

National Research Council

NRC is composed of 19 different institutes and national programs, spanning a wide variety of disciplines and offering a broad array of services. We are located in every province in Canada and play a major role in stimulating community-based innovation.

NRC institutes and programs are organized into three (3) key areas:

- Physical Sciences and Engineering
- Life Sciences and Information Technology
- Technology and Industry Support

Under the *NRC Act*, NRC is responsible for:

- undertaking, assisting or promoting scientific and industrial research in different fields of importance to Canada;
- establishing, operating and maintaining a national science library;
- publishing and selling or otherwise distributing such scientific and technical information as the Council deems necessary;
- investigating standards and methods of measurement;
- working on the standardization and certification of scientific and technical apparatus and instruments and materials used or usable by Canadian industry;
- operating and administering any astronomical observatories established or maintained by the Government of Canada;
- administering NRC's research and development activities, including grants and contributions used to support a number of international activities; and
- providing vital scientific and technological services to the research and industrial communities. This mandate is discharged to a great extent through the operation of the NRC Industrial Research Assistance Program, the NRC Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information and the Canadian Technology Network.

NRC employs close to 4,000 people across Canada, providing substantial resources to help Canada become one of the world's top five R&D performers by 2010.

NRC also benefits from the efforts of guest workers, drawn from Canadian and foreign universities, companies and public and private sector organizations.

Areas of research and industry support include aerospace, biotechnology, engineering and construction, fundamental sciences, information and communications technologies, manufacturing and industry support.

As an integrated, dynamic, national R&D organization, NRC helps to address the challenges of industrial competitiveness and productivity, security, global climate change, energy efficiency, a clean environment, and a cost-effective, quality health system by working with industry, academia and government through strategically focused collaborative research teams. NRC pursues research in emerging cross-disciplinary fields such as photonics, genomics, bio-informatics, and nanotechnology. We continue to play an enabling role as a key participant in research consortia and networks across Canada and internationally.

www.nrc-cnr.gc.ca