

## Extra money for energy research

Energy Minister Alastair Gillespie has released a detailed breakdown of the \$15 million in supplementary federal energy research and development (R and D) funding that was announced recently. This brings the projected total annual federal expenditure in energy R and D to \$145 million.

A total of \$6.3 million of the additional funding will be used to finance research and development in the area of renewable energy resources. The largest portion of this, \$3.9 million, will go towards research in solar energy. The assessment and demonstration of the potential, in Canada, of wood and mill wastes, as well as other sources of energy of biological origin, such as peat, straw, and manure, as substitutes for conventional fuels will receive \$1.55 million.

Energy conservation was allocated \$5.6 million, while \$750,000 will go towards developing technologies designed to establish hydrogen as part of the Canadian energy supply system. Six hundred thousand dollars will go towards research on cogeneration, the ways in which electrical generating stations can produce both electricity and heat.

Research in the extraction of fossil fuels will receive \$1.4 million, while the transportation of energy commodities such as oil and natural gas from the Arctic and the transmission of electricity will receive \$1.25 million.

This allocation of funds reflects a further shift in government policy towards renewable energy resources and energy conservation, which this year will receive 21 per cent of the total federal energy R and D budget, compared with 15 per cent in 1976/77. Nuclear fission receives no additional support under this increase; however, additional funding for radioactive waste management is under active consideration.

In addition to the funding of nuclear fusion-related research of \$1.8 million, \$260,000 will go towards a small program designed to maintain Canada's contribution to the international research effort, benefiting the programs of seven federal departments and agencies. The National Research Council will receive \$6.2 million; Energy, Mines and Resources, \$3.3 million; Department of Fisheries and Environment, \$2.8 million; Transport Canada, \$2 million; Agriculture Canada,

\$250,000; Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, \$350,000; and the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, \$150,000.

An estimated 77 per cent of the funding increase, and 35 per cent of the total projected expenditure, will be spent outside federal laboratories, in keeping with the Government's resolution to award contracts to Canadian industry.

## Consumer price indexes for regional cities — January 1978

From December 1977 to January 1978, consumer price indexes rose in 13 regional cities and remained unchanged over-all in Montreal.

Advances ranged from 0.1 per cent in Halifax to 0.7 per cent in Ottawa. Higher prices for meat products, soft drinks and restaurant meals along with increased shelter charges were largely responsible for these advances. Other important contributing factors included higher prices for imported cars and seasonally-higher train fares. Prices for fresh produce declined noticeably. Clothing prices were also generally lower across the country.

*St. John's*, Newfoundland — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.3 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 7.8 per cent.

*Halifax*, Nova Scotia — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.1 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 8.9 per cent.

*Saint John*, New Brunswick — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.2 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 8.7 per cent.

*Quebec City*, Quebec — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.4 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 8.5 per cent.

*Montreal*, Quebec — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, no over-all change. January 1977 to January 1978, up 8.7 per cent.

*Ottawa*, Ontario — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.7 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 9.0 per cent.

*Toronto*, Ontario — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.6 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 9.2 per cent.

*Thunder Bay*, Ontario — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.4 per

cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 10.1 per cent.

*Winnipeg*, Manitoba — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.3 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 8.7 per cent.

*Saskatoon*, Saskatchewan — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.4 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 9.8 per cent.

*Regina*, Saskatchewan — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.4 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 10.5 per cent.

*Edmonton*, Alberta — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.5 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 10.1 per cent.

*Calgary*, Alberta — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.2 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 8.3 per cent.

*Vancouver*, British Columbia — all items: December 1977 to January 1978, up 0.5 per cent. January 1977 to January 1978, up 7.5 per cent.

## Grants to Quebec organizations

The federal Secretary of State Department recently awarded grants totalling \$58,160 to eight organizations in the province of Quebec.

- L'Association pour la défense des droits du personnel domestique de Montréal will use its grant of \$4,800 to help improve working conditions for domestics by making employers aware of problem areas. An information centre will be established and a monthly newsletter published to assist domestics.

- Le Comité d'intégration des handicapés physique du Québec, St. Léonard, will use its grant of \$3,630 for a campaign aimed at changing the image of the handicapped. A brief will be presented to Parliament suggesting ways in which the handicapped can be better integrated into the mainstream of society.

- The Educational Resource Co-operative, Montreal, has received \$9,980 to set up workshops where McGill University Faculty of Education professors and students will explore the feasibility of integrating multicultural courses into the secondary school curriculum. The group will also look at the use of discriminatory language in school texts.

- Le Groupe ressources vacances sites, Iberville, received a grant of \$22,000 to