





FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL  
ON STATISTICAL POLICY

AGENDA

May 24 - 25, 1989

Simon A. Goldberg Conference Room  
R.H. Coats Building, Ottawa, Ontario

Wednesday, May 24, 1989

- 9:00 AM            Opening Remarks
- o approval of the agenda
  - o approval of the minutes
- 9:15 AM            Statistics Canada Report - Dr. Ivan Fellegi
- 10:15 AM            Coffee
- 10:30 AM            Provincial and Territorial Program Reports -  
Provincial and Territorial Members
- 11:30 AM            Program Committee Report - Mr. John Palmer
- o final approval of the Terms of Reference for  
the Demography and Small Area Data Committees
- 12:00 AM            Lunch
- 1:30 PM            Secretary's Report - Mr. Denis Desjardins
- o adoption of the Council's Decision Record
- 2:00 PM            Measures for the Preservation and Development of  
the National Statistical System -  
Dr. William McReynolds
- o presentation and discussion of specific  
measures (e.g. orientation program for the  
staff of provincial and territorial  
statistical agencies, Council sponsored  
research program, etc.)

STATISTIQUE STATISTIQUE  
CANADA CANADA  
18  
LIBRARY  
BIBLIOTHÈQUE

- 3:00 PM Coffee
- 3:15 PM Provincial and Territorial Inputs into Priority Setting in an Environment of Budget Reductions - Mr. Luc Bessette
- o mechanisms to permit provincial and territorial governments to influence the setting of program priorities by Statistics Canada
- 5:00 PM End of first day

Thursday, May 25, 1989

- 9:00 AM Update on the 1991 Census of Canada - Mr. Bruce Petrie
- o provincial and territorial involvement in Census planning and operations
- 10:00 AM Update on Business Statistics Programs - Mr. Jacob Ryten
- o current status of the Business Survey Redesign Project, the implementation of the Harmonized System and the Retail Sales Tax administrative data project.
- 10:45 AM Coffee
- 11:00 AM Federal-Provincial Consultative Mechanisms in the Field of Social Statistics - Mr. Bruce Petrie
- o review of experiences in the area of justice statistics and their implications for future directions (i.e. in health, culture, etc.)
- 12:00 AM Lunch

- 1:30 PM            Proposal for an Annual Documentation of the Programs, Resources, Products and Services of the Provincial and Territorial Statistical Agencies - Mr. Denis Desjardins
- o    issue referred to the Council by the Program Committee for decision. Some concern has been raised about potential abuse of this type of information.
- 2:30 PM            Coffee
- 3:00 PM            Nomination of the Program Committee - Mr. John Palmer and Dr. Ivan Fellegi
- 3:15 PM            Other Business
- 3:45 PM            Adjournment



---

MINUTES  
FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL  
ON STATISTICAL POLICY

---

May 25 and 26 1988

---

---

Quebec City, Quebec

---



## 1. Opening Remarks

The Chairperson, Dr. Ivan Fellegi, opened the meeting. Ms. Nicole Gendreau, the delegate from Quebec, welcomed the delegates to Quebec City.

The minutes of the previous meeting (October 22-23, 1987) were approved with one correction to the French text (revised minutes attached as Appendix 1). The proposed agenda was adopted without modification.

## 2. Report of the Chief Statistician of Canada

Dr. Fellegi presented an overview of major developments and achievements of Statistics Canada over the preceding year and summarized the significant initiatives planned for 1988-89 (speaking notes and copies of transparencies attached as Appendix 2).

Discussion focused on the development, and possible distribution through the statistical focal points, of the Social Policy Simulation Data Base Model. The application of Statistics Canada's policy on informing statistical focal points of communications with their respective administrations was also discussed.

With regard to the Social Policy Simulation Model, it was agreed that:

- ° conditional on the availability of key staff, Statistics Canada would provide a presentation on the Model at the June 1988 meeting of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Social Statistics;
- ° written documentation on the Model would be distributed to the statistical focal points.

In regard to Statistics Canada's policy on communications with provincial and territorial governments, it was agreed that:

- ° statistical focal points would advise the Chief Statistician of any suggestions for improving information flows between Statistics Canada and their agencies;
- ° statistical focal points would advise the Secretariat of areas of specific interest to allow the Secretariat to remind Directors in these areas of the need to keep the focal point informed;
- ° Statistics Canada would clarify its policy by advising senior managers that focal points are to be explicitly mentioned as copied on non-routine correspondence with provincial and territorial governments.

### 3. Provincial and Territorial Reports

Provincial and territorial delegates presented reports on the current status and activities of their respective statistical agencies (reports submitted in writing are attached as Appendix 3).

In discussion of the reports, Statistics Canada undertook to:

- ° provide statistical focal points with preliminary inter-provincial trade flow data soon to be available from the 1984 provincial input-output table program;
- ° open Statistics Canada's internal training courses to participants from provincial and territorial statistical agencies and determine the feasibility of video-taping the lecture portion of these courses;
- ° provide documentation to the focal points on a project to improve reporting of provincial/territorial government revenue and expenditure data. This project is intended to increase the timeliness of reporting of data required for the System of National Accounts.

### 4. Secretary's Report

The Secretary, Mr. Desjardins, summarized the report distributed to delegates in advance of the meeting (attached as Appendix 4).

#### Committee Structure

Mr. Desjardins submitted a proposal to establish the Committee on Demography as a full committee and approve draft terms of reference for the committee annexed to the Secretary's Report. In view of uncertainty over the advantages of conferring full committee status on this committee and in view of opposition expressed by several delegates to the proposed biennial periodicity of committee meetings, it was agreed to refer the proposal to the Program Committee for review.

Mr. Desjardins noted a suggestion arising from the recent meeting of the Committee on Small Area Data that the subject area of geography be incorporated in its mandate. As geography issues are also often discussed in other committees, it was agreed this proposal should be referred to the Program Committee for study and recommendation.

Ms. Nicole Gendreau, the delegate from Quebec, tabled a proposal for the creation of a federal-provincial committee on culture and communications. Discussion focused on recent

developments in the program area, the justification for such a committee, whether statistical offices or program departments would nominate provincial/territorial representatives and how to ensure co-ordination of any consultative mechanism would be done through focal point offices. It was agreed a presentation on the current status of the culture statistics program and recent developments in this area, as well as federal-provincial consultative mechanisms for the culture statistics program, would be placed on the agenda of the June 1988 meeting of the Committee on Social Statistics.

#### Annual report on provincial/territorial statistical agencies

Mr. Desjardins outlined a proposal from the Secretariat for an annual report based on a survey of the organization, resources, programs and products of provincial and territorial statistical agencies. It was agreed this proposal would be referred to the Program Committee for review and recommendation.

#### 5. Program Committee Report

Ms. Jan Kestle, Chairperson of the Program Committee, presented a report on the activities of the committee (Appendix 5).

The Program Committee recommended to the Council that the procedure for nominating provincial/territorial delegates to the Program Committee and for selecting the Chairperson of the Committee be modified. It was proposed that each year's Program Committee develop a slate of candidates for the following year's committee, ensuring the traditional representation of one member from each of the Atlantic, Central and Western Regions, as well as rotation of participation within these regions. In addition, one provincial or territorial member of the previous year's committee would serve both as chairperson and regional representative on the following year's committee to provide for continuity. The proposal was adopted as presented.

#### 6. Memorandum of Understanding

Ms. Jan Kestle, as Chairperson of the Program Committee, reported on the results of a poll of members concerning their positions on the four unresolved issues in the preparation of the Memorandum of Understanding (1986 and 1987 drafts attached as Appendix 6):

- the terminology to be used to designate members of the Council;
- the presentation of roles and responsibilities with separate sections for Statistics Canada and the provinces and territories or in a single section;

- ° inclusion of specific Statistics Canada policies and procedures as appendices to the reports;
- ° the appropriate level - political or bureaucratic - for signature of the agreement.

At the request of Ms. Kestle, Mr. Bill McReynolds, the delegate from British Columbia, presented a brief analysis of possible mechanisms for establishing a political level agreement and the advantages of this approach.

In the ensuing discussion, it was agreed that:

- ° the terminology of 'statistical focal point' would be retained in English but a more acceptable French translation would be established. In the Memorandum of Understanding, at the first occurrence of this term, a phrase will be added: 'normally the head of the provincial or territorial statistical agency';
- ° roles and responsibilities of the members of the Council would be presented in a single list in the memorandum;
- ° Statistics Canada policies and procedures would not be appended to the memorandum and the reference to 'quid pro quo' in the clause concerning data exchange would be removed;
- ° political level agreements would not be sought;
- ° introductory material from Mr. McReynolds draft specimen agreement would be incorporated in the introduction to the memorandum, with appropriate modifications;
- ° Mr. Wayne Smith would prepare a revised draft of the memorandum based on these decisions and circulate the draft to all members for comment;
- ° a final draft would be submitted to the Program Committee for final approval of wording.

In view of the lack of consensus on several of the issues, the Chairperson sought to confirm that members wished to proceed with the memorandum. No member dissented.

#### 7. Study of the Provincial and Territorial Component of the National Statistical System

Ms. Kestle, Chairperson of the Program Committee, made a presentation to the National Statistics Council (NSC) on the status of the provincial and territorial component of the national statistical system. She briefed members on the National

Statistics Council's discussion and disposition of the study. A study prepared for the NSC and a background paper are attached as Appendix 7.

Ms. Kestle reported that the discussion of the study at the National Statistics Council was marked by a high level of interest and concern in regard to the declining stature and resources of the provincial and territorial statistical agencies. Four specific actions were proposed by the National Statistics Council:

- that a sub-committee of that Council be struck to study the components of the National Statistical System;
- that Statistics Canada attempt to assist the provincial and territorial agencies through transfer of technical expertise in order to enhance the profile of the latter agencies within their governments;
- that individual members of the National Statistics Council use their contacts to express their concerns to the provincial and territorial governments directly;
- that the Chief Statistician be authorized to write to the members of the Consultative Council to express the concern of the National Statistics Council.

Discussion focused on the four proposals of the National Statistics Council, with particular emphasis on mechanisms for the transfer of expertise and increasing the profile of the provincial and territorial agencies. It was agreed that:

- an updated list of members of the National Statistics Council would be provided to the provincial/territorial members, indicating which members were present at the May 4-5, 1988 meeting of that Council. It was suggested provincial/territorial members might wish to contact members of the National Statistics Council from their province or territory to discuss their statistical programs;
- a letter from the Chief Statistician to the statistical focal points conveying the concern of the National Statistics Council would be prepared. The letter will be circulated in draft form to the focal points for comment;
- statistical focal points would write to the Chief Statistician if they wished to obtain the Social Policy Simulation Model for a trial period - the feasibility and conditions of such trial periods remains to be determined;

The Chairperson also noted that agreements reached earlier in the meeting regarding provincial/territorial access to Statistics Canada training programs and involvement in the Social Policy Simulation Model development also addressed the suggestions made by the National Statistics Council.

## 8. Directions in Administrative Data Development

Mr. Gordon Brackstone summarized a report distributed to members of the Council in advance of the meeting (Appendix 8). A status report was also provided on the controversy with provincial motor vehicle registrars over Statistics Canada's use of provincial motor vehicle registration files.

In the discussion, Dr. Fellegi advised members that no progress had been made in obtaining access for provincial and territorial statistical agencies to income tax files. Statistics Canada's ability to take on new cost-recoverable work based on administrative data files was confirmed.

## 9. Data Dissemination Committee Report on Federal-Provincial Data Exchange

Mr. Desjardins briefly summarized conclusions and agreements reached at the April 21, 1988 meeting of the Data Dissemination Committee in its discussion of federal-provincial data exchange (draft minutes of that meeting are attached as Appendix 9). It was noted that a proposal for a resolution of the Council on data exchange has been referred to the Program Committee. While several provinces had submitted lists of irritants in this area, as agreed at the Data Dissemination Committee meeting, the majority of provinces had yet to provide such lists.

A brief discussion ensued of the justification for Statistics Canada's current policy and of some specific points from the minutes of the Data Dissemination Committee. It was agreed that the deadline for submission of lists of irritants would be extended until May 31, 1988. Mr. Desjardins undertook to determine, by the end of June 1988, the feasibility of pre-clearing invoices destined to focal point offices through the Secretariat.

## 10. Nomination of the Program Committee

Ms. Jan Kestle, outgoing Chairperson of the Program Committee, nominated Mr. Bill McReynolds, Ms. Nicole Gendreau and Mr. John Palmer as the provincial and territorial representatives on the Program Committee, with Mr. Palmer to serve as Chairperson. The Chief Statistician nominated Mr. Guy Labossière, Mr. Jean-Paul Trudel and Mr. Ray Ryan to serve as Statistics Canada's representatives. The nominations were accepted by the Council.

The Chairperson invited members to make proposals to the Program Committee for topics to be discussed at the 1989 meeting of the Council. Mr. Ford, the delegate from Alberta, suggested marketing in statistical agencies as a potential topic. Some

members of the 1989 Program Committee suggested the Committee should meet in the fall and that more than one meeting might be required with all the items before the Committee.

11. Other Business

On behalf of the Council, Dr. Fellegi expressed his regrets that Ms. Jan Kestle was attending the Council as the delegate from Ontario for the last time. He wished Ms. Kestle well in her new position.

The meeting was adjourned.

