

In addition to federal initiatives, Canada joined the non-governmental SCAR as an Associate Member in September 1994. In the private sector, Canadian companies continue to supply goods and services to the Antarctic operations of several countries. A more recent development is the emergence of Toronto-based Marine Expeditions Inc., which now transports about one-quarter of the estimated 8,000 tourists visiting the continent each year.

The CPC's first major initiative on Antarctic issues was the *Antarctic Science Workshop* held at the University of Ottawa in February 1993.^{4,5} The workshop led to the formation of the Executive Committee for the Canadian Antarctic Research Program (CARP) which consisted almost exclusively of members with Antarctic field experience. The committee provides valuable advice on Antarctic issues to government agencies, private-sector groups and to the public at large. Since its formation, the CARP Executive Committee has pursued several initiatives (e.g., publication of a newsletter; creation of a database of Canadians interested in Antarctic issues⁶; and establishment of links with Antarctic programs in other countries, notably Argentina, Germany, New Zealand, the U.K., and the U.S.A.). This work has been accomplished on a shoe-string budget from the CPC; thus, the November 1995 meeting in Ottawa was called, in part, to discuss how additional resources might be obtained.

A recommendation from the 1993 workshop led to Canada becoming a member of SCAR at the Committee's meeting in Rome in September 1994. SCAR, as a non-governmental international body, consists of representatives of the scientific communities in member countries; the CPC is the adhering body in Canada. Joining SCAR was an essential step for the CPC; it seems improbable that it could fulfil its mandate with respect to Antarctica without belonging to this major scientific body.

As SCAR predates the signing of the Antarctic Treaty, it might be argued that scientists have "ruled" Antarctica for decades. This situation began to change with the signing of the Protocol on Environmental Protection, as the intergovernmental structure under the AT is assuming an increasingly active role in governing activities in Antarctica. At the same time, the role of SCAR has been formalized. Whereas the Treaty makes no reference to SCAR, several clauses in the

⁴ Canadian Polar Commission (1993): *Canadians in Antarctica*. Polaris Papers. Vol. 1, No. 2. 11p.

⁵ For additional information about Canadians in Antarctica, see: Hattersley-Smith, G(1986): "Some Canadians in the Antarctic", *Arctic*, 39(4) pp 368-369 and Beeby, Dean (1994): *In a Crystal Land; Canadian Explorers in Antarctica*. University of Toronto Press. 262p.

⁶ Sixty-eight individuals from Canada and 59 from abroad responded to the questionnaire printed in the newsletter.