

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL



This 12-foot diameter stainless steel sphere placed near the NRC's Administration Building symbolises knowledge and science's contribution to mankind.

SIXTY years of research. Sixty years of development. A million questions. A million answers. That's the National Research Council of Canada. Ever since it came into being in 1916, it has played a major role in Canada's scientific development. Today it has blossomed into a national science laboratory, a patron of research, and a vital link between the scientific interests of the government, industry and universities in Canada all rolled into one.

Building research, transportation, engineering systems, aeronautics, astrophysics, communications, farming, hydraulics — you name it, and NRC is doing it. The marvels of space, the mysteries of atoms — NRC is at it too. In the laboratory and outside, along the rivers and inside tunnels, at the launching base and atop the world's tallest tower — it's all NRC's province.

Some of the special research endeavors undertaken in the past have grown into separate programs — a few of them as large as NRC itself. Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, for instance, was established in 1952 as the fruit of a wartime nuclear energy project coordinated by NRC.

Today, applied research is focused on select areas related to long-term problems such as energy, food, building, construction and transportation. NRC also provides

research support for such social objectives as public safety and security, protection of property, health and environment. NRC's network of associate committees, with members drawn from universities, industry and government laboratories, is geared to actively study, coordinate and promote research.

Dr. W. G. Schneider, the NRC President, underscores the importance of science to Canada's future and foresees a consolidation of NRC's pivotal research role in the years ahead. "In the future," he says, "NRC activities will be centered largely around its laboratory programs, with more emphasis on effective ways of using the demonstrated capability of NRC for our development. NRC's role must remain clearly defined within the overall Canadian and international scientific effort."

NRC thus is the principal agency for liaison between Canadian scientists and those in other countries. It is the official Canadian member for 12 of the constituent unions of the International Council of Scientific Unions and it adheres to 10 international engineering associations, including the World Federation of Engineering Organizations. NRC is also the coordinator of Canadian participation in the Global Atmospheric Research Program, The International Hydrological Decade, and Man And The

Biosphere.

The groundwork for all this, of course, has to be done at home and NRC's activities are concentrated into 10 major research divisions spanning life sciences, physical sciences and engineering: the newest of these, the Herzberg Institute of Astrophysics, is named in honor of Dr. Gerhard Herzberg, winner of the 1971 Nobel Prize for Chemistry. Dr. Herzberg is a distinguished NRC scientist.

The focal point for much of the research is the sprawling 400-acre Montreal Road complex on the outskirts of Ottawa. Here, some 550 scientists and engineers, helped by 1,500 other workers, are doing pioneering work. Other facilities include the original Sussex Drive laboratories in Ottawa, dating back to 1932, and the regional laboratories in Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.

NRC maintains numerous other scientific and technical facilities all over Canada. Intended for a variety of users, these facilities would otherwise be too expensive or too specialized for most Canadian industries or scientific organizations to support on their own.

THE DIVISION OF BUILDING RESEARCH, for instance, provides a comprehensive research service for the construction industry, gives technical and secretarial assistance to the NRC's Associate