

In efforts to improve radio communication, the departmental radio communications laboratory continued experiments using the ionosphere, which deflects radio waves, to communicate over long distances.

9.2.14 The Canada Council

The council expected to spend \$31.6 million in 1977-78 in support of activities in the social sciences, \$23.5 million in the university sector. Funds for R&D amounted to \$13.9 million. The council carries out its work mainly through a broad program of fellowships and grants. It shares with the Department of External Affairs responsibility for Canada's cultural relations with other countries, and administers the Canadian commission for UNESCO and special programs financed by private donations.

Research funds are channelled through five programs: grants to university faculty and other scholars for free research in the social sciences; the Killam grants (senior research scholarships and special postdoctoral research scholarships to support scholars of exceptional ability in significant research); leave fellowships for university faculty who wish to engage in some form of creative scholarship, research or study; research fellowships to permit younger scholars to undertake full-time research; and, as part of the cultural exchange program administered for the Department of External Affairs, grants to Canadian scholars for research in France.

Canada Council support for scientific information activities includes publication grants to specialized journals and block grants to the Humanities Research Council of Canada and the Social Science Research Council of Canada for publication of scholarly manuscripts and for support of attendance at annual meetings of Canadian learned societies.

In 1977-78 council expenditures for education support was planned at \$11.7 million. This included doctoral fellowships for students in the social sciences who have completed at least one year of graduate study beyond the honours BA or its equivalent; grants to Canadian universities and organizations to support prominent visiting scholars from other countries; and grants to foreign students for advanced study in Canada.

9.2.15 Ministry of State for Science and Technology

The ministry is responsible for policies for the optimum development and application of science and technology in Canada. It reviews and assesses scientific and technological activities and programs in many federal departments and encourages co-operation among federal and provincial governments, public and private organizations and with other nations.

The government branch has overall responsibility for projects with a direct impact upon government policy and activities in science and technology. Its three divisional areas concern government projects, international programs and program review and assessment.

Government projects division, in consultation with other departments, furthers policy development in the oceans, space and northern science technology and reviews research and development in forestry.

The importance of Canada's offshore natural resources has caused MOSST to become involved in policy development and implementation on ocean matters. In particular, the division has devoted attention to the government's goal of achieving excellence in operating on and below ice-covered waters.

The review and assessment division interacts with departments on program planning and advises Treasury Board on requests by departments and agencies for financial and manpower resources. Criteria have been developed and advice provided on the decentralization of science and technology facilities, transportation R&D, on whether to make or buy scientific equipment and effects of cost increases on budgets of granting councils. Usefulness of special indicators to measure scientific activity is being examined as an aid to management of science and technology resources.

The industry branch identifies scientific and technological implications of policies and programs affecting the industrial sector and aims at a co-ordinated approach to R&D assistance and promotion. It makes proposals involving industrial R&D and science and technology which cut across departmental lines or which are outside the province of