No documentation  
distributed in advance  
of the meeting





**Rapport  
du  
Bureau de la statistique du Québec  
au  
Conseil consultatif fédéral-provincial  
de la politique statistique**

**Luc Bessette  
Directeur général**

**Ottawa, 24 et 25 mai 1989**

## SOMMAIRE

Faits saillants	1
Organisation des statistiques économiques sur les entreprises de l'agriculture et de la pêche	3
Organisation de l'information sur les entreprises manufacturières	4
Secteur tertiaire	5
Commerce international	6
Organisation de statistiques sur les investissements	6
Recherche et développement en industrie	7
Emploi, rémunération et heures de travail	7
Statistiques financières	7
Comptes économiques	8
Indicateurs économiques et analyses conjoncturelles	9
Analyse et modélisation de la structure industrielle	9
Analyse, modélisation et prévisions économiques à moyen et long termes	10
Statistiques démographiques	10
Statistiques sur les individus et les ménages	11
Statistiques environnementales	13
Statistiques régionales	13
Consultation et méthodologie statistique	14
Normalisation territoriale	14
Enquêtes	15
Centre d'information et de documentation	16
Banque de statistiques du Québec	16
Informatique	17
ANNEXE : Organigramme du Bureau de la statistique du Québec au 1 <sup>er</sup> avril 1989	

• **Faits saillants**

Des événements importants ont marqué l'histoire du Bureau de la statistique du Québec au cours de l'exercice 1988-89.

Le 1<sup>er</sup> décembre 1988, Mme Nicole P.-Gendreau, directrice générale du Bureau depuis 1982, a quitté le BSQ pour occuper les fonctions de vice-présidente de l'Institut de recherche et d'information sur la rémunération.

Autre fait majeur à signaler, le Bureau a été concerné par une restructuration importante au sein du ministère des Finances. Ainsi, le BSQ a été relié directement au sous-ministre adjoint aux Politiques économiques, alors qu'il relevait auparavant directement du sous-ministre. De plus, la restructuration avait pour objectif de réorganiser le secteur économique en tirant parti de l'ensemble du potentiel d'analyse et de recherche en place au ministère et au BSQ. Certaines ressources du BSQ oeuvrant dans le domaine de la recherche économique ont été regroupées, au printemps 1989, avec celles oeuvrant dans le même domaine au ministère des Finances. Les activités transférées sont celles reliées au modèle CHOIX, à la production d'analyses économiques conjoncturelles (La situation économique au Québec, Profil économique du Québec, La Quinzaine statistique, étude des cycles Québec-Canada-É.-U., indices composites), et à l'analyse socio-économique, sauf dans le secteur de la démographie.

Le Bureau a amorcé au cours des dernières semaines, un processus de planification pluriannuelle qui lui permettra de se doter, d'ici l'automne 1989, d'un plan de travail pour les trois prochaines années, ainsi que d'un nouvel organigramme. D'ici là, un organigramme transitoire (voir annexe) a été adopté.

Les compressions d'effectifs ont continué de frapper sérieusement le BSQ et ont eu notamment pour effet de retarder la production dans certains secteurs, et d'empêcher le Bureau d'entreprendre

les développements ou les améliorations qu'il aurait souhaité dans d'autres domaines. Neuf postes ont été comprimés au cours de 1988-89, outre le personnel transféré au ministère des Finances, ce qui porte l'effectif régulier du Bureau, au 1<sup>er</sup> avril 1989, à 175 employés.

En un an d'opérations, le Fonds du Bureau de la statistique du Québec (créé en juin 1987 pour permettre au BSQ de facturer les coûts encourus pour certains services qu'il rend) a produit des revenus de près de 1 000 000 \$ et versé plus de 633 000 \$ en salaires. En période de pointe (juillet 1988), le Fonds embauchait plus de 35 personnes. Les principales enquêtes menées dans le cadre du Fonds sont: l'enquête sur les facteurs d'isolement et le coût de la vie en région éloignée (pour le Conseil du trésor), celle auprès des employés rémunérés au salaire minimum (pour la Commission des normes du travail), l'enquête sur le taux d'occupation des établissements hôteliers (pour le ministère du Tourisme), sur les projections cinématographiques (pour la Régie du cinéma), sur les garderies (pour l'Office des services de garde à l'enfance), et l'enquête sur la production de pommes (pour la Fédération des producteurs de pommes). Plusieurs autres activités ont transité par le Fonds, dont la fourniture de données sur support magnétique ou autres, et les études d'impact à l'aide de modèles socio-économiques et démographiques. Enfin, on a procédé au cours des derniers mois à la mise en marché de toutes nos publications.

Pour la quatrième année consécutive, le BSQ parrainait récemment, soit du 16 au 19 mai 1989, le colloque "Méthodes et domaines d'application de la statistique, 1989" qui se tenait à Montréal, dans le cadre du 57<sup>e</sup> congrès de l'Association canadienne-française pour l'avancement des sciences (ACFAS). Ce colloque fait maintenant partie de la programmation régulière du Bureau; il est devenu le lieu d'échange privilégié pour les statisticiens des administrations publiques, des universités et du secteur privé, qui viennent y exposer les résultats de leurs travaux et partager leurs expériences.

Au chapitre des publications de portée générale sur le Québec, le Bureau a poursuivi la réalisation de l'édition 1989 du Québec statistique, ouvrage statistique imposant qui présente un éventail très large de données sociales et économiques sur le Québec d'aujourd'hui et dont la parution est prévue pour le début de l'automne 1989. Cette 59<sup>e</sup> édition présente un cachet historique spécial à l'occasion du 75<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de cette publication dont la première édition parut en 1914 sous le titre de Annuaire statistique de Québec.

- **Organisation des statistiques économiques sur les entreprises de l'agriculture et de la pêche**

Au cours de la dernière année, le Bureau de la statistique du Québec a poursuivi son travail d'organisation des statistiques économiques sur les entreprises de l'agriculture et de la pêche. L'événement le plus important de ce chapitre fut la tenue d'un atelier de consultation sur le contenu du questionnaire du recensement agricole de 1991, en collaboration avec SC. Les résultats de cette consultation furent par la suite transmis à SC, de même que des suggestions de formulation de questions, ainsi qu'un ordre de priorité des modules qui seront recueillis lors du recensement.

Des travaux informatiques importants ont été entrepris pour adapter la saisie des données sur les statistiques laitières, au système mis en place à la Régie des marchés agricoles du Québec. Un protocole a été négocié entre le BSQ et Statistique Canada relativement à l'échange de renseignements sur le secteur agricole. Il en a été de même entre le BSQ et le ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation (MAPAQ) en ce qui a trait à une enquête sur les centres de jardinage, les producteurs de cultures en serres et les pépiniéristes. Des démarches se sont poursuivies avec VOLBEC pour négocier une entente concernant les statistiques sur l'abattage de la volaille. Nous avons préparé et distribué les données révisées sur les superficies des grandes cultures, des légumes et l'effectif du bétail de 1981 à 1987.

Plusieurs enquêtes sont maintenant traitées à l'aide du micro-ordinateur, ce qui accélère les travaux et évite plusieurs manipulations. On tente le plus possible de transférer les données directement du micro à l'unité de traitement de texte. Nous avons collaboré avec SC, Agriculture Canada et le MAPAQ aux travaux préliminaires sur les prévisions des recettes monétaires des agriculteurs en 1988 et 1989.

- Organisation de l'information sur les entreprises manufacturières

La révision des programmes informatiques s'est poursuivie. L'accent a été mis sur la simplification des procédures et la décentralisation de certaines opérations de correction et de mise à jour des fichiers. L'utilisation de plus en plus grande de l'informatique en mode interactif amène des gains appréciables de productivité. L'uniformisation des publications permet de relier plus efficacement la macro et la micro-informatique au traitement de texte et de limiter les interventions humaines. Les travaux qui n'avaient pu être finalisés en 1987-88 ont été terminés. Par contre, le retard considérable de SC à diffuser les données du recensement des manufactures de 1986 a nui à l'accomplissement du programme de 1988-89, nous obligeant à reporter au prochain exercice plusieurs travaux.

Le programme de remaniement des enquêtes sur les entreprises à SC continue d'être une préoccupation majeure. Toutes les études concluent à la diminution de la qualité de l'information sur le secteur manufacturier. Plus particulièrement, c'est sur le détail de la classification de l'activité, la précision du code géographique et la statistique des produits qu'une perte de qualité est appréhendée. Des séances d'information ont été tenues auprès des utilisateurs québécois pour les informer de la situation, évaluer leurs besoins et déterminer les mesures à prendre pour répondre aux besoins qui ne seront plus comblés. Le BSQ étudie toutes les possibilités qui s'offrent à lui pour

pallier à la diminution de l'information produite par SC. Si le BSQ ne réussit pas à trouver les moyens financiers nécessaires, son programme dans ce domaine sera grandement compromis.

Le programme de SC sur la statistique des petits établissements a fait l'objet de nombreuses analyses et évaluations, afin d'apporter un certain éclairage au ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce du Québec en vue de la négociation du protocole d'entente sur le nouveau programme qui pourrait être mis en place pour les quatre prochaines années.

• Secteur tertiaire

Le secteur tertiaire a continué de retenir l'attention du Bureau en 1988. L'enquête sur les dépenses de l'administration provinciale dans le domaine de la culture s'est poursuivie, et une publication sur le sujet a été éditée pour une troisième année consécutive. Une première enquête a été réalisée sur les dépenses des municipalités dans le même secteur et le projet fait actuellement l'objet d'une évaluation. L'enquête mensuelle auprès des salles de cinéma et les ciné-parcs a été réalisée en association avec la Régie du cinéma, et la publication sur les projections cinématographiques 1988 a été diffusée. Une nouvelle publication trimestrielle sommaire sur les projections cinématographiques a été lancée afin de fournir plus rapidement les principales données aux utilisateurs.

Le Bureau a amorcé le développement d'indicateurs culturels et une première publication sera disponible au cours des prochaines semaines. Nous avons poursuivi la coordination des activités du groupe de travail interministériel sur la statistique de la culture et des communications et l'une de nos principales activités a été la rédaction d'un rapport présentant nos vues communes sur la programmation de Statistique Canada; ce rapport a d'ailleurs été déposé à la conférence fédérale-provinciale de la statistique culturelle.



- *Commerce international*

Le Bureau diffuse mensuellement les macro-données des groupes sommaires à l'exportation et à l'importation (SGE et SGI) via la Banque de statistiques du Québec. Une étude préliminaire a été réalisée dans le but de mettre en place un système de gestion et de diffusion des micro-données du Commerce international. Les principaux usagers ont été consultés à cet égard, afin de dégager leurs besoins communs et prioritaires. Nous étudions présentement, en collaboration avec SC, la possibilité de rendre ces données accessibles sur micro-ordinateurs grâce aux derniers développements technologiques.

La préparation d'une série chronologique des macro-données des groupes sommaires à l'exportation et à l'importation, couvrant la période 1978 à 1989, à partir des données modifiées par le Québec, permettra de réconcilier l'ancienne et la nouvelle classification. Les données seront disponibles dans la Banque de statistiques du Québec et nous prévoyons la production d'une publication annuelle selon le nouveau système de classification dans le courant de l'année 1989.

- *Organisation de statistiques sur les investissements*

Dans le cadre de ce programme, le BSQ a produit une publication sur les investissements privés et publics au Québec pour la période 1986-1988. Les données sur les investissements par pays de contrôle ne sont plus disponibles dans cette publication, car les informations que nous obtenons de Statistique Canada ne permettent plus de produire ces données pour le Québec; nous déplorons cette situation et nous sommes en quête d'alternatives.

- Recherche et développement en industrie

Les données de 1986 sur la recherche et le développement en industrie ont été publiées. Le Bureau a mis sur pied un groupe de travail interministériel sur la statistique de la science et de la technologie dont une des principales fonctions est de faire des recommandations au BSQ sur sa programmation en ce domaine. Une des activités entreprises en cours d'année a été l'association de l'Administration publique québécoise à l'enquête sur les activités de science et technologie dans les administrations provinciales de Statistique Canada.

- Emploi, rémunération et heures de travail

Le programme sur l'emploi, la rémunération et les heures de travail a été poursuivi et la publication trimestrielle est parue régulièrement. Les principales activités ont été l'adaptation aux nouvelles régions administratives et la rédaction d'un rapport sur les vues de l'Administration publique québécoise en regard du programme de Statistique Canada sur la statistique du travail. Ce rapport fait état, entre autre, de la mauvaise qualité des données de l'EERH dans certains secteurs d'activités, particulièrement des données sur les organismes de bien-être et les services annexes de soins sanitaires, la mauvaise qualité de ces données étant due à la taille trop restreinte de l'échantillon.

Enfin, la diffusion du bulletin mensuel d'information sur certains indices de prix a été maintenue et le bulletin sur l'emploi, les gains et la durée du travail a cessé de paraître avec le numéro d'avril 1989.

- Statistiques financières

Dans le domaine des statistiques financières, les publications sur les institutions de dépôt au Québec suscitent de plus en plus d'intérêt et les abonnements dépassent maintenant la centaine.

Une publication de rodage sur l'assurance privée et publique au Québec est presque terminée et fera l'objet de consultation auprès des utilisateurs potentiels. Par contre, nous comptons abandonner les publications annuelle et trimestrielles sur les caisses d'épargne et de crédit. La réduction des ressources et la présentation de plusieurs de ces données dans les publications sur les institutions de dépôt motivent cette décision.

Dans le domaine des statistiques financières publiques, un événement important a sans doute été l'adoption par Statistique Canada du rapport d'évaluation interne sur les statistiques financières publiques. Ce rapport, auquel le BSQ a largement contribué, ouvre des perspectives très encourageantes pour le futur. Les travaux sur les institutions de santé et d'éducation se sont poursuivis et nous comptons ainsi compléter la couverture du secteur public québécois. La réduction des ressources a cependant forcé l'abandon de nos travaux sur le financement à long terme du secteur public québécois. Notre publication sur la définition et la description du secteur public québécois est maintenant commercialisée et plus de 135 copies avaient été vendues au début d'avril 1989.

- Comptes économiques

Plusieurs réalisations caractérisent le programme des comptes économiques des revenus et des dépenses. En effet, la dernière édition annuelle des Comptes économiques des revenus et des dépenses, disponible au mois d'août 1988, présente, en plus des données historiques couvrant la période 1972 à 1986, des données provisoires pour l'année 1987. Par ailleurs, les données des comptes économiques trimestriels du troisième trimestre de 1988 sont en vente depuis le mois de janvier 1989. Cette publication en est à sa troisième année et l'accueil réservé à celle-ci est intéressant. Le Bureau produit également des données trimestrielles sur les revenus et les dépenses de l'administration provinciale sur la base des comptes économiques.

