive Director
Re: Five Actions to Get Science Right

Thanks to a concerted push by the academic community, the government is hearing the importance of acting on the Advisory Panel on Federal Support for Fundamental Science recommendation to deepen federal investment in basic research.

We need to keep up the pressure.

Here are five actions your association and members can take to help propel fundamental research to the top of the government’s agenda for Budget 2018.

1. Meet your Member of Parliament.

Kick off the winter semester by meeting with your Member of Parliament (MP) to talk about important research underway or that could be at your institution, and the role this research will have in improving Canadians’ lives. MPs will be in their ridings until January 26, 2018.

CAUT has prepared some tips and templates to support you as reach out to your MP. Bring this flyer with you to leave with the MP.

2. Write letters to Cabinet Ministers.

Cabinet is where government priorities are set and funding decisions are made. In order to prioritize fundamental science, Honourable Kirsty Duncan, the Minister of Science, needs support at the Cabinet table.

Write letters to Cabinet Ministers to share how increased federal investment in fundamental research is essential to fulfilling their mandate. Use CAUT’s letter template to get started. Have a letter-writing lunch!
3. Organize a Get Science Right town hall.

Build a broader base of support for increased research funding by hosting a town hall on your campus that showcases the importance of fundamental research. Bring together academic staff and students from different disciplines to share how their research helps answer a big question facing Canadians.

Check out CAUT’s [Town Hall Tool Kit](#) for everything you’ll need to plan a successful town hall.

4. Sign and share CAUT’s petition.

Add your name to CAUT’s [petition](#) calling on the government to increase base funding to research granting councils by $1.3 billion over four years.

Once you sign it, share the petition on social media or via email.

5. Tell the federal government what’s in #YourBudget2018.

Visit [#YourBudget2018](#) to take four short surveys and send an email to the Finance Committee with your priority for the upcoming federal budget – funding for fundamental research. Join the conversation online using #YourBudget2018.

Please keep CAUT’s Membership Engagement Officer, [Christina Muehlberger](#), informed of your plans. If you have any questions, please contact Christina by email or at 613-820-2270 (ext. 182).