

(bottom-dwelling) stocks, which had been the mainstay of the Atlantic fishing industry, were being decimated by long-range international fleets employing high-powered catching technology and extremely efficient fish-detecting devices. With the extension of the zone, Canada assumed responsibility for an extra 632 000 nautical square miles of ocean. With this acquisition has come a new lease on life for the fishery resources, and the first real opportunity to put fishing - as an occupation and as an industry - on an even keel. But the 200-mile demarcation has also brought new responsibilities. Scientific management of the fisheries in this area, the essential condition for a stable industry, now is a strictly Canadian responsibility. Fisheries and aquatic research is being undertaken in biology, ecology, the population dynamics and migrations of fish and shellfish and marine mammals, the forecasting of fish stock abundance and calculation of sustainable yields, and the development of new aquaculture techniques.

Ocean research is coordinated by the Ocean Science and Surveys (OSS) section of the Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans. OSS defines its mandate as "research and development of the marine environment around and within Canada - and the optimum use of renewable and non-renewable resources". This covers a very long waterfront. Canada's coastline, measured at 131.650 nautical miles, is the longest in the world. The nation's ocean research effort, or at least that part of it conducted by the federal government, is carried out by roughly 112 scientists backed by support staff operating in research establishments on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and at other locations inland. The Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Halifax and the Institute of Ocean Sciences near Victoria are respectively the Atlantic and Pacific bases for Canadian ocean studies. Both enjoy an international reputation for excellence and innovation in the field. The Bayfield Laboratory for Marine Science and Surveys in Burlington, Ontario and the Champlain Centre in Quebec City, Quebec, also conduct oceanographic research.

Because of increased economic activity in the highly delicate Arctic environment, the Canadian government has established a central facility to co-ordinate and store the mass of information now being generated from a multitude of Arctic studies. This centre is located at the Institute of Ocean Sciences and has, since its inception in 1980, been the focal point for all data gathered in the western Arctic and along the Canadian west coast. Information from studies carried out separately and jointly by government and industry is relayed via the centre to government regulatory bodies such as the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office (FEARO), for use in environmental assessments of Arctic projects.

LE MULTICULTURALISME: LES CANADIENS D'ORIGINE FRANCAISE

La présence française au Canada remonte au début du XVIIème siècle, époque à laquelle les Français furent les premiers Européens à s'y établir. Ils s'installèrent d'abord en Acadie, région qui englobe maintenant la Nouvelle-Ecosse, le Nouveau-Brunswick, le Maine et la vallée du fleuve Saint-Laurent. Par la suite, ils essaimèrent à travers le continent, fondant un empire qu'on appela la Nouvelle-France et qui s'étendait de la côte atlantique jusqu'aux montagnes Rocheuses et de la mer