

For the past year, I have had the honour of chairing the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment and believe that this organization has seized the challenges we face and will be able to provide an effective forum for addressing all jurisdictional matters relating to Canada's environment.²⁵

Conclusion 3:

Effective recognition and understanding of environmental problems, and cooperative and coordinated policies, actions and enforcement measures among all jurisdictions, are more necessary at present than a new division of environmental powers.

Recommendation 4:

The Committee recommends that the environment be regarded as an area of shared jurisdiction, in which concurrency and partnership are the appropriate and effective bases for governmental action.

C. Partnerships Between and Beyond Governments

2.21 "A lot of agreement with a lot of partners". It is clear to the Committee, as it evidently is also to the CCME and the public, that effective environmental action involves partnerships between governments and other stakeholders—those who have a stake in the environment. Several witnesses expressed the hope that the national, provincial and territorial Round Tables that have been created in recent years will play a continuing and important role in developing such partnerships.

It has certainly been a process that has worked to build consensus and vision and in working with sustainable development because they are charged with how do you implement sustainable development to develop strategies in that way? We are in fact getting clear about a new paradigm, one that integrates these things rather than simply balances them, these things being environment and economy. It is a very promising process for building an enabling framework.²⁶

2.22 One of the clearest illustrations of the fact that environmental and sustainable development considerations extend far beyond "the old federal-provincial football game" has been the influence of aboriginal rights on the Committee's investigation. In part, this was due to the inclusion of aboriginal self-government as a key element of the Government's proposals in *Shaping Canada's Future Together*. The Committee also realizes that any discussion of current and future environmental powers in Canada must recognize that

²⁵ Letter from John G. Leefe to the Chair of the Standing Committee dated 22 October 1991. See also the comments on the CCME made by Mr. MacMillan (Issue 6, p. 47) and by Mr. MacLeod (Issue 10, p. 7).

²⁶ Issue 10, p. 24. See also Mr. MacLeod (Issue 10, pp. 5-6); and Mr. McCreedy (Issue 10, pp. 37-38). The Canadian Manufacturers' Association (Submission, p. 7) believes that the Round Tables can only make a meaningful input to environmental decision-making if the present separate Round Tables become better coordinated with one another.