

ANNEX B

SCITEC'S RESPONSES TO VOLUME 2

Following the publication of Volume 2, the Association of the Scientific, Engineering and Technological Community of Canada (SCITEC) organized a response committee for the Senate science policy report. The committee made two surveys which were described by its chairman, Mr. R. C. Quittenton, as follows:

... 44 technical societies were asked to appoint an official delegate to respond on the Senate Report to SCITEC, on behalf of the society concerned. Six members-at-large from the private sector were also asked to respond. The 44 societies selected were those who had participated in the founding meeting of SCITEC. Altogether, 110 delegates were invited to respond, as the "Official Response Committee." There are, however, now over 100 technical (scientific) societies in Canada. Thus this Official Response Committee clearly did not cover everyone. It did cover the major groups, however, such as the biologists, physicists, social scientists, medical doctors, chemists and engineers. This is the strength of SCITEC and, indeed, of the scientific, engineering and technological community of Canada.

When the Senate Committee released their 45 recommendations from Volume 2, as summarized by the Senators, these were sent directly and unchanged to all the delegates with the request that they mark each recommendation either Approve, Reject or Abstain, and add any comments as desired.

In an effort to broaden the sample, the same request was sent to the elected executives of several technical societies, various observers in industry, the universities and government, etc., as well as to the Council of SCITEC and to the Science Council of Canada. This whole group is called the "National Response Committee," comprising some 289 delegates. No real attempt was made to select these people on a fully representative basis. The attempt was rather to sweep in more responses from the scientific and technical fraternity, on an admittedly ad hoc basis. In tabulating the responses from this sector, however, the responses from the Official Response Committee were also included, to give an overall look. Thus the responses from the Official Response Committee are tabulated twice, once alone, and once with all the others in the National Response Committee.

Mr. Quittenton further explained that "112 opinions were received, from all across Canada and from virtually all disciplines." He produced a table showing the composition of the two samples.