Ces données sont disponibles seulement 35 jours après la fin d'un trimestre et sont transmises directement à Statistique Canada. Une entente sur la fourniture de celles-ci sera conclue sous peu.

Au chapitre des développements dans le domaine des comptes économiques provinciaux, le Bureau poursuit actuellement des travaux sur la déflation des données trimestrielles des composantes de la demande finale et la désaisonnalisation des tableaux des comptes trimestriels. Les résultats de ces travaux seront disponibles au début de la prochaine année.

• Indicateurs économiques et analyses conjoncturelles

Dans le cadre de ce programme, le Bureau produit La Quinzaine statistique, la revue Statistiques, un trimestriel, La situation économique au Québec, publiée en septembre de chaque année, ainsi que Profil de la situation économique au Québec. De plus, l'indice composite avancé de l'économie du Québec a été produit de façon mensuelle et diffusé sur une base régulière par l'intermédiaire de La Quinzaine statistique. Enfin, des estimations préliminaires des statistiques principales des manufacturiers québécois (qui permettent aux utilisateurs d'avoir des données deux ans plus tôt) ont de nouveau été préparées à l'aide d'un modèle économétrique approprié.

Suite à l'intégration de ce programme et de ses effectifs au sein du ministère des Finances, le BSQ a cessé la plupart de ces activités depuis le printemps de 1989, sauf la production de la revue "Statistiques" et les estimations dans le secteur manufacturier.

• Analyse et modélisation de la structure industrielle

Au cours de l'année financière se terminant le 31 mars 1989, 97 études d'impact économique et 450 simulations ont été produites avec le logiciel du modèle INTERSECTORIEL du BSQ.

Durant les cinq dernières années financières, plus de 800 études d'impact économique et plus de 2 500 simulations ont été faites avec ce modèle. Au cours de la dernière année, les travaux de mise à jour continue de la banque de données du modèle INTERSECTORIEL se sont poursuivis, notamment par l'intégration des informations tirées du Recensement des manufactures de 1985, de l'enquête sur les dépenses des ménages, et des derniers budgets fédéral et québécois. De plus, les données sur la main-d'oeuvre, la fiscalité, la parafiscalité et les taxes indirectes ont été révisées pour l'année 1989. Le BSQ a aussi amorcé les travaux en vue d'introduire dans la banque de données du modèle INTERSECTORIEL la version désagrégée des tableaux d'entrées-sorties de 1984 pour le Québec faits par Statistique Canada.

- **Analyse, modélisation et prévisions économiques à moyen et long termes**

Avant leur transfert au ministère des Finances, les activités reliées au programme Analyse, modélisation et prévisions économiques à moyen et long termes ont connu des développements intéressants: la version 2 du modèle CHOIX a été exploitée pour la réalisation d'un scénario de référence, et une version 3 du modèle a été mise au point pour la réalisation de l'étude sur la diffusion des nouvelles technologies dans une soixantaine de secteurs de l'économie québécoise.

- **Statistiques démographiques**

Dans le domaine des statistiques démographiques, le Bureau a concentré ses efforts dans quatre secteurs: les données d'état civil, les estimations de population, la conjoncture démographique et les prévisions démographiques. En ce qui concerne l'état civil, le Bureau a effectué de nombreux développements pour améliorer la validation des données et accélérer la fermeture des fichiers annuels; en outre, le Bureau a implanté de nouvelles

déclarations de naissance, de décès et de mariage (il est à noter que la déclaration de naissance considérera désormais l'état matrimonial de fait, en plus de l'état matrimonial légal).

En ce qui concerne les estimations démographiques, c'est surtout l'exploitation du fichier d'inscription des bénéficiaires de la Régie de l'assurance-maladie du Québec qui a retenu les efforts de nos démographes; cette exploitation nous a amené à une évaluation de la population du Québec qui a servi de base à nos prévisions démographiques. Le Bureau a publié ses prévisions préliminaires de population et de ménages pour l'ensemble du Québec, et effectue actuellement l'exercice des prévisions au niveau des nouvelles régions administratives.

Le Bureau poursuit ses travaux en conjoncture démographique; il a notamment publié son édition annuelle de La situation démographique au Québec. Enfin, plusieurs travaux d'analyse ont été effectués concernant le vieillissement, l'activité et les incidences de l'évolution démographique.

• **Statistiques sur les individus et les ménages**

Dans le cadre du programme Statistiques sur les individus et les ménages, le Bureau a poursuivi la publication du bulletin mensuel sur la population active et a commencé à l'améliorer en y ajoutant de nouveaux tableaux. Ces améliorations devraient s'accroître dans les prochains mois.

En ce qui concerne les travaux d'analyse, deux importants rapports sont en préparation et devraient être complétés dans l'année qui vient. Il s'agit d'une étude sur l'évolution de la répartition des revenus au cours de la période 1975-1986, une mise à jour d'études réalisées antérieurement. La seconde, réalisée avec la contribution financière du Secrétariat à la famille, traite de l'évolution des caractéristiques socio-économiques des familles québécoises de 1971 à 1986. De plus, le BSQ a terminé la constitution de la matrice de comptabilité sociale.

Dans le domaine du développement des données longitudinales à partir de fichiers administratifs, le Bureau a participé à une réunion dans le cadre des sociétés savantes, à Windsor, en juin 1988, sur la constitution d'une base de données socio-démo-économiques longitudinales. Il y a présenté un texte sur l'utilisation des fichiers de la Régie des rentes du Québec pour en tirer une banque de données sur la mobilité des travailleurs entre 1967 et 1981.

Le Bureau diffuse les micro-données des grandes enquêtes de Statistique Canada auprès de l'Administration publique québécoise. Les fichiers peuvent maintenant être fournis sur disquettes, ce qui permet de rejoindre des organismes non équipés pour traiter des rubans, et ce qui a entraîné une réduction du nombre de demandes d'informations et de compilations spéciales.

Le BSQ a été très actif dans le champ des consultations. En plus de la consultation sur l'Enquête sur la santé et les limitations d'activités (ESLA) qui a été complétée au début de l'année, quatre autres consultations ont été mises en marche: celle sur l'enquête sur l'activité, celle sur les enquêtes postcensitaires sur les personnes âgées et l'incapacité, celle sur l'enquête postcensitaire sur les autochtones et celle sur le test national du recensement de 1991. Les rapports auxquels donneront lieu ces consultations seront transmis à Statistique Canada au début de l'année financière 1989-90.

Les efforts en vue de former un regroupement pour l'achat de tableaux personnalisés du recensement de 1986 ont porté fruit: 7 ministères ou organismes ont participé à ce consortium auprès de Statistique Canada. C'est grâce aussi à notre initiative qu'un consortium de 6 ministères a pu être constitué pour compléter la mise de fonds exigée par Statistique Canada pour la production de la bande-échantillon du recensement de 1986 sur les familles.

- *Statistiques environnementales*

*Dans le champ des Statistiques environnementales, le Bureau a récemment repris ses discussions exploratoires avec le ministère de l'Environnement afin d'établir les bases d'une collaboration jugée indispensable par les deux parties pour le succès tant de l'organisation d'un cadre d'intégration, que de la cueillette de données et de la production de statistiques pertinentes sur l'environnement.*

- *Statistiques régionales*

*L'organisation des statistiques régionales a été l'objet d'un effort particulièrement important au cours de l'année 1988-89. L'adaptation des données aux nouvelles régions administratives figure au chapitre des activités de chacune des unités administratives du BSQ. Plusieurs domaines statistiques sont touchés par cet effort de régionalisation, notamment les domaines des données démographiques, des données sur les investissements et des données sur l'emploi et la rémunération. Un travail similaire a été entrepris du côté des statistiques des institutions financières, sauf que le niveau géographique provincial de moult données empêche leur régionalisation au niveau infraprovincial. Les perspectives de regroupement des données sur les manufactures paraissent incertaines dans le contexte d'une nouvelle méthode de collecte des données par l'Administration publique canadienne.*

*La parution de la série des 12 portraits statistiques régionaux un an auparavant a donné lieu, cette année, à la tenue d'une importante consultation auprès des utilisateurs. Les répondants ont exprimé à la fois leur appréciation à l'égard du produit statistique et leurs besoins futurs en données régionales. La préparation d'une seconde série de 16 publications a été amorcée sur la base géographique des régions administratives et des municipalités régionales de comté; cette nouvelle série comprendra exclusivement des données provenant du recensement de 1986.*



La préoccupation du BSQ pour les données régionales se manifeste aussi par une participation aux travaux du Comité interministériel de concertation sur les régions et du Comité fédéral-provincial des données régionales. Récemment, le BSQ recevait le mandat de s'assurer que les ministères québécois adoptent les nouvelles régions administratives dans la production de leurs données statistiques.

- Consultation et méthodologie statistique

Les demandes externes dans le cadre des activités de consultation et de méthodologie statistique ont maintenu le même rythme accéléré de l'année dernière et s'ajoutent aux travaux requis par les programmes internes du Bureau. Parmi les principaux travaux achevés ou entrepris à la demande de ministères ou organismes on peut mentionner: l'enquête Santé-Québec, l'enquête sur la rémunération autour du salaire minimum, l'enquête sur les disparités régionales et l'enquête sur l'horticulture ornementale.

- Normalisation territoriale

Dans le domaine de la normalisation territoriale, parallèlement à la poursuite de ses opérations régulières de gestion du code géographique, le Bureau a participé activement au Groupe de travail conjoint BSQ/SC sur la codification géographique du Québec. L'objectif poursuivi était de considérer les municipalités régionales de comté (MRC) comme les divisions de recensement (unité géographique permanente) dans la perspective du recensement de 1991, et ce dans les divers fichiers statistiques et les systèmes informatisés existants. Le groupe de travail a remis son rapport final en janvier 1989. L'échéance pour le choix définitif entre les solutions retenues par les autorités administratives respectives est prévu pour juin 1989.

La poursuite des travaux de développement en vue de l'intégration du système du code géographique à la Banque de statistiques du Québec a dû être freinée au cours de l'exercice budgétaire

1988-89 pour des raisons d'ordre budgétaire. La reprise du développement est étroitement liée à la gestion du Plan directeur de l'information.

Le BSQ a poursuivi ses activités d'évaluation et de validation du contenu actualisé du Fichier de conversion du code postal (FCCP) produit par Statistique Canada, et compte ainsi rendre possible son utilisation pour la conduite de ses propres programmes statistiques et pour répondre à un besoin ressenti par l'ensemble de l'Administration publique québécoise. Une méthode partiellement informatisée de validation du FCCP devrait être élaborée sous peu et le sous-produit qui en résultera sera rendu disponible aux ministères et organismes publics québécois via les mécanismes de diffusion en place.

Par ailleurs, dans le but de faciliter l'exploitation des données du recensement de 1986 aux divers niveaux géographiques infra-provinciaux québécois, une table de correspondances géographiques a été élaborée, informatisée et rendue disponible aux usagers québécois. De plus, le BSQ a exploré diverses avenues de codification géographique des nouvelles régions administratives (1987) et a soumis un certain nombre de propositions au Comité interministériel de concertation sur les régions. Enfin, des démarches concluantes ont été entreprises pour inscrire le BSQ au forum des usagers actuels et potentiels de la géomatique, dans la perspective du développement et de la mise en opération du plan directeur en géomatique de l'Administration publique québécoise au cours des années '90.

#### • Enquêtes

Encore cette année, le Bureau a été impliqué dans la réalisation d'une soixantaine d'enquêtes. La plupart de ces enquêtes sont réalisées sur une base régulière dans le cadre des programmes statistiques initiés par le Bureau; un certain nombre le sont en collaboration avec Statistique Canada et d'autres sont mises de l'avant pour répondre aux besoins d'organismes gouvernementaux qui contribuent financièrement à leur réalisation.

- Centre d'information et de documentation

Le Centre d'information et de documentation a poursuivi son effort d'implantation d'un système de classification qui permettra au Bureau d'être relié à moyen terme aux différents réseaux de l'Administration publique québécoise; il s'est également penché sur l'informatisation de l'ensemble de son dispositif documentaire. Dans ce contexte, il s'est doté d'un abonnement à l'exploitation d'un système informatisé de recherche et de référence documentaire permettant d'accéder à l'ensemble des bibliothèques des administrations publiques à travers le Québec et le Canada.

De plus, l'implantation en 1987 du Fonds du BSQ a amené le Centre à se doter d'un mécanisme (règles et modalités) de gestion des demandes d'information (accès à l'information, préparation des dossiers-réponses et application des modalités de tarification) adapté à ses besoins et à son mode de fonctionnement. Ces mesures étaient rendues nécessaires dans le but d'assurer un service à la clientèle de haute qualité (traitement de plus de 8 000 dossiers au cours de l'exercice).

- Banque de statistiques du Québec

La Banque de statistiques du Québec a augmenté le nombre de ses usagers à 27 ministères et organismes. Le développement de plusieurs options, facilitant l'emploi et le traitement des séries chronologiques stockées, devrait permettre de répondre au cours des prochains mois à une plus vaste gamme de besoins et d'utilisateurs. Également, de nouveaux produits se sont ajoutés aux séries chronologiques, soit les tableaux sommaires du recensement de la population et des tableaux sur le commerce international du Québec.

