

Effective management strategies . . . necessarily concern both orders of government. This appears to be an almost inescapable conclusion from the foregoing analysis. It flows not only from the fact that environment problems are dominated by spillovers. It flows also from four characteristics that stand out in each part of the analysis: ecological interdependence; physical interdependence; problem interdependence; hence, jurisdictional interdependence. The overriding corollary of this, of course, is intergovernmental cooperation, at all levels and in all possible forms. It is difficult, if not impossible, to visualize any political or institutional structure, or any system of powers, that would reduce the importance of such cooperation or that would work without it.⁴¹

Recommendation 7:

The Committee recommends that present trends, both formal and informal, towards concurrent environmental jurisdiction be encouraged and strengthened. In particular, the Committee recommends:

- strengthened formal and informal mechanisms for consultation and cooperation among governments in Canada;
- harmonization of existing and proposed regulations and actions to protect the environment and promote sustainable development, based on high national standards and the opportunity for individual jurisdictions to adopt still more stringent measures;
- other measures to avoid unnecessary overlap and duplication, and to promote collaboration and the adoption of joint policies, programs and projects;
- development of links and consultation mechanisms with other relevant jurisdictions, including international institutions, municipal governments, and the institutions of aboriginal self-government, as the latter are established;
- action to give greater public awareness and understanding of, and access to, national and international coordination mechanisms concerned with the environment and sustainable development.

⁴¹ MacNeill, J.W. *Environmental Management*, Ottawa, Information Canada, 1971, p. 175.