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THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

The Federal Government assumes the major responsibility for financing, stimulating, and carrying out scientific research and development in Canada. In addition to the activities of the National Research Council of Canada, Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, and the Department of Mines, Energy and Resources, federal agencies involved in research include the Departments of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, National Defence, National Health and Welfare, and Northern Affairs and National Resources.

Responsibilities

The duties of the National Research Council of Canada are outlined in the National Research Council Act. Broadly stated, the Council has charge of all matters affecting scientific and industrial research in Canada that may be assigned to it by the Committee of the Privy Council on Scientific and Industrial Research. The Council is responsible to a designated minister who is a member of the Committee of the Privy Council on Scientific and Industrial Research. The Act also designates a number of specific responsibilities: for discovering processes and methods that may promote the expansion of existing industries or the development of new ones; for maintaining and improving primary standards for Canada and certifying scientific and technical apparatus and instruments used in the government service and in industries; for investigating industrial products or materials at the request of any of the industries of Canada; and for conducting research on the use of industrial wastes.

Organization

The National Research Council of Canada consists of the President, the Vice-President (Administration), two Vice-Presidents (Scientific), and not more than 17 other members appointed by the Governor in Council. The Council is a body corporate and is required to meet at least three times a year in Ottawa.

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