

Most NRC facilities are located at Ottawa. After the last war, however, regional laboratories were established at Saskatoon and Halifax in order to improve the industrial use of the resources of those areas. At the Prairie Regional Laboratory, the emphasis is on agricultural materials and the work is mainly biochemical; at the Atlantic Regional Laboratory, much of the work is on seaweed, fish wastes, peat and special biological problems affecting the pulping of wood. Work is also being done on chemical factors in steel-making, especially as they relate to the coal and iron ores of the Atlantic Provinces.

For reasons of necessity, other smaller laboratories are located outside Ottawa; for example, a meteor laboratory is situated 20 miles south of Springhill, a radio observatory in Algonquin Park, building research units in the Far North and upper-atmosphere research facilities at various points in the Arctic.

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited

During the wartime scientific boom of 1939-45, large research units developed within NRC, which have since become separate research organizations. For example, the work in atomic energy, which began with the Council in 1942, grew to the point where its size and commercial importance justified its establishment in 1952 under a separate authority. This is Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, the Crown Corporation whose extensive research facilities are centred at Chalk River, Ontario.

Defence Research Board

In 1947, research in support of Canada's military forces was transferred from NRC to the newly organized Defence Research Board. As an active nucleus, the Board took over the defence laboratories that the Council had been operating at Valcartier, Halifax, Ottawa, and elsewhere. With a budget comparable to that of NRC, the Board conducts investigations into materials, armament, special weapons, telecommunications, aeronautics, Arctic problems and operational techniques. Its programme of upper-atmosphere research is carried on in co-operation with NRC and other research groups in government and universities. The Board also makes grants to universities for medical studies related to problems of defence.

Medical Research Council

Aid to basic medical research in universities also developed within NRC, to a yearly volume in 1960 of over \$2 million. In that year, the Medical Research Council of Canada was formed to assume responsibility for the medical grants and fellowships and otherwise to pursue its own objectives. By 1965-66, aid to basic medical research had reached \$9 million.