



# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 68

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1956.

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THE COMPOSITION OF THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON THE EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION WHICH IS TO OPEN ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK. THE CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE DR. E.A. WATKINSON, PRINCIPAL MEDICAL OFFICER, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SPECIAL PROJECTS, DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE.

THE ALTERNATE CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE DR. F.D. SOWBY, SENIOR OFFICER, RADIATION SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE. ADVISORS TO THE DELEGATION WILL BE DR. C.A. MAWSON, DR. W.J. GRUMMITT, AND DR. H.B. NEWCOMBE, SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE CHALK RIVER PROJECT ATOMIC ENERGY OF CANADA LIMITED, AND DR. G.H. JOSIE, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE.

DR. WATKINSON, WHO ALSO LED THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE FIRST SESSION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR, HAS HAD RESPONSIBILITY SINCE 1951 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE RADIATION PROGRAMME OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE WHICH, DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS, HAS INCLUDED A STUDY OF THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON HEALTH OF AN INCREASING RADIATION BACKGROUND. AFTER RECEIVING HIS MEDICAL DEGREE FROM QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, KINGSTON, ONTARIO, IN 1939 DR. WATKINSON SERVED WITH THE ROYAL CANADIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS IN CANADA AND OVERSEAS. FOLLOWING THE WAR HE TOOK THE DIPLOMA IN PUBLIC HEALTH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO AND JOINED THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE WITH THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DIVISION, IN WHICH HE SERVED AS CHIEF FROM 1953-1956. HE HAS ATTENDED OTHER INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AS ADVISER TO THE CANADIAN DELEGATION: THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE FOR THE REVISION OF THE GENEVA CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS, HELD IN GENEVA IN 1949; AND THE 1952 AND 1953 CONFERENCES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION IN GENEVA. TEXT ENDS.