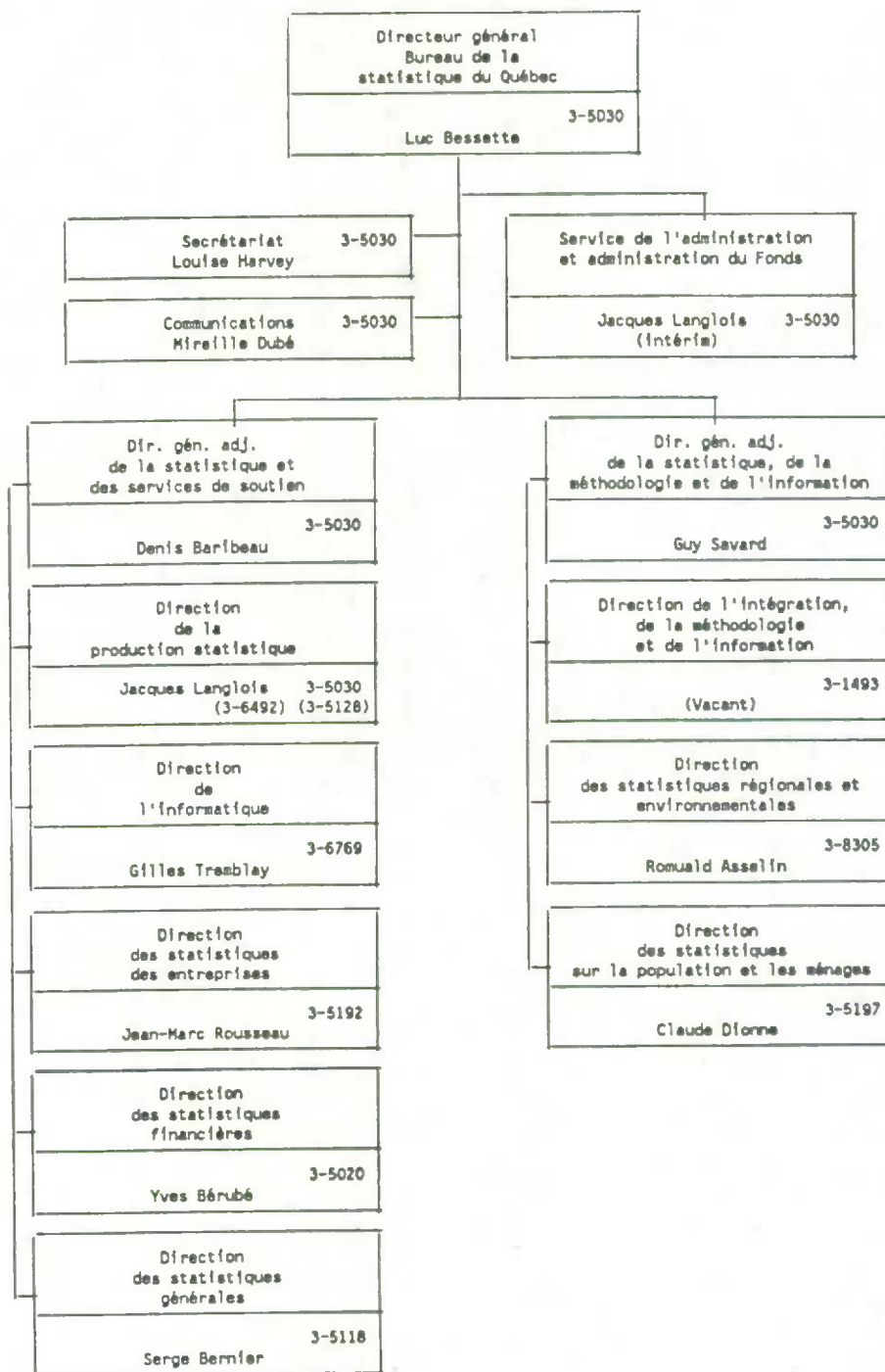
Le manque de ressources humaines et financières a grandement ralenti le développement de la Banque au cours des deux dernières années. Le BSQ devra trouver bientôt des solutions, sinon le projet pourrait être compromis.

- Informatique

Le Bureau a poursuivi au cours de la dernière année la réalisation technique de son plan directeur des systèmes d'information de gestion. Comme pour la Banque de statistiques, le manque de ressources a grandement ralenti le développement du projet, au point où le BSQ se questionne actuellement sur la possibilité de réaliser ce plan, compte tenu de ses moyens.

Au plan technologique, au cours du mois de mai 1988, le Bureau a procédé à l'installation de son propre environnement informatique soit un mini-ordinateur de marque IBM de la famille 9370. Cet appareil permet principalement le support des opérations avec le Bureau central de l'informatique et l'amélioration de la productivité du personnel.

## BUREAU DE LA STATISTIQUE DU QUÉBEC



Organigramme interne

1989.04.01



PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by Mr. John Palmer, Chairman of the Program  
Committee, to the May 24-25 1989 meeting  
of the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council  
on Statistical Policy

The Program Committee has consisted of Bill McReynolds, Nicole Gendreau (latterly Luc Bessette), and myself from the provinces/territories, and Guy Labossiere, Ray Ryan, Jean-Paul Trudel, and Denis Desjardins from Statistics Canada. Wayne Smith and Robert Allard also assisted at the meetings. Stu Wells and Ed Pryor also attended to discuss specific issues.

The Committee met twice, August 5th, 1988 and January 12th, 1989, and on average the weather in Ottawa was very pleasant for these meetings.

The Committee was pleased that Luc Bessette was prepared to attend the second meeting at short notice, in light of the resignation of Nicole from the Quebec Bureau of Statistics.

The Committee considered several subjects which had been referred to it by the Council. The terms of reference of the Demography Committee and the Small Area Data Committee were reviewed. Some suggestions were made to modify them and they were referred back to the Committee. These have subsequently been made and the Program Committee recommends the new Terms of Reference for both Committees, to Council for adoption.

The Committee spent considerable time on the Memorandum of Understanding. It is hoped that this subject has been satisfactorily completed. The Committee regards the general acceptance of this important accord as a significant accomplishment by Council.

The Committee deliberated on the merits of an Annual Review of Programs, Resources, Products and Services of the Provincial and Territorial Statistical Agencies. It was felt that while this may be a good idea it could be misused in budget allocation exercises. An alternative may be a simple catalogue of products and programs. This subject is referred back to Council for further deliberation.

The Committee received the Decision Record of Council at its second meeting. The Committee congratulated Statistics Canada for this significant achievement and recommended that it go to Council.

The Committee discussed the subject of Quid Pro Quo. Mr. Desjardins said he was to report on progress concerning irritants at the Data Dissemination meeting. Committee members acknowledged that, given the general federal financial climate, Statistics Canada has been making a serious effort to ameliorate provincial concerns.

Finally, the Program Committee discussed at length the Council agenda for the 1989 meeting. The Committee also noted that many



Provincial/Territorial focal points had expressed a preference to have federal-provincial statistical meetings outside Tunney's Pasture. The Committee was pleased that many of the committee meetings 1988/89 were at the Conference Centre.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ON SMALL AREA DATA

TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. Specific

There shall be a continuing Federal-Provincial Committee on Small Area Data.

1. Its object shall be to promote, facilitate and coordinate the development, production, evaluation and dissemination of small area data by and for the federal, provincial and territorial governments.
2. Activities that the Committee may concern itself with shall include:
  - (a) the effective utilization of administrative records as sources of small area statistical information, including both federal, provincial and territorial government records, as well as non-governmental records;
  - (b) the demand for small area data by the federal, provincial and territorial governments and the recommendation of priorities for small area data development activities;
  - (c) improving the integration and accessibility of small area data within the federal, provincial and territorial governments and elsewhere;
  - (d) the development and application of geographical reference systems that can be used to provide flexibility in the definition of small areas;
  - (e) the development and application of standards, concepts, definitions and classifications that will facilitate the integration and comparability of small area data from different jurisdictions; and,
  - (f) the development and adaptation of methodologies to provide essential social, economic or environmental statistics for small geographic areas.
3. The Committee may set up sub-committees or work groups to study and report on issues related to the mandate of the Committee.

The Committee may organize federal-provincial technical work-shops on matters related to the development or dissemination of small area data.

4. The Committee shall be comprised of a representative from Statistics Canada as Chairperson, and one Principal Delegate from each Province and Territory in Canada.
5. The Committee shall normally meet once every year. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairperson and the Central Secretariat of the Council.
6. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. General

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of a Secretariat staff, and simultaneous interpretation. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of the Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and are to be prepared within three months of each meeting.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ON DEMOGRAPHY

TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. Specific

1. The objective of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Demography is to provide a mechanism for consultation and cooperation, as well as for the exchange of information in the area of demographic statistics, between Statistics Canada and the Provincial/Territorial statistical agencies.

Post-censal population estimates in particular, in view of their technical complexity and impact, call for close consultation and, where feasible, co-operation in developing suitable estimation methods.

Population projections constitute another endeavour where consultation and co-operation are mutually beneficial, as are the development of administrative data for the purpose of demographic statistics, and in particular, migration statistics.

Finally, the Committee seeks to foster co-operation in understanding demographic analysis in an effort to more fully understand the current demographic situation in Canada.

2. The Committee shall be composed of the Director, Demography Division, Statistics Canada, as Chairperson, and one Principal Delegate from each Province and Territory in Canada.
3. The Committee shall meet at least once every year, or as frequently as necessary. The location and date of the meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairperson in consultation with the Central Secretariat.
4. The Committee shall report on its activities annually, or as required, to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council. The Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. General

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of a Secretariat staff, and simultaneous interpretation. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of the Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and are to be prepared within three months of each meeting.

MINUTES

PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL  
ON STATISTICAL POLICY

Meeting of January 12, 1989

R.H. Coats Building  
Ottawa, Ontario

February 27, 1989

Participants:

Members: Mr. John Palmer, Chairman  
Mr. Luc Bessette  
Mr. William McReynolds  
Mr. Guy Labossière  
Mr. Ray Ryan  
Mr. Denis Desjardins

Absent: Mr. Jean-Paul Trudel

Secretary: Mr. Wayne Smith  
Recording secretary: Mr. Robert Allard

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda (Appendix 1) was adopted without amendment. The Chairman advised members that Mr. Stewart Wells would like to meet provincial members to discuss the participation of representatives of the provinces and territories at a national meeting on the provincial economic accounts. Mr. Wells explained his suggestion during lunch.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Members approved the minutes with minor modifications to the French text. A corrected version is attached as Appendix 2.

3. Terms of Reference of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Small Area Data

The Chairman reported that, as agreed at the last meeting of the Committee, the draft terms of reference for the Committee on Small Area Data had been submitted to and approved by that Committee. After discussion of the possible inclusion of the notion of sharing technology and software, the terms of reference were approved with only minor corrections to the French text (corrected version attached as Appendix 3). The modified terms of reference of this committee will be submitted to the Consultative Council for adoption.

4. Terms of Reference of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Demography

The Chairman indicated that the Consultative Council had approved the existence of this Committee as a separate entity rather than as a sub-committee, and that the Program Committee was to review and approve the draft terms of reference.

At the Program Committee meeting of August 1988, the Chairman of the Committee on Demography had been asked to revise the terms of reference and re-submit them for the current meeting of the Program Committee. After examining the revised terms of reference, the Program Committee agreed that the revised terms of reference should be recommended to the Consultative Council for adoption (Appendix 4).

5. Memorandum of Understanding

As agreed at the August 1988 meeting of the Program Committee, the Chairman had consulted all members of the Consultative Council to obtain their comments on the latest draft of the Memorandum of Understanding (Appendix 5). The Chairman indicated that provincial/territorial members appear to be in agreement with the draft Memorandum. The Chairman also reported that Statistics Canada had requested a change to the draft Memorandum of Understanding.

Dr. Fellegi wrote to Mr. Palmer asking that a sentence be added to Section 8, part II of the Memorandum clarifying the quid pro quo arrangements (Appendix 6). The members of the Program Committee agreed that the Chairman write to Dr. Fellegi to convey the Committee's recommendation that the change not be incorporated in the Memorandum of Understanding itself but be addressed in a covering letter if so desired. If Dr. Fellegi felt that the amendment to paragraph 8 must be incorporated, a revised Memorandum of Understanding would be re-circulated to members of the Consultative Council for their approval. If Dr. Fellegi agrees it is not necessary to incorporate the change in the Memorandum itself, the Memorandum of Understanding will be circulated by the Secretariat with a covering letter from Dr. Fellegi inviting all members of the Consultative Council to sign on behalf of their governments.



Mr. Desjardins identified a possible source of confusion in part V, dealing with modifications to the Memorandum of Understanding. A wording change introduced subsequent to the last meeting of the Program Committee seemed to imply that the memorandum could be modified bilaterally. It was intended to be modified only when all members of the Consultative Council, who are signatories, agree to modify it. To avoid changing the Memorandum of Understanding to reflect this, it was suggested that the letter from the Chief Statistician presenting the final Memorandum of Understanding to members of the Consultative Council for their signature cover this potential source of confusion.

6. Proposal for an Annual Review of the Programs, Resources, Products and Services of the Provincial and Territorial Statistical Agencies

Mr. Wayne Smith presented a detailed proposal for an annual review of the provincial and territorial statistical agencies (Appendix 7). The Chairman indicated that the original concept behind this proposal had been presented at the last meeting of the Consultative Council by the Secretary of the Council. The Council had requested a detailed proposal be presented to the Program Committee for study.

After a lengthy discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of such a compilation of information on statistical agencies, it was felt that, while it would be useful for the statistical agencies, it could also be misused in budget allocation exercises by provincial or territorial officials. The creation of a catalogue of provincial/territorial statistical agency products and programs was discussed as a possible alternative to the proposal. It was decided to refer the proposal to the Consultative Council for discussion.

7. Decision Record of the Consultative Council on Statistical Policy

Mr. Denis Desjardins tabled the document summarizing the decisions taken by the Consultative Council since its creation in 1974 (Appendix 8). Mr. Wayne Smith presented a brief background to this document. He indicated that this document was the result of a research effort undertaken within the last year by the

Secretariat in response to a recommendation from the Consultative Council. The Committee congratulated Mr. Smith on this major undertaking.

The only suggested modification was that dates appear on the terms of reference of the various Federal-Provincial Committees. The Committee recommended that the document be referred to the Consultative Council for its adoption.

8. Resolution on Federal-Provincial Data Exchange

A draft resolution on data exchange had been referred to the Program Committee by the Data Dissemination Committee for possible presentation to the Consultative Council (Appendix 9).

