

Mining depicted on new stamps

Canada's resource industries were commemorated with two 14-cent stamps issued on May 19 in Fort McMurray, Alberta.



Underground hardrock silver mining in Cobalt, Ontario, and the strip mining of the Athabasca tar sands of Alberta are the subjects of the illustrations. This year is the two-hundredth anniversary of the discovery of the tar sands by explorer and fur trader Peter Pond.



Changes proposed for RCMP Act

Solicitor-General Jean-Jacques Blais recently announced the tabling in the House of Commons of a bill to amend the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Act.

The bill outlines the requirements for the investigation and processing of complaints against the RCMP and also suggests that the public use an external authority, through the proposed office of the Federal Ombudsman, to review complaints.

Internal discipline

The bill also contains provisions for an external review mechanism for RCMP discipline and grievance procedures. It will provide for the establishment of an external review committee, composed of three persons appointed by the Governor-in-Council, to review some grievances, serious discipline cases and orders for discharge or demotion. The review

committee will have the authority to make recommendations to the Commissioner, who retains the authority to make the final decision. The committee will also report its recommendations annually to the Solicitor General.

The idea that discipline should be remedial rather than punitive has been accepted. The bill provides for removal of the sanction of imprisonment upon conviction for a service offence.

The list of major service offences contained in the present Act is being revoked and replaced by standards of conduct, to be complemented by a code of conduct. In cases where a member is being considered for discharge as unsuitable, he will have the right to appear before a review board.

The Act will provide members of the RCMP with the right of internal hearings, reviews and appeals as well as the right to request a review of serious cases by the external review committee and to be assisted and represented by legal counsel.

The bill is the culmination of an extensive process of review within the RCMP and among government departments.

Energy-saving house

The Federal Government is contributing the equivalent of \$100,000 to a project in Toronto designed to demonstrate how methods of saving energy may be applied to existing urban houses.

The Government will lease to Energy Probe a three-storey house recently purchased from the city of Toronto, for five years for the nominal sum of \$1 a year. (Energy Probe, a project of the non-profit Pollution Probe Foundation, has been active for several years in promoting public awareness of the role of renewable energy resources.)

Its co-ordinator, Brian Marshall, says that "Ecology House" will be designed to demonstrate various means of conserving energy in the home and the benefits of conservation practices. The existing structure will be renovated and equipped with energy- and resource-saving features. Though Ecology House is somewhat larger than the typical house, its size will permit demonstration of alternative construction methods showing how they can be made more efficient.

Features of the house will include effective insulation measures, a composting

toilet, water-saving devices, waste management and recycling processes, solar water and space heating, and a greenhouse.

There will also be documentation of other renewable energy alternatives not incorporated into the house and an extensive library of reference materials for use by the community.

In addition to assistance provided by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources and the Metropolitan Toronto Council, Ecology House has received private contributions, including some from the construction industry.

It is expected that the house will be open to the public late in 1978.

Federal funds for job training

A three-year Adult Occupational Training Agreement, aimed at increasing and improving skilled manpower in Manitoba, has been signed by Bud Cullen, Minister of Employment and Immigration Canada, and Keith Cosens, Manitoba Minister of Education.

The Federal Government will provide \$12,721,000 for the fiscal year 1978-79 for the purchase of adult occupational training courses from Manitoba's community colleges and other training centres.

Although Ottawa has agreed to make available a minimum of \$35,009,000 over the next three years, the actual amount will be determined by such factors as the consumer price index, employment growth in Manitoba and the size of the province's labour force.

In addition, allowance funds for trainees who are not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits will be available once referral to training has been made.

The agreement also makes provision for an extra \$3,934,000 for the conduct of industrial training in the province in 1978-79 and for unspecified amounts in each of the two succeeding years.

Corrigendum

In *Canada Weekly*, Vol. 6, No. 18, dated May 3, 1978, please substitute the words "which he introduced" in place of "introduced by his Department" in the second line of the introduction to the lead article on P. 1.