

Awards for Canadian studies programs in Ireland

Canada's largest manufacturer of telecommunications equipment, Northern Telecom Limited, has presented awards totalling \$40 000 (Cdn) to four Irish universities to provide seed money for the expansion of Canadian studies programs in their curricula.

The universities, receiving contributions of \$10 000 each, are: the National University of Ireland at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth; University College Cork; Trinity College Dublin; and University College Dublin. All are represented on the council for the Association for Canadian Studies in Ireland.

The awards are part of Northern Telecom's international contributions program through which it attempts to provide the broadest possible support to artistic and educational activities in the countries in which it operates.

The four awards were presented by Roy T. Cottier, senior vice-president,

corporate relations, Northern Telecom Limited, at a ceremony hosted by Lord Killanin, chairman, Northern Telecom (Ireland) Limited.

"As we develop and market our own technology and expand into international markets, we feel we must, as a Canadian-based multinational, also develop and market our Canadian heritage," Mr. Cottier pointed out. "With the formation of the Association for Canadian Studies in Ireland, we feel these four universities have taken a serious step to promote the understanding of, and study of, Canada in this country."

More business, more support

Northern Telecom anticipates broadening its support of these and other educational and artistic activities in Ireland as its business there grows.

The presentation of contributions to four universities is the third step of

Northern Telecom's long-range commitment to the advancement of Canadian studies.

The first step was taken in 1980 when the corporation founded the Business Fund for Canadian Studies in the US, a non-profit corporation, now supported by 20 other Canadian corporations. The Business Fund provides financial assistance to new and existing Canadian studies programs in US universities.

The second step came in October 1982 (see *Canada Weekly*, November 17, 1982) when Northern Telecom announced the establishment of the Northern Telecom International Canadian Studies Award.

The award, a gold medal and \$10 000 cash, will honour an academic, researcher, or scholar from anywhere in the world who has excelled in achievement in the Canadian studies area. This award represents the major commitment by the corporation to foster studies of Canadian affairs in centres of higher learning throughout the world.

Diet by computer

A sophisticated software program that will break down the exact nutritional content of a patient's diet has been plugged in at the University of Ottawa's Health Sciences Centre.

The \$10 000 Nutrition Assessment System (NUTS) — the first to be installed in a Canadian university — should make diagnosing dietary needs and deficiencies much easier and more accurate, say university spokesmen.

According to biochemistry professor Jean Armstrong, the university and the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario will use the system to monitor eating habits of young patients and children who visit the hospital's out-patient clinics.

The nutrition program, invented by British Columbia-based Quilchena Consulting Ltd., goes beyond current diet assessment techniques by examining 46 nutrients and ten amino acids in the average diet. Nutrition assessments are normally done by assigning a numerical value to various foods in one of four categories: protein, fat, carbohydrate and calories. The system, because it is only approximate, can be inaccurate up to a factor of 20 per cent.

The NUTS system, now in use at one British Columbia hospital and one in Nova Scotia, takes about five minutes to



Marlene Wyatt, director of dietetics at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario, controls new Nutrition Assessment System while Jean Armstrong watches.

make its 46-item assessment.

University technicians said it would also be more effective because nutritionists can feed into it specific data not just about a person's eating habits but about the person himself. Statistics such as height, weight and muscle mass will be

factored into the program to give a more realistic assessment of changes the subject needs in his diet.

The system's first application will be with children prone to nutritional problems: burn victims, long-term head injury patients or children with cystic fibrosis.