Mr. Desjardins indicated real progress had been made in resolving irritants identified at his request subsequent to the 1988 meeting of the Data Dissemination Committee. He will report on his progress towards resolving these irritants at the 1989 meeting of the Data Dissemination Committee. The Program Committee noted that the subject of quid pro quo was a difficult one and recognized Statistics Canada's efforts in this regard.

9. Final Agenda and Date of the 1989 Meeting of the Consultative Council on Statistical Policy

The next Consultative Council meeting will be May 24-25, 1989 in Ottawa, the specific location to be determined by the Secretariat. It was noted that some provincial members had indicated that a location other than the R.H. Coats building within the National Capital Region, would be more desirable for these meetings. In addition to the standard items, the following agenda items were agreed to by the Program Committee:


-Update of the 1991 Census of Canada, to be presented by Mr. Bruce Petrie

-Update on Business Statistics Programs, to be presented by Mr. Jacob Ryten

-Federal/Provincial Consultative Mechanisms in the Field of Social Statistics, to be presented by Mr. Bruce Petrie or John Coombs

- Measures for the Preservation and Development of the National Statistical System, to be presented by Dr. William McReynolds
- Provincial and Territorial Inputs into Priority Setting in an Environment of Budget Reductions, to be presented by Mr. Luc Bessette
- Regional Designations in Statistics Canada Products and the Availability of Provincial/Territorial Data from Survey Programs, to be presented by Mr. Ron McMahon (subject to confirmation)
- Proposal for an Annual Documentation of the Programs, Resources, Products and Services of the Provincial and Territorial Statistical Agencies, to be presented by Mr. Denis Desjardins

It was also agreed that the Secretariat would organize the agenda in collaboration with the Chairman of the Program Committee and that each presenter would be asked to provide a short background document on their topic for distribution to Council members prior to the meeting.



---

John Palmer. Chairman

MINUTES

PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL  
ON STATISTICAL POLICY

Meeting of August 5, 1988

R. H. Coats Building  
Ottawa, Ontario

Participants:

Members:           Mr. John Palmer, Chairman  
                      Ms. Nicole P.-Gendreau  
                      Mr. William McReynolds  
                      Mr. Guy Labossière  
                      Mr. Jean-Paul Trudel  
                      Mr. Ray Ryan  
                      Mr. Denis Desjardins

Invited:            Mr. Edward Pryor  
                      Mr. Gordon Brackstone

Recording secretary: Mr. Wayne Smith

1. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted without modification.

2. Follow-up items from the May 1988 meeting of the Consultative Council

---

Mr. Wayne Smith reported on the status of follow-up items arising from the May 1988 meeting of the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy. A written report was distributed at the meeting (Appendix 1).

In the ensuing discussion it was requested that, in future, the written report provide a more detailed description of the status of follow-up items.

Members noted that the presentation on the Social Policy Simulation Data Base and Model that had been planned for the June 1988 meeting of the Social Statistics Committee had not taken place. Discussion concerned mechanisms to provide such a presentation to all interested focal points in the near future. Provincial members did not favour a proposal that the presentation be added to the agenda of one of the up-coming federal-provincial committee meetings. Provincial members proposed that a tour be organized to provide demonstrations in focal point offices. Mr. Denis Desjardins undertook to investigate the feasibility of such a tour but noted such a tour would involve significant costs to Statistics Canada.

The Chairman undertook to circulate a draft resolution on federal-provincial data exchange (quid pro quo), prepared by the Saskatchewan focal point, to members of the committee for discussion at its next meeting.

Several points were raised concerning the draft minutes of the May 1988 meeting of the Consultative Council that were distributed to members of the Program Committee as background information. Mr. Wayne Smith advised that the draft minutes, as approved by the Council chairman, would be distributed to all members of the Council in the near future with a request for comments and corrections. Requests for specific corrections will be verified using recordings of the meeting and incorporated into the minutes if appropriate.

3. Memorandum of Understanding

Members discussed a modified draft of the Memorandum of Understanding distributed by the Secretariat prior to the meeting (Appendix 2). A number of changes to the wording of the new draft were approved by the Committee. The

Secretariat will make the approved changes to the drafts in English and French and forward the final draft to Committee members.

If the final draft is acceptable to Committee members, it was agreed the Chairman would write to all members of the Consultative Council, including the Chief Statistician, to determine if any member feels they could not sign the proposed text for whatever reason. If one or more members of the Council indicates an unwillingness or inability to sign the memorandum, the issue of implementation will be referred to the 1989 meeting of the Council. Otherwise the secretariat will proceed with the signature of the memorandum between Statistics Canada and each province and territory bilaterally.

4. 1986 and 1991 Censuses

Committee members took advantage of the presence of Mr. Edward Pryor at the meeting for a different agenda item to enquire regarding Statistics Canada's intentions for the presentation to provincial and territorial statistical focal points of the results of the 1986 Census over-coverage study and of plans for reduction of under-coverage in the 1991 Census.

Options discussed included presentations on these items at upcoming meetings of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Demography, the Federal-Provincial Committee on the Census of Population or of the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy. Also discussed was the possibility of a special meeting of one of the two former committees to deal with these topics. Mr. Pryor noted that the results of the over-coverage study and of the 1991 Census test were not yet available. He noted the most appropriate forum would depend on the timing of the availability of these results. Several provincial members of the committee stressed their preference for dealing with these topics at the earliest possible occasion. Mr. Pryor undertook to advise provincial and territorial statistical representatives of his intentions when a decision is made.

5. Terms of Reference of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Demography

The Committee considered revised draft terms of reference for the Federal-Provincial Committee on Demography. The revised draft and a briefing note on the subject had been circulated to members prior to the meeting (Appendix 3)

It was the view of the provincial members of the Committee that the Consultative Council had agreed the Committee on

Demography should be a full committee. It was noted, however, that the proposed terms of reference were unduly narrow. Mr. Edward Pryor undertook to have the proposed terms of reference revised by the Chairman of the Committee on Demography, Mr. Anatole Romaniuc, in consultation with the provincial and territorial statistical focal points. A new draft will be submitted to the next meeting of the program committee.

6. Terms of Reference of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Small Area Data

The Committee agreed to a proposal to incorporate the subject of geography into the mandate of the Committee on Small Area Data.

In the discussion it was noted that the decision in no way prevents other committees from dealing with geographical issues specific to their subject matter. Mr. Gordon Brackstone agreed to revise the terms of reference of the Committee on Small Area Data to reflect the addition of geography. The revised terms of reference will be submitted to the Committee on Small Area Data for review and approval at its November 1988 meeting. The draft terms of reference, as approved by the Small Area Data Committee, will be returned to the Program Committee at its next meeting for final approval and submission to the Consultative Council.

7. 1989 Meeting of the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy

Members discussed the timing and agenda of the 1989 meeting of the Consultative Council to be held in Ottawa.

It was agreed that the Secretariat would select a date in the period May 8, 1989 to June 24, 1989. A full two day meeting will be considered if warranted by the proposed agenda.

Discussion covered a number of possible agenda items for the Consultative Council. These included:

- ° a proposal to discuss marketing in statistical agencies. This topic was deemed more appropriate to the Data Dissemination Committee. The Chairman will accordingly advise Mr. Harvey Ford of the Alberta Bureau of Statistics who had made this proposal at the Consultative Council meeting;
- ° resolution of the issue of provincial (e.g. Manitoba/Saskatchewan/Alberta) as opposed to regional (e.g. Prairies) identification of geographic areas in data releases;



- development of a research program for the Consultative Council and provision of resources to such a program;
- discussion of means and mechanisms for mutual support between statistical agencies (e.g. a national training program, development of an employee pool, sharing of language used in negotiating resources or defending programs, promotion of the work of provincial and territorial statistical agencies, an awards program for individuals in provinces and territories, a scholarship/fellowship program);
- review of Ms. Gail Graser's report on the status of the provincial and territorial component of the National Statistical System;
- development of an orientation program to Statistics Canada for staff of provincial and territorial statistical agencies;
- detailed examination of output formats used in the dissemination of statistical data;
- development of a manual of policies and practices in regard to federal-provincial relations;
- review of 1991 Census plans and the results of the 1991 Census test;
- an update on the Business Survey Redesign Project.

It was agreed that the Committee would finalize the agenda for the Consultative Council at the Committee's next meeting.

#### **8. Federal-Provincial Committee on Data Dissemination**

Committee members agreed with a recommendation from Mr. Denis Desjardins, Chairman of the Data Dissemination Committee, that the committee not meet immediately before or after the Consultative Council meeting, as had been proposed, but rather in the spring of 1989.

Proposals for possible agenda items for the Data Dissemination Committee included:

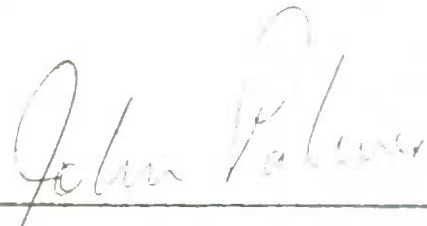
- a presentation on the Task Force on the Management of Information Holdings;
- discussion of provincial versus regional designations of geographic areas in data releases;

- ° Statistics Canada's policy on data exchange (quid pro quo);
- ° marketing in statistical agencies.

The Chairman of the Committee on Data Dissemination will determine the Committee's final agenda.

**9. Next meeting**

The next meeting of the Program Committee will be held on January 12, 1989 in Ottawa.



---

John Palmer. Chairman



REPORT OF THE SECRETARY TO THE  
FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL  
ON STATISTICAL POLICY 1989-90

Submitted by Mr. Denis Desjardins, Director General  
of the Marketing and Information Services Branch, Statistics  
Canada to the May 24-25, 1989 meeting of the Federal-Provincial  
Consultative Council on Statistical Policy.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Highlights 1988-1989	1
Committee reports	4
Agriculture statistics	5
Business statistics	6
Census of population	8
Data dissemination	9
Demography	10
Labour statistics	11
Local government accounting and statistics	13
Mineral statistics	14
Provincial economic accounts	16
Public sector statistics	17
Small-area data	18
Social statistics	19
Transportation statistics	20
Vital statistics	21
Appendix: Follow-ups from the 1988 meeting	23

## HIGHLIGHTS 1988-1989

The past year has been a very active and productive year for federal-provincial relations, not only at the level of the Council, but also in the individual working committees. The activities of each committee are described in the committee summaries in the second section of this report. The following is an overview of some significant developments that affected federal-provincial relations in 1988-89:

- o Mr. Denis Desjardins, Secretary to the Council, visited the offices of all the statistical focal points during the past year. The visits provided numerous insights into the operations of the provincial and territorial statistical agencies, as well as affording an opportunity for frank discussions of federal-provincial relations with the managers of these agencies. The hospitality extended by the focal points was much appreciated.
- o As undertaken at the 1988 meeting of the Consultative Council, the Chief Statistician wrote to members of the Council to convey the concern of the National Statistics Council over the diminishing stature and resources of the provincial and territorial statistical agencies. Members of the Consultative Council were consulted on the content of the letter and adjustments were made to reflect local concerns and conditions. The Secretariat would appreciate receiving feedback from members of the Council on how these letters were used and their impact.
- o Another development arising from the 1988 meeting of the Council was the offer to the statistical focal points of copies, without charge, of the Social Policy Simulation Data Base and Model. Focal points have been encouraged to use the model to publish analyses and to explore the potential to become service centres within their respective governments. A number of statistical agencies have indicated their intention to take up this offer.
- o A significant effort was made during the year to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding. Once approval of the final text of the Memorandum was obtained from the Program Committee and the Chief Statistician, the Secretariat moved quickly to prepare the Memorandum for signature between Statistics Canada and each statistical focal point.

All members of the Council will now have received copies of the document signed by the Chief Statistician. Several members of Council have already signed the Memorandum on behalf of their administration and returned a copy to the Chief Statistician's office as requested in the covering letter. At the April meeting of the Data Dissemination Committee, the remaining focal points or their

representatives indicated they did not anticipate any problem in signing the Memorandum. Should any problem arise, however, members of Council are asked to advise Mr. Desjardins.

- o Substantial progress has been made by the Dissemination Committee in settling issues arising from the implementation of Statistics Canada's Policy on the Distribution of Products to Provincial and Territorial Focal Points. A series of specific irritants with respect to the application of the policy have been identified and resolved. Statistics Canada and the focal points have agreed to a mechanism for dealing with proposals for redistribution of products purchased by focal points. Finally, a procedure has been put in place to pre-clear invoices destined to focal point offices.
- o Each year, as part of the preparation of the Secretary's report, the Secretary meets with the chairpersons of the federal-provincial committees subordinate to the Council. The oral reports of the chairpersons given at that meeting indicated the committees are active and their activities beneficial to both Statistics Canada and the provincial and territorial delegates. This is confirmed in the written summaries contained in this report.

During this year's meeting, chairpersons were reminded of the roles of the Program and Data Dissemination Committees and were encouraged to refer cross-cutting issues to these two bodies when appropriate. A target for production of each committee's minutes of within 90 days of the meeting was suggested to the group. There was some resistance, however, to a suggestion that the style of minutes be standardized using the Council minutes as a model.

- o The implementation of Statistics Canada's policy on informing focal points of communications between Statistics Canada and their provincial or territorial administrations continues. Many focal points have commented on the significant improvement in the respect of this policy by Statistics Canada officials.

The Secretariat will be distributing very shortly the second annual report on routine communications between Statistics Canada and the provincial and territorial governments. To ensure the resources used in the production of these reports are well spent, delegates to the Data Dissemination Committee were asked to confirm the usefulness of the report. There was a consensus that the report is useful and that its production should therefore continue.

- o Due to delays in the implementation of Statistics Canada's new accounts receivable system, the Secretariat is temporarily unable to provide focal points with the usual monthly summaries of purchases of products and services by their provincial and territorial departments and agencies. The interruption is temporary. Once the flow of information resumes, the Secretariat will begin to work on the additional reports promised to Members of Council at the Edmonton meeting.
  
