

3. The critical evaluation of the criteria and techniques used by the government to review and assess expenditures and programs related to scientific activities. On February 28, 1974, the Honourable Jeanne Sauve, who was then Minister of State for Science and Technology, announced that her Ministry "will be responsible for the development of a science policy framework against which individual policies can be viewed", that a science budget display "will be used for the evaluation of departmental and agency budgetary proposals for scientific activity", and that the Ministry of State for Science and Technology "will evaluate these proposals prior to final consideration and approval by Treasury Board and publish annually a report analyzing federal expenditures on science and technology". The Committee intends to investigate how these roles assumed by MOSST have been developed and how effectively they have been exercised.

Your organization has demonstrated a genuine interest in at least some of the topics the Committee will be considering and reporting upon. I urge you, therefore, to send us any views, counsel or information you believe would assist us in our forthcoming endeavour. You may want to give us, for instance, your assessment of developments in Canadian science policy which have occurred since you appeared before us in 1969. If you decide to send us a brief, we would hope to receive it as soon as possible, but before the end of December.

The Committee does not intend at this stage to hold a long series of hearings, as it did during its first enquiry. We cannot, therefore, undertake to hear all those who will submit briefs, but we will certainly give serious consideration to all the written representations we will receive.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice Lamontagne.