



**November 1, 2011**

President and Vice-Chancellor, Frederick Lowy and senior administrators Graham Carr and Russell Copeman were recently in Ottawa for a series of meetings with government officials and senior civil servants. They met with the Hon. Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology), the Chair of the Conservative post-secondary education caucus, and critics from the major political parties, including the Official Opposition. The Concordia delegation also met with senior civil servants directly involved in program design and administration.

“For Concordia, it is essential to have open lines of communication with government partners, Members of Parliament and senior civil servants,” said Dr. Lowy. It is important to raise our profile

with them and develop these relationships, and encourage them to support the university through their work on Parliament Hill.”

These missions give Concordia the opportunity to share our success stories with members of the government, and also to raise issues where we face challenges. Concordia’s newest research facilities — the PERFORM Centre and the Centre for Structural and Functional Genomics — were made possible through funding from both Ottawa and Quebec under the Knowledge Infrastructure Program and are good examples of successful partnerships with government. However, these facilities also require stable ongoing operational funding to ensure that they have the resources to continue to conduct innovative research. Raising these issues directly with government officials allows us to inform them of the specific challenges we face and strengthen our working relationship.