- o Members of the Council will recall the decision of the 1987 meeting to remove detailed appendices, covering policies and procedures, from the draft Memorandum of Understanding. It was also suggested that a separate document be developed to contain policies, procedures and decisions affecting federal-provincial relations.

The Secretariat has acted on that suggestion by developing the Decision Record of the Consultative Council distributed to you today. The decision record contains:

- o the original mandates of the Council and its Secretariat;
- o all out-moded decisions of the Council from all meetings since its inception;
- o the mandates of all subordinate committees and the committee structure as approved by the Council;
- o as appendices, policies of Statistics Canada affecting federal-provincial relations.

It is also proposed to include a new section for the Memorandum of Understanding.

This document was tabled with the Program Committee at its second meeting. The Committee recommended the document be referred to the Council for adoption. As was discussed with the Program Committee, the Decision Record contains minor variances, in some cases, relative to current practice. The Council will therefore be asked to decide:

1. the disposition of the document;
2. is there agreement that minor variances between current practice and past decisions of the Council may be dismissed; and
3. what provision, if any, should be made for its updating.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

## AGRICULTURE STATISTICS

Last meeting: September 1988

Next meeting: September 1989

Members: Representatives of the Provincial Departments of  
Agriculture and Québec Bureau of Statistics

### 1. Farm Level Data Project

The current pilot project, undertaken on a cost-recovery basis for Agriculture Canada, is establishing a set of "whole farm" financial accounts at the province level, by type of farm. The project does not require any further farmer surveying or increase in respondent burden. A decision to extend or discontinue the project will be taken once the results have been analyzed and published.

### 2. Remote Sensing

Statistics Canada's remote sensing program has shifted in emphasis from estimation of crop area, using medium to high resolution satellite data, to monitoring of crop growing conditions on a weekly basis, using low resolution satellite information. In the summer of 1988 the satellite crop monitoring program was used by Statistics Canada to allocate and post-stratify data from the farm yield surveys in Western Canada. Without this information it would have been necessary to increase sample sizes in order to maintain the quality of the estimates (because of the drought). In 1989 the Division will be offering the weekly report on crop growing conditions in Western Canada on a subscription basis.

### 3. Emerging Issues

A number of the delegates raised issues which will require statistical information in the future, including:

- o food systems (processing, distributing, wholesaling, retailing);
- o rural development;
- o environment concerns;
- o inter-provincial trade;

## AGRICULTURE STATISTICS (continued)

- o international trade in agricultural products;
- o General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT);
- o drought; and
- o farm incomes and prices.

The types of questions governments were having to respond to and the type of information now required to prepare responses were discussed. For example, the low grain prices of the past few years required information to address (1) why farmers were in trouble, (2) which farmers were in trouble, and (3) whether government support would improve the problem.

## BUSINESS STATISTICS

Last meeting: November 1988  
Next meeting: November 1989  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

The following issues were discussed at the November 1988 meeting:

### 1. Statistics Canada Contingency Plans

The participants were informed that Statistics Canada has developed contingency plans should a further reduction in resources be forthcoming. The National Statistics Council has reviewed these plans and drafted a resolution to point out to the government the danger it runs if there is a weakening of Canada's information infrastructure.

### 2. Business Registers and Directories

The future role of Business Registers and whether Canadian registers will fulfil statistical and commercial functions as they do in other countries was discussed. Some provinces expressed concern about the current quality of Business Register information. Statistics Canada responded that the Bureau is investing considerable resources to improve the maintenance and update procedures. Provinces, as major

BUSINESS STATISTICS (continued)

users, were encouraged to provide feedback to aid in the work.

3. Balance Between Service and Goods Producing Industry Statistics

A few provinces indicated that the Bureau's strategic thrust to provide a better balance between service and goods producing industries might be at the expense of the statistical programs for goods producing industries. Statistics Canada's response was that it did not intend to dismantle existing statistical programs for the goods producing industries which continue to be of high priority. Although the Strategic Overview highlights services statistics, it also refers to a better integration of information on trade and production on the goods side.

4. International Trade - Sharing of Trade Data

January 1, 1990 will be the date Canada and the United States expect to begin publishing exports based on statistics from the other country's import documents.

5. Tax Data

It was agreed that Statistics Canada and the provinces would undertake a joint project to enumerate the problems of using sales tax data and identify possible solutions.

6. Small Business Statistics Program

Provinces reported that the data from the project were used and useful, but the need for continued provincial funding of the project was a concern. A number of provinces asked that the Small Business Statistics program be funded by Statistics Canada in a manner similar to the funding of other statistical activity. Statistics Canada responded that as a newly initiated program with no established funding, the project will have to be funded by federal and provincial government departments and private sector clients who use the statistics. Statistics Canada is not being provided with new and additional resources to fund the Small Business Statistics program.

## CENSUS OF POPULATION

Last meeting: October 1988  
Next meeting: June 1989 (proposed)  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or  
representatives)

Dr. Pryor, the Chairman, opened the meeting with a summary of census activities since the last meeting of this Committee. The delegates were brought up to date on the activities and priorities for the 1986 and 1991 Censuses. A discussion was held on the proposal for cooperative research arrangements between the Census, the Focal Points and third parties such as universities and research institutes. The delegates were asked to respond with suggestions for such a program.

The following points were raised during the opening statements delivered by each of the delegates. They were generally satisfied with the output from the 1986 Census. However, concern was expressed over the delays between the announcement of the availability of the data and the release of the data to the Focal Points. Concern was also expressed over the apparent inconsistencies in Statistics Canada's pricing policy. It was noted that both points would be examined by Statistics Canada.

It was suggested that Statistics Canada undertake further consultations on the content of the 1991 Census; focusing primarily on the ethnic communities in Canada. The Focal Points offered their assistance in this endeavour. The consultations with the ethnic communities were conducted but on a smaller scale than originally anticipated. The Provincial and Territorial consultations are planned for late summer.

The delegates emphasized the importance of data on housing structural type, place of work, the disabled population, aboriginal people, ethnicity and visible minorities. These factors are being taken into account in the content determination process.

Finally, the delegates from Ontario outlined the plans for a Municipal Assessment Census to be conducted in 1991 immediately preceding the Census. The Ontario Focal Points and Statistics Canada staff indicated that this issue would be carefully examined to assess the possible impact on the Census. It was also suggested that Ontario be encouraged to seek alternative dates for their enumeration if possible.

Presentations were made on the schedule for output releases from the 1986 Census, the undercoverage and over coverage studies conducted, the plans for the next round of consultations, the

CENSUS OF POPULATION (continued)

plans for questionnaire testing (focusing on the National Census Test and the Remote Reserve Test) and on funding approaches for the 1991 Census.

DATA DISSEMINATION

Last meeting: April 1989  
Next meeting: Spring 1990  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

Highlights of the 1989 meeting include:

1. The meeting opened with an exchange of information on developments in the data dissemination programs of Statistics Canada and the provincial and territorial statistical agencies. General trends include reductions in published output, increasing emphasis on cost-recovery, reliance on on-line systems for electronic data dissemination, growing demand for delivery of data by facsimile transmission, poor performance of standard diskette products for micro-computers and increased use of micro-computers in dissemination programs.
2. Representatives of the provincial and territorial statistical focal points confirmed that the report on routine communications with their respective governments, distributed at the 1988 meeting of the Consultative Council, had been useful and that they wished to continue receiving it. The Secretariat will be delivering the second annual report during the spring of 1989.
3. The Chairman reported on efforts made to resolve irritants arising from Statistics Canada's Policy on the Distribution of Products to Focal Points. These irritants had been identified by focal point offices as agreed at the 1988 meeting of the Committee. Committee members agreed that the results achieved made it unnecessary to raise this issue with the Consultative Council as had originally been proposed. Delegates were also advised that a mechanism had been established to pre-screen invoices destined to focal point offices.
4. An issue was raised concerning the extent to which focal points can redistribute products and services, purchased

DATA DISSEMINATION (continued)

from Statistics Canada, outside the provincial/territorial government. After some discussion, it was agreed that review by Statistics Canada of specific redistribution proposals from focal points would be the most constructive approach. Focal point offices were asked to refer specific redistribution proposals to the Secretariat for response. In the event of a disagreement between the Secretariat and the focal point, appeals will be referred to the Chief Statistician.

5. Delegates also heard presentations on the Secretary of State Canada's Jean Talon Project, Developments in Electronic Data Dissemination at Statistics Canada and Marketing in statistical agencies.

DEMOGRAPHY

Last meeting: March 1989  
Next meeting: March 1990  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

Some delegates felt the estimates and projections might be downwardly biased as they are based on the 1986 Census which has experienced a relatively high undercoverage. This is particularly true of young adults who have more than their proportionate share in the undercoverage. The use of the age-cohort method in future estimates does introduce a distortion in age distribution. The meeting considered the inflation/deflation method as a means of minimizing age-biases due to the differential age undercoverage.

An issue of policy regarding population projections has been raised. Some delegates felt that Statistics Canada should designate one "preferred" scenario from among those published. The argument is that users must turn to Statistics Canada for professional advice in order to choose among the alternatives offered (high, medium and low). It was pointed out to the delegates that such preferential treatment of a particular scenario would contravene the current Statistics Canada's policy on projections (March 19, 1986). The latter clearly stipulates that no single set of estimates should be labelled as "most probable".

## DEMOGRAPHY (continued)

The participants were briefed on the plans and progress regarding the development of the post-1991 estimation methodology. In this connection some delegates felt that the linkage between the Census and postcensal estimates calls for a serious examination.

The Quebec delegation presented a report on the statistical use of health care data. The results are very encouraging and they feel confident that medicare can generate reliable population estimates.

It was suggested that a special meeting should be organized to address the use of medicare files for estimation purposes.

The practices of consulting provincial and territorial agencies prior to the implementation of new estimation methods and the release of projections and estimates, have been reconfirmed.

The delegates strongly endorsed the terms of reference of the Federal/Provincial Committee on Demography as they stand now. They favour a committee which is primarily technical in character. Technical issues related to population estimates and projections remain of prime concern to the provincial and territorial statistical agencies.

The next Federal/Provincial Committee on Demography should be devoted primarily to review progress in the development of the post-1991 estimation methodology. By that time Demography Division will be able to report on the work currently underway in the internal and international migration. New data sources are being explored (the Current Population Profile Survey as a supplement to Labour Force Survey on Internal Migration, Customs and Excise data for returning Canadians from abroad, Medicare on internal migration, etc.).

## LABOUR STATISTICS

Last meeting: June 1988

Next meeting: June 1989

Members: Mostly composed of representatives from provincial departments concerned with Human Resources and a few Provincial and Territorial Focal Points.

The twenty-third meeting of this committee was held on June 7-8, 1988 in Ottawa. Presentations dealt with the labour aspects of



LABOUR STATISTICS (continued)

such Statistics Canada programs as the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH) ; the Labour Force Survey (LFS); the Labour Market Activity Survey; the Help-wanted Index; as well as the 1986 Census. Presentations were also made by speakers from Employment and Immigration Canada, Labour Canada, the Conference Board, the Canadian Labour Market and Productivity Centre, and provincial delegates from British Columbia and Nova Scotia.

Interesting research was presented on subjects such as structural change, compensation and benefits, regional unemployment data and on the use of labour market data for career counselling.

A status report involving the six resolutions of the previous year's meeting was presented.

Seven resolutions were adopted at the 1988 meeting which are:

1. Because of the reduction plan in the level of industrial detail published by SEPH, the provinces and the territories required to receive free of charge, in some appropriate medium, the information that would be deleted.
2. Ensure that Statistics Canada investigates a further breakdown of SEPH data for firms with 200 or more employees and report back to the committee.
3. Following the integration of SEPH with the CFDB, be it resolved that the Provinces and Territories be kept informed of the impact of changes to existing data series prior to public release, as well as updates on the differences between this survey and the LFS.
4. Be it resolved that Statistics Canada inform the Provinces and Territories of all proposed supplementary surveys attached to the LFS in their planning stage.
5. Ensure that the Provinces and Territories be notified in advance of the output to be released as well as the impact of post-census revision on the LFS data.
6. Because of the discontinuance of former government surveys, be it resolved that Statistics Canada reconsider alternative ways to fulfil the remaining gap in occupational labour wage rate statistics.
7. Be it resolved that the Planning Sub-committee on Labour Statistics for the 1989 Conference pay attention to provide

LABOUR STATISTICS (continued)

sufficient time for presentation and discussion for the next conference.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING AND STATISTICS

Last meeting: May 1987  
Next meeting: October 1989 (tentative)  
Members: Mostly representatives from provincial departments of Municipal Affairs and a few Focal Points.

The 1987 meeting of the above conference encompassed the following topics and included papers presented by Statistics Canada and provincial/territorial delegates and discussions on the various topics:

1. Progress Reports on Developments in Local Government Statistical Projects in Public Institutions Division;
2. Small Area Data Project Report;
3. Revision of Financial Information System for Municipalities;
4. Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants Research Study on Local Government Financial Reporting;
5. Data Processing Developments - Data Suppliers and Statistics Canada;
6. Dissemination of Data on Local Governments;
7. Users Perspective on Local Data
8. Treatment of Local Government Pension Plans.

The conference agreed to change the name of the group to The Intergovernmental Committee on Local Government Accounting and Statistics and to continue the tri-level cooperative efforts to develop standardized accounting and financial reporting systems and concepts which would contribute to improved financial statistics on the local government sector.

Delegates provided papers on most topics and agreed with proposals put forward by Statistics Canada to expand the use of

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING AND STATISTICS (continued)

machine readable financial data developed by provincial and territorial departments.

The Conference concurred with the Public Institutions Division's plans to expand its programs of employment and payroll and public debt statistics and also agreed to assist in the collection of capital data and detailed municipal expenditure information for use by the Input/Output Division.

A conference consensus report is to be prepared for presentation to the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants on the accounting recommendations contained in its research study and their possible implication on municipal financial statistics.

