

nations. The Ministry is comprised of three branches: Policy, Program Review and Assessment, and Co-operation.

The Policy Branch is concerned with the development and recommendation of objectives and priorities for science and technology, the development and formulation of science and technology policies, the provision of advice and counsel on the scientific and technological implications of government policies or proposals, and the assessment of the impact of science and technology on Canadian society, now and in the future.

The Program Review and Assessment Branch reflects the enhanced advisory and co-ordinating authority given the Ministry in the Speech from the Throne in February 1974. The Branch is responsible for the formulation of science expenditure guidelines, the provision of systematic advice and support to departments and agencies in the development of their budgetary proposals relating to science and technology and, finally, the review of these proposals in conjunction with the Treasury Board. The Branch is also engaged in the development and promotion of improved methods of evaluating the effectiveness of science and technology policies and programs and good management techniques.

The third Branch, Co-operation Branch, has three major roles. First, it produces correlated data on Canada's scientific and technological resources and activities. Second, it facilitates the exchange of information on domestic and international policies, programs and activities. Finally, it develops the policies and co-ordinating mechanisms necessary to ensure that Canada obtains maximum benefits from participation in related international organizations and activities.

In 1972, the "Make-or-Buy" policy was announced by the Minister and was implemented the following year. The policy provides that new research and development requirements of the federal government be contracted to industry as much as possible rather than being carried out in government laboratories. The policy is intended to ensure that R&D results are translated more effectively into additional Canadian industrial capability. In 1974, an adjunct to the Make-or-Buy policy was introduced to provide for the funding of unsolicited research proposals received from outside the government.

In July 1973, a new policy was announced for the development and control of the essential elements necessary for the exploitation by Canada of off-shore resources. A key element of this policy is the stimulation of industry involvement in ensuring Canadian control of the industrial and technological ingredients essential to effectively exploit Canada's off-shore resource potential. The policy calls for special emphasis to be given to a wide range of marine science and technology programs. Work is proceeding on the implementation of the Oceans policy. One recommendation now being implemented is the development of the capability to operate on or below ice-covered waters to assist in the exploitation of off-shore resources.

In 1974 certain changes were made in the structure of federal financial support to university research. One of the major changes involved was the establishment of an Inter-Council Co-ordinating Committee reporting to the Minister of State for Science and Technology and chaired by the Secretary of the Ministry. The function of the committee will be to ensure some uniformity of standards and granting criteria between the councils now giving financial assistance to university research. This co-ordination will involve advising on the allocation of funds among the councils, ensuring coverage by the councils of all recognized disciplines, ensuring that the needs of inter-disciplinary research are met, and co-ordinating and advising on council programs as well as those of individual federal government departments engaged in supporting university research.

Finally, the Ministry publishes annually a survey of funds and manpower assigned by the federal government to scientific activities. Covering the natural sciences as well as the social sciences and humanities, the surveys are published under the title *Federal scientific resources — natural and human sciences*.

9.2 Federal agencies

9.2.1 The National Research Council

An outline of the historical development of the National Research Council of Canada appears in the *1969 Canada Year Book*, pp 388-389.