

Distribution network

While maintaining this direct contact with Canada's scientific community, NRC is also the focus of a nation-wide distribution network for scientific and technical information.

The Atlantic Regional Laboratory, situated on the campus of Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, operates a marine station on the shore of the Atlantic Ocean at Sandy Cove, near Sambro, Nova Scotia, for the study of marine plants. The Halifax laboratory has facilities for growing and recovering microbial and algal cells, for isolating and identifying plant metabolites, for studying catalysis, and for elucidating biological and chemical syntheses with radioactive and stable isotopes.

Divisional research

The scientific program of the Division of Biological Sciences is carried out by a number of groups of scientists either brought together in research units with a recognized leader or made up of flexible associations of scientists collaborating on an accepted short-term goal. These groups include biologists, chemists, mathematicians and physicists, whose collaboration permits a broad and vigorous approach to the solution of biological problems.

The Division of Building Research carries on a comprehensive research program designed to meet the more

pressing needs of the country for science-based information and knowledge in support of the construction industry. Its activities include: technical support for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation; technical and secretariat assistance to the NRC associate committee that has responsibility for the production of Canada's National Building Code; service on a large number of standards and technical committees, both national and international; and an information and advisory service to the building industry as a whole.

The work of the Division of Chemistry covers a broad spectrum ranging from relatively short-term programs (aimed at practical application to the natural-resource and chemical industries) to long-term fundamental investigations in selected areas of scientific and technological importance.

In the Division of Mechanical Engineering, distribution of the theoretical and experimental research effort is as follows: transportation engineering, 45 per cent; manufacturing technology, 30 per cent; standards and standardization, 10 per cent; computers in engineering design, 6 per cent; engineering and biological control systems, 5 per cent; medical and surgical instrumentation, 4 per cent. The increased demand on all sides has been met by establishing a Western laboratory in Vancouver,