In order to carry out inter-conference research and review projects and also to develop future agenda content, the conference had in the past created a Working Group on Financial Reporting which presented a discussion paper at the 1987 meeting. The mandate of this group was extended to cover the 1988 meeting as well.

MINERAL STATISTICS

Last meeting: October 1988

Next meeting: October 1989

Members: Delegates from Energy, Mines and Resources (Chairman), Indian and Northern Affairs, Statistics Canada, all Provincial and Territorial Mining Departments or Agencies.

Observers: The Mining Association of Canada, The Prospectors and Developers Association.

The Federal-Provincial Committee on Mineral Statistics held its fourteenth Annual Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia, October 4-6, 1988.

Committee in General

The Terms of Reference of the Committee were amended to reflect the membership and activities of the Committee. The changes were unanimously accepted by all members of the Committee.

## MINERAL STATISTICS (continued)

The Committee instructed a Working Group to look at the decision-making process of the Committee and to make recommendations so that the process could accommodate all of the interests of members.

The Committee received reports from Working Groups on Exploration Statistics, Questionnaire Design, Computerization, Mineral Valuation, Confidentiality and Service Industries Incidental to Mining.

The Committee agreed to adopt "Respondent Burden Reduction" as the overall objective for the next year.

### Exploration

The Working Group on Exploration statistics reported on the progress made in their attempts to define "mine-site" (on-property) and "general or outside exploration" expenditures. The varied interests in this item have prevented the group from reaching a consensus. Work will continue on this item.

### Questionnaire Design

The Working Group on Questionnaire Design has made proposals (accepted) for employment statistics in exploration and for universe reductions in the aggregate surveys.

The Harmonized System has been implemented for the 1988 survey cycle in the mining industry.

### Computerization

The Working Group reported on the efforts and progress of members in the automation area. EMR is developing an automated system to capture and process information from the Annual Census of Mines and other surveys. It is planned that the system will eventually link all members of the Committee.

### Mineral Valuation

The Working Group on Mineral Valuation made proposals for new series on mineral valuation in Canada. Experimental data will be developed in order to assess the new information.

MINERAL STATISTICS (continued)

Confidentiality

The Committee agreed to review information sharing agreements that are in place between EMR and the individual members. The purpose of the review is to bring them up to date and to take into account any legislative changes concerning information.

The Committee received an update on Section 11 agreements from Statistics Canada.

Service Industries Incidental to Mining

This item has been on the Committee's agenda for some time and will likely remain as a concern. This Sector related to minerals is not well defined and is often misrepresented in analysis of the mineral industry.

PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS

Last meeting: October 1988  
Next meeting: October 1989  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

The last meeting of the committee was held in Ottawa on October 20, 1988. The major items on the agenda included reports on the progress of existing provincial programs within the System of National Accounts (SNA) Branch, along with presentations on the following topics:

1. provincial distribution of labour income;
2. deflation of final domestic demand by province;
3. structure of the provincial Input-Output model; and,
4. provincial sales tax by commodity for 1984.

The committee also discussed a proposal by the SNA Branch to expand the coverage and timeliness of provincial GDP by industry.

One major data release took place during the year, that of the Provincial Economic Accounts for the years 1984 to 1987. Two

PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS (continued)

corresponding publications were also issued, Provincial Economic Accounts, Historical Issues, 1961-1986, and Provincial Economic Accounts, 1976-1987. The estimates are now available on micro-computer diskettes as well.

The coming year will see the first release of preliminary Provincial Economic Accounts for 1988 at the end of April 1989, and of final domestic demand by province in constant dollars in January 1990. The 1984 provincial Input-Output tables should become available in the summer of 1989 and the provincial GDP by industry for the years 1985 and 1986, in the Fall of 1989.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for October 1989. Items on the agenda will include, among others, labour income, deflation, and possibly interprovincial trade flows.

PUBLIC SECTOR STATISTICS

Last meeting: October 1988  
Next meeting: October 1989  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives) and delegates from Provincial Departments of Finance.

The fifth meeting of the Public Sector Committee encompassed the following major topics and consisted of papers presented by Public Institutions Division Staff and discussions on various topics raised in these papers:

1. The Program Evaluation of the Public Sector Statistics Program;
2. Pension Plan Revisions;
3. Local Government Issues;
4. Federal Government Debt;
5. Public Administration Data;
6. Data Input and the Provincial Government Employment (PGE) System;

PUBLIC SECTOR STATISTICS (continued)

7. Public Sector: Data Dissemination and Data Projects;
8. Quarterly Provincial Income and Expenditure System (QPIES);  
and
9. A Public Finance Micro-database System.

Delegates were provided with information on the initiatives and developments put forward by the Public Institutions Division. Delegates were requested to provide feedback on a number of subjects.

**SMALL-AREA DATA**

Last meeting: November 1988  
Next meeting: November 1989  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or  
representatives)

At the 1988 meeting provincial and territorial delegates presented an overview of new developments and activities within their jurisdictions. Among the many topics mentioned were:

1. the exploitation of records on retail sales, welfare and social assistance, and government employment;
2. the production of population projections and community profiles;
3. the development of systems for accessing and disseminating small area data; and,
4. problems of dealing with the variety of geographic breakdowns being used.

Statistics Canada provided an update on its activities in the following areas:

1. small area employment data;
2. products from the Small Area and Administrative Data program;
3. motor vehicle data;

SMALL AREA DATA (continued)

4. mapping of small area data;
5. postal code conversion files; and,
6. family income data.

The Committee also discussed and agreed to revised Terms of Reference that formally add consideration of issues of Geography to the Committee's mandate.

SOCIAL STATISTICS

**Last meeting:** June 1988  
**Next meeting:** Fall of 1989  
**Members:** Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

Major topics at this meeting included a review of the Committee's mandate and an examination of the changing federal/provincial/territorial relationships in the areas of health, culture and education statistics programs. The meeting also included updates from members concerning significant developments in their programs in the past year and their future plans. A discussion of the Social Policy Simulation Model, originally proposed for inclusion on the agenda was held over for future consideration.

Major outcomes of the meeting included the following points:

1. that a special meeting of officials from federal/provincial/territorial ministries of culture and interested members of the Social Statistics Committee be held to review the issue expanded funding and content for the culture statistics program. This meeting was subsequently held in September 1988;
2. that members of the Committee be kept apprised of developments with respect to federal/provincial/territorial agreements in the health and education areas.

It is tentatively planned to hold the next meeting of the Committee in the fall of 1989.



## TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS

Last meeting: June 1988

Next meeting: June 1989

Members: Delegates from Provincial and Federal Departments of Transportation and Provincial and Territorial Focal Points

All provinces and territories were represented at the last meeting except British Columbia.

The Working Group completed its tasks and a final report on the responses to the Working Group questionnaire "Survey of Data Requirements" was tabled. It was agreed that special meetings of experts should be held to focus on priority data gaps.

A special two-day meeting on the collection of trucking statistics was held in Ottawa, November 3-4, 1988. In addition to the participants from the provincial transportation agencies in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Alberta, there were participants from the Canadian Trucking Association, Transport Canada, the National Transportation Agency of Canada and six interested private consultants.

Developments since the special meeting on trucking will be reviewed in June 1989. This will include:

1. a discussion on the new Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey;
2. expansion of the For-Hire Trucking Survey to include Canada/U.S. movements and quarterly data;
3. collection of private trucking data.

Other topics will include:

4. the new "Rail in Canada" publication (catalogue 52-216);
5. the implementation of the Marine/Trade project;
6. the impact of the new Aviation Statistics program; and
7. the impact of deregulation on transportation statistics and the need for cost-recovery financing.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Last meeting: June 1988

Next meeting: June 1989

Members: Provincial/Territorial registrars of vital statistics

The following are the achievements to June 1988.

1. Interim Council meeting, October 1987: to analyze Forms Revision survey results - preliminary step in the Forms Revision exercise. Forms Sub-Committees to produce reports based on survey results and deliberations of sub-committee members before, or at, the Council's June 1988 meeting.
2. Legislative Committee Report: it was directed at the June 1987 meeting to:
  - a. examine the scope and operational extent of mandates of Vital Statistics Offices to collect statistical data; and
  - b. examine alternative sources that may be used to collect statistical data now collected or proposed to be collected by the vital statistics system.

A questionnaire was circulated to all Provincial/Territorial registrars before the 1988 meeting and the ensuing report emphasized standard and secondary data sets as a method of data collection rather than by means of Model Forms - a proposal which sparked a great deal of discussion and debate among Council members.

3. Federal/Provincial Model Agreement: it was moved at the annual meeting that the draft agreement be accepted as circulated May 3, 1988, with modifications, as discussed at the meeting.
4. Uniform Vital Statistics and Change of Name Acts: it was reported that these documents were still in preparation.

The following are activities scheduled for the next twelve month period:

1. Forms Revision: many questions were raised by Council members at the 1988 annual meeting concerning the entire forms revision process and its objectives. As a result of intensive discussions on this subject and of the report presented by the legislative Committee, it was agreed by the Council membership that:

VITAL STATISTICS (continued)

- a. The Chair of the Council, together with the Chairs of the four sub-committees (Birth, Stillbirth, Death and Marriage) work with the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Sub-Committee on Health Information (scheduled to meet in September 1988) to ensure that the Council's Forms Revision Process is appropriate to the overall collection of health related information and report back to Council at the next annual conference.
  - b. All jurisdictions convey detailed comments on the Forms Sub-Committee reports, presented at the annual meeting, to each sub-committee chairperson by October 30, 1988, with revised reports to be prepared by January 30, 1989. These reports to include the core data elements and secondary data elements referred to in the Legislative Committee's report.
2. Birth-death matching: this was considered to be technically feasible by Statistics Canada representatives at the meeting and cost estimates for such a project are to be investigated before the next meeting.
  3. 1950-1985 Mortality Index: Statistics Canada to provide same before 1989 meeting.
  4. Project proposal to CIDA: following interest shown in this subject by the Council membership at the 1988 meeting, a detailed report on possible projects concerning vital statistics to be proposed to CIDA for their consideration will be presented at the 1989 meeting.
  5. Uniform Vital Statistics and Change of Name Acts: progress on these to be updated at 1989 meeting.
  6. Federal/Provincial Model Agreement: modifications as discussed at the 1988 meeting, were made as requested and the revised Agreements were circulated to their respective jurisdictions in October 1988, where the majority of them are still under consideration.

APPENDIX: FOLLOW-UPS FROM THE 1988 MEETING  
OF THE FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL  
ON STATISTICAL POLICY

STATUS REPORT

Item:		Responsible:	Action:
1.0	<u>Approval of Minutes</u>		
1.1	French text of the minutes of the Council's 1987 meeting to be corrected and distributed with the minutes of the 1988 meeting.	Secretariat	Text corrected and distributed with the minutes.
2.0	<u>Statistics Canada Report</u>		
2.1	Presentation on the Social Policy Simulation Data Base and Model to be given at the June 21, 1988 meeting of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Social Statistics, subject to the availability of key personnel.	Secretariat	Discussed at the Committee. The presentation was given on October 19, 1988.
2.2	Statistics Canada to provide the statistical focal points with written documentation on the Social Policy Simulation Data Base and Model.	Secretariat	Distributed at the meeting of the Social Statistics Committee.
2.3	Statistics Canada to provide statistical focal points with copies of the Chief Statistician's speaking notes and transparencies for this report.	Secretariat	Copies distributed.

Item:	Responsible:	Action:	
2.4	Statistical focal points to advise the secretariat of specific program areas of interest. Secretariat to remind directors in these areas of the requirement to keep focal points informed of communications with their governments.	Focal points and Secretariat	Secretariat has not received any information from the focal points in this regard.
2.5	Statistical focal points to advise the Chief Statistician of suggestions they may have to improve flows of information from Statistics Canada to their offices.	Focal points	On-going.
2.6	Statistics Canada to clarify its policy on informing focal points of communications with their governments by advising senior managers to explicitly copy the focal points on non-routine correspondence with their respective governments.	Secretariat	Policy clarified during the collection of information on routine contacts.
2.7	Director of Public Institutions Division to advise the Bureau de la statistique du Québec on the availability of federal government employment data for sub-provincial areas.	Secretariat and Director of Public Institutions Division	Director of the division concerned has communicated with the BSQ in this regard.

Item:	Responsible:	Action:
3.0	<u>Provincial and Territorial Reports</u>	
3.1	Preliminary data on inter-provincial trade flows from 1984 Provincial Input-Output Table program to be provided to focal points when available.	Secretariat and Director of Input-Output Division Director of the division concerned undertook to send the data.
3.2	Statistics Canada's internal training courses are open to staff of provincial and territorial statistical agencies. Statistics Canada to investigate the feasibility of video-taping the lecture portion of these courses and making the tapes available to focal point offices.	Secretariat and Focal points Calendar of courses distributed by the Secretariat. Focal points were asked to indicate priorities for video-taping. No responses have yet been received.
3.3	Statistics Canada to circulate information to the focal points on the project to accelerate reporting of key data on provincial government revenues and expenditures required for the System of National Accounts.	Secretariat and Director of Public Institutions Division Information was circulated and subsequently discussed at the Public Sector Statistics meeting of October 18-19, 1988.
4.0	<u>Secretary's Report</u>	
4.1	Program Committee to review recommendations to make the Committee on Demography a full committee and to review the draft terms of reference.	Program Committee Committee studied the issue and is returning it to the Council with recommendation.

Item:		Responsible:	Action:
4.2	Secretariat to submit a proposal to the Program Committee for an annual survey of provincial and territorial statistical agencies (resources, programs, products) to be summarized in an annual report to the Council.	Secretariat and Program Committee	Secretariat submitted its proposal. The Committee is referring to the Council without recommendation.
4.3	Program Committee to review the attribution of the subject matter of geography within the structure of federal-provincial committees and determine whether this subject should be attributed to the Committee on Small Area Data.	Program Committee	Committee studied the issue and is bringing it back to Council with recommendation.
4.4	Special meeting to be held to discuss treatment of under-coverage for the 1991 Census once results of the 1986 Census over-coverage study are available. Meeting may be of the Census of Population or the Demography Committee.	Secretariat and Director General of Census and Demographic Statistics Branch	Issue discussed at the October 24, 1988 meeting of the Committee on the Census of Population.
4.5	Presentation and discussion of culture statistics program and particularly of mechanisms for federal-provincial collaboration in this area to be added to the agenda of the June 21, 1988 meeting of the Committee on Social Statistics.	Secretariat and Chairperson of the Social Statistics Committee	Issue discussed at the Social Statistics Committee meeting. Subsequently, a special federal-provincial meeting on culture statistics was held in September 1988.



