

Agreement with France on communications research

Canada's Department of Communications and the French l'Institut de l'Audio-visuel have agreed to co-operate in the field of audio-visual communications research.

The institute is an agency of the French government. It reports to France's Minister of Culture and is primarily concerned with the software side of new information technologies.

The agreement signed recently by the president of the institute Gabriel de Broglie and Canada's Deputy Minister of Communications Pierre Juneau, covers

research on a number of subjects including: methods for analyzing and targeting audiences for broadcast programming, trends in television programming and production, management of innovation and creativity in the audio-visual field and new approaches to the visual display of information.

Co-operative arrangements will include information exchanges and a joint program of research projects, seminars, publications and audio-visual co-productions.

Governor General presents women's awards

Five women were presented with the highest women's rights award in the country in a recent ceremony at Government House.

They received medals from Governor-General Edward Schreyer to commemorate a historic 1929 decision that Canadian women are persons under the law.

The medal-winners were:

- Germaine Bellemare-Boudreault of Nicolet, Quebec, who has participated in humanitarian and social movements to promote equality for women in rural communities.
- Ella Manuel of Bonne Bay, Newfoundland, a children's story writer and the only person to submit an individual brief

to the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in the late 1960s.

- Sophie Steadman of Ottawa, a pioneer in improving the status of women through many organizations.
- Elizabeth Monk of Montreal, one of the first two women to win admission to the Quebec Bar in 1942. She was an activist in the women's movement, who won Quebec women the right to vote in 1940.
- Agnes Sempler of Inuvik, Northwest Territories, a hunter and trapper who worked to establish the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement and in 1975 was the first northern native woman to be appointed a justice of the peace.



Governor-General (centre) and Mrs. Schreyer (to his right) are flanked by the medal winners (left to right): Maysie MacSporran (standing in for Elizabeth Monk), Ella Manuel, Agnes Sempler, Germaine Bellemare-Goudreault and Sophie Steadman.

Wild life area donated

Environment Minister John Roberts recently unveiled a monument commemorating the donation to Canada of over \$3-million worth of valuable wildlife habitat by the Long Point Company of Canada and the Nature Conservancy (U.S.).

The Long Point Company and the Nature Conservancy are both groups who have holdings in the Long Point area and have sought to preserve the wildlife habitat. At the ceremony marking Canada's appreciation of the gift, Mr. Roberts noted that Long Point is the largest unspoiled sand dune-marshland complex in the Great Lakes.

Long Point is a 32-kilometre long sandy pit which juts into Lake Erie south of Simcoe, Ontario. As one of Lake Erie's three major points, it serves as a resting or nesting stop for about 150 species of bird and is therefore vital for keeping bird populations at healthy levels. The other two significant points are Point Pelée National Park and Rondeau Provincial Park.

Except for small pieces of the point, the land has belonged to the Long Point Company since 1866.

With the gifts, the major part of Long Point is now under the management of the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada. A management plan is being developed which will attempt to allow limited access to this fragile area.

Energy-efficient housing toured

Officials from member countries of the International Energy Agency (IEA) recently toured three provinces to study Canada's low-energy housing, among the first in the world to be offered on the open real estate market.

The week-long tour, including members of the Canadian housing industry, was sponsored by Energy, Mines and Resources Canada (EMR). The 30-member group visited homes built under federal-provincial bilateral agreements in Halifax, Charlottetown, Regina and Saskatoon.

Selling at competitive prices, these homes — featuring high standards of air tightness and insulation — offer savings of up to 75 per cent over the heating costs of traditional residential structures.

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