

b) They can provide an information environment which will help managers to broaden the basis and extend the time horizon of their decision-making process, thus increasing the probability that their actions will have their intended effects and impacts.

c) Futures studies help develop a sensitivity to change, an understanding of the process of change and the ability to react to change, thus generating a greater capability within management to make more quickly the internal organizational improvements necessary for successful goal accomplishments.

If you agree with this perception of needs that can be met by futures studies, list them in terms of your own priorities and explain why. If you do not agree, indicate the needs that would better reflect the experience and perception of your organization.)

5. How are futures studies planned and initiated in your organization; do your senior managers actively participate in that planning or is the initiative left to researchers?

6. Before initiating a futures research program, how do you make sure that the need you have in mind is not already met by existing studies made in Canada or abroad; do you have access, for instance, to a monitoring service giving you information on research done or going on elsewhere in the area that concerns your organization?

B. Your Futures Research Programs

7. How many futures studies groups operate within your organization? Please describe the specific needs which any one group is expected to meet and give details regarding staff, budgets, disciplines and projects involved and any other information you believe would be valuable concerning your current activities in this area.