

It holds membership as the representing body for Canada in various international scientific organizations. In 1961, NRC's president, Dr. E.W.R. Steacie, was elected president of the International Council of Scientific Unions.

Research Journals

The Research Council also edits and publishes the Canadian Journals of Research, six periodicals that report basic research in biochemistry, physiology, botany, chemistry, microbiology, physics, and zoology. Forty per cent of the papers published originate in Canadian universities and, at present, about 15 per cent come from laboratories outside Canada. Distribution of the Journals is world wide.

Research in NRC Laboratories

In its own laboratories NRC conducts a considerable volume of basic research. Though these fundamental studies are more usual in physics, chemistry and biology, investigations of basic character are carried on in the divisions of applied science and engineering as a balance and complement to the applied work.

Library Services

The NRC Library of Ottawa is designated as the national library of science for Canada. It is recognized as the central clearing-house and information centre for science publications, and also as a distributing agency for scientific literature not otherwise available in Canada. It provides lending and photocopy services; it carries out literature searches and compiles bibliographies; its translation services cope with scientific reports in many languages, including Russian; and its index of English translations of foreign scientific publications currently runs to 90,000 entries.

Postdoctorate Fellowships

Since 1948 the NRC has been developing a programme of post-doctorate fellowships. These provide salaries and travel expenses to enable young scientists who have already attained their doctorates to work for a year or two at NRC or other government or university laboratories in Canada. There are now about 270 of these visiting scientists in Canada, mainly from Europe, Asia and the United States. During 1962-63, 790 applications were received for postdoctorate fellowships, of which 170 were successful.

Applied Work for Industry

Much of the work of the NRC is of immediate application; for example, investigations requested by industrial groups or carried out under contract for individual companies. The projects range from electronics to building construction, from acoustics to food preservation.

Facilities are maintained by NRC that are too expensive or too specialized for most Canadian industries to support on their own. Examples are: a hydraulics laboratory, where scale-model studies are done on harbours, breakwaters, riverbeds, canal locks, ships and propellers; aeronautical facilities such as wind tunnels, jet-engine test beds, low-temperature installations for icing research on aircraft and helicopters; fire-research apparatus for the destructive testing of floors, walls and building components. Increasing use of these facilities is made by scientists and engineers from industry working along with NRC staff.

The Council's researchers have achieved international recognition in areas of applied research, such as corrosion, physical standards, noise abatement, medical electronics, electronic aids to navigation, soils research related to construction, snow and ice research, photogrammetry.