Item:		Responsible:	Action:
4.6	Confirm meeting of the Committee on Social Statistics to be held on June 21, 1988.	Secretariat	Confirmed during 1988 Council meeting.
5.0	<u>Memorandum of Understanding</u>		
5.1	Wayne Smith to develop a revised draft of the Memorandum of Understanding based on decisions taken by Council. The draft is to be circulated to members of the Council for comment.	Secretariat	New draft submitted to the Program Committee.
5.2	After incorporation of comments, final draft to be submitted to the Program Committee for approval of wording.	Program Committee	Draft approved by Program Committee. Distributed for signature.
6.0	<u>Study of the Provincial and Territorial Component of the National Statistical System</u>		
6.1	Focal points to be provided with a current list of members of the National Statistics Council indicating which members attended the May 4-5, 1988 meeting of that Council, in Quebec. Focal points to decide whether to contact members from their province/territory to discuss their role in the statistical system.	Secretariat and Focal points	Lists were distributed as stipulated.

Item:		Responsible:	Action:
6.2	Statistics Canada to provide focal points with a calendar of its existing training courses.	Secretariat	Calendar distributed.
6.3	Statistics Canada to make available, on request, audio-tapes of lectures from its lecture series program and to investigate whether interpretation of these lectures in the other official language can also be recorded.	Secretariat	Communications Division was already offering this service. However, provisions of contracts with interpreters preclude taping of interpretation.
6.4	Statistical focal points to write to the Chief Statistician if they wish to obtain the Social Policy Simulation Data Base and Model for a trial period. Feasibility of such trial periods to be determined.	Focal points and Secretariat	All focal points have been offered a copy of the model, without charge, for internal use and for analysis leading to publication.
6.5	Chief Statistician to write to the focal points to convey to them the concern of the National Statistics Council over the erosion of the stature and resources of the provincial and territorial component of the National Statistical System. A draft of this letter to be circulated to focal points for comment.	Office of the Chief Statistician and Secretariat	Letter sent to focal points requesting to receive it.

Item:		Responsible:	Action:
7.0	<u>Data Dissemination Committee Report</u>		
7.1	Statistical focal points to send to Denis Desjardins, before May 31, 1989, lists of irritants arising from the distribution of Statistics Canada's products and services. Secretariat to begin follow-up with subject matter divisions.	Focal points and Secretariat	Lists received from six focal points. Results of follow-up reported to the Data Dissemination Committee.
7.2	Statistics Canada to determine feasibility of pre-clearing invoices destined to the focal points through the Secretariat. Focal points to be advised of conclusions by end of June 1988.	Secretariat	Invoices are now being pre-cleared.
7.3	Program Committee to develop a resolution on distribution of products and services to focal points for submission to the 1989 meeting of the Council.	Program Committee	Data Dissemination Committee has decided not to proceed with the resolution.
8.0	<u>Nomination of the Program Committee</u>		
8.1	Program Committee to consider topic of marketing activities in the statistical agencies for the agenda of the 1989 meeting of the Council.	Program Committee	By decision of the Program Committee, item placed on the agenda of the Data Dissemination Committee.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY TO THE  
FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL  
ON STATISTICAL POLICY 1989-90

Report submitted by Mr. Denis Desjardins, Director General  
of the Marketing and Information Services Branch, Statistics  
Canada to the May 24-25, 1989 meeting of the Federal-Provincial  
Consultative Council on Statistical Policy.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Highlights 1988-1989	1
Committee reports	4
Agriculture statistics	5
Business statistics	6
Census of population	8
Data dissemination	9
Demography	10
Labour statistics	11
Local government accounting and statistics	13
Mineral statistics	14
Provincial economic accounts	16
Public sector statistics	17
Small-area data	18
Social statistics	19
Transportation statistics	20
Vital statistics	21
Appendix: Follow-ups from the 1988 meeting	23

## HIGHLIGHTS 1988-1989

The past year has been a very active and productive year for federal-provincial relations, not only at the level of the Council, but also in the individual working committees. The activities of each committee are described in the committee summaries in the second section of this report. The following is an overview of some significant developments that affected federal-provincial relations in 1988-89:

- o Mr. Denis Desjardins, Secretary to the Council, visited the offices of all the statistical focal points during the past year. The visits provided numerous insights into the operations of the provincial and territorial statistical agencies, as well as affording an opportunity for frank discussions of federal-provincial relations with the managers of these agencies. The hospitality extended by the focal points was much appreciated.
- o As undertaken at the 1988 meeting of the Consultative Council, the Chief Statistician wrote to members of the Council to convey the concern of the National Statistics Council over the diminishing stature and resources of the provincial and territorial statistical agencies. Members of the Consultative Council were consulted on the content of the letter and adjustments were made to reflect local concerns and conditions. The Secretariat would appreciate receiving feedback from members of the Council on how these letters were used and their impact.
- o Another development arising from the 1988 meeting of the Council was the offer to the statistical focal points of copies, without charge, of the Social Policy Simulation Data Base and Model. Focal points have been encouraged to use the model to publish analyses and to explore the potential to become service centres within their respective governments. A number of statistical agencies have indicated their intention to take up this offer.
- o A significant effort was made during the year to finalize the Memorandum of Understanding. Once approval of the final text of the Memorandum was obtained from the Program Committee and the Chief Statistician, the Secretariat moved quickly to prepare the Memorandum for signature between Statistics Canada and each statistical focal point.

All members of the Council will now have received copies of the document signed by the Chief Statistician. Several members of Council have already signed the Memorandum on behalf of their administration and returned a copy to the Chief Statistician's office as requested in the covering letter. At the April meeting of the Data Dissemination Committee, the remaining focal points or their

representatives indicated they did not anticipate any problem in signing the Memorandum. Should any problem arise, however, members of Council are asked to advise Mr. Desjardins.

- o Substantial progress has been made by the Dissemination Committee in settling issues arising from the implementation of Statistics Canada's Policy on the Distribution of Products to Provincial and Territorial Focal Points. A series of specific irritants with respect to the application of the policy have been identified and resolved. Statistics Canada and the focal points have agreed to a mechanism for dealing with proposals for redistribution of products purchased by focal points. Finally, a procedure has been put in place to pre-clear invoices destined to focal point offices.
- o Each year, as part of the preparation of the Secretary's report, the Secretary meets with the chairpersons of the federal-provincial committees subordinate to the Council. The oral reports of the chairpersons given at that meeting indicated the committees are active and their activities beneficial to both Statistics Canada and the provincial and territorial delegates. This is confirmed in the written summaries contained in this report.

During this year's meeting, chairpersons were reminded of the roles of the Program and Data Dissemination Committees and were encouraged to refer cross-cutting issues to these two bodies when appropriate. A target for production of each committee's minutes of within 90 days of the meeting was suggested to the group. There was some resistance, however, to a suggestion that the style of minutes be standardized using the Council minutes as a model.

- o The implementation of Statistics Canada's policy on informing focal points of communications between Statistics Canada and their provincial or territorial administrations continues. Many focal points have commented on the significant improvement in the respect of this policy by Statistics Canada officials.

The Secretariat will be distributing very shortly the second annual report on routine communications between Statistics Canada and the provincial and territorial governments. To ensure the resources used in the production of these reports are well spent, delegates to the Data Dissemination Committee were asked to confirm the usefulness of the report. There was a consensus that the report is useful and that its production should therefore continue.

- o Due to delays in the implementation of Statistics Canada's new accounts receivable system, the Secretariat is temporarily unable to provide focal points with the usual monthly summaries of purchases of products and services by their provincial and territorial departments and agencies. The interruption is temporary. Once the flow of information resumes, the Secretariat will begin to work on the additional reports promised to Members of Council at the Edmonton meeting.
- o Members of the Council will recall the decision of the 1987 meeting to remove detailed appendices, covering policies and procedures, from the draft Memorandum of Understanding. It was also suggested that a separate document be developed to contain policies, procedures and decisions affecting federal-provincial relations.

The Secretariat has acted on that suggestion by developing the Decision Record of the Consultative Council distributed to you today. The decision record contains:

- o the original mandates of the Council and its Secretariat;
- o all out-moded decisions of the Council from all meetings since its inception;
- o the mandates of all subordinate committees and the committee structure as approved by the Council;
- o as appendices, policies of Statistics Canada affecting federal-provincial relations.

It is also proposed to include a new section for the Memorandum of Understanding.

This document was tabled with the Program Committee at its second meeting. The Committee recommended the document be referred to the Council for adoption. As was discussed with the Program Committee, the Decision Record contains minor variances, in some cases, relative to current practice. The Council will therefore be asked to decide:

- (1) the disposition of the document;
- (2) is there agreement that minor variances between current practice and past decisions of the Council may be dismissed;
- (3) what provision, if any, should be made for its updating.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

## AGRICULTURE STATISTICS

Last meeting: September 1988  
Next meeting: September 1989  
Members: Representatives of the Provincial Departments of  
Agriculture and Québec Bureau of Statistics

### 1. Farm Level Data Project

The current pilot project, undertaken on a cost-recovery basis for Agriculture Canada, is establishing a set of "whole farm" financial accounts at the province level, by type of farm. The project does not require any further farmer surveying or increase in respondent burden. A decision to extend or discontinue the project will be taken once the results have been analyzed and published.

### 2. Remote Sensing

Statistics Canada's remote sensing program has shifted in emphasis from estimation of crop area, using medium to high resolution satellite data, to monitoring of crop growing conditions on a weekly basis, using low resolution satellite information. In the summer of 1988 the satellite crop monitoring program was used by Statistics Canada to allocate and post-stratify data from the farm yield surveys in Western Canada. Without this information it would have been necessary to increase sample sizes in order to maintain the quality of the estimates (because of the drought). In 1989 the Division will be offering the weekly report on crop growing conditions in Western Canada on a subscription basis.

### 3. Emerging Issues

A number of the delegates raised issues which will require statistical information in the future, including:

- o food systems (processing, distributing, wholesaling, retailing);
- o rural development;
- o environment concerns;
- o inter-provincial trade;

## AGRICULTURE STATISTICS (continued)

- o international trade in agricultural products;
- o General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT);
- o drought; and
- o farm incomes and prices.

The types of questions governments were having to respond to and the type of information now required to prepare responses were discussed. For example, the low grain prices of the past few years required information to address (1) why farmers were in trouble, (2) which farmers were in trouble, and (3) whether government support would improve the problem.

## BUSINESS STATISTICS

Last meeting: November 1988  
Next meeting: November 1989  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

The following issues were discussed at the November 1988 meeting:

### 1. Statistics Canada Contingency Plans

The participants were informed that Statistics Canada has developed contingency plans should a further reduction in resources be forthcoming. The National Statistics Council has reviewed these plans and drafted a resolution to point out to the government the danger it runs if there is a weakening of Canada's information infrastructure.

### 2. Business Registers and Directories

The future role of Business Registers and whether Canadian registers will fulfil statistical and commercial functions as they do in other countries was discussed. Some provinces expressed concern about the current quality of Business Register information. Statistics Canada responded that the Bureau is investing considerable resources to improve the maintenance and update procedures. Provinces, as major

BUSINESS STATISTICS (continued)

users, were encouraged to provide feedback to aid in the work.

3. Balance Between Service and Goods Producing Industry Statistics

A few provinces indicated that the Bureau's strategic thrust to provide a better balance between service and goods producing industries might be at the expense of the statistical programs for goods producing industries. Statistics Canada's response was that it did not intend to dismantle existing statistical programs for the goods producing industries which continue to be of high priority. Although the Strategic Overview highlights services statistics, it also refers to a better integration of information on trade and production on the goods side.

4. International Trade - Sharing of Trade Data

January 1, 1990 will be the date Canada and the United States expect to begin publishing exports based on statistics from the other country's import documents.

5. Tax Data

It was agreed that Statistics Canada and the provinces would undertake a joint project to enumerate the problems of using sales tax data and identify possible solutions.

6. Small Business Statistics Program

Provinces reported that the data from the project were used and useful, but the need for continued provincial funding of the project was a concern. A number of provinces asked that the Small Business Statistics program be funded by Statistics Canada in a manner similar to the funding of other statistical activity. Statistics Canada responded that as a newly initiated program with no established funding, the project will have to be funded by federal and provincial government departments and private sector clients who use the statistics. Statistics Canada is not being provided with new and additional resources to fund the Small Business Statistics program.

## CENSUS OF POPULATION

Last meeting: October 1988  
Next meeting: June 1989 (proposed)  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or  
representatives)

Dr. Pryor, the Chairman, opened the meeting with a summary of census activities since the last meeting of this Committee. The delegates were brought up to date on the activities and priorities for the 1986 and 1991 Censuses. A discussion was held on the proposal for cooperative research arrangements between the Census, the Focal Points and third parties such as universities and research institutes. The delegates were asked to respond with suggestions for such a program.

The following points were raised during the opening statements delivered by each of the delegates. They were generally satisfied with the output from the 1986 Census. However, concern was expressed over the delays between the announcement of the availability of the data and the release of the data to the Focal Points. Concern was also expressed over the apparent inconsistencies in Statistics Canada's pricing policy. It was noted that both points would be examined by Statistics Canada.

It was suggested that Statistics Canada undertake further consultations on the content of the 1991 Census; focusing primarily on the ethnic communities in Canada. The Focal Points offered their assistance in this endeavour. The consultations with the ethnic communities were conducted but on a smaller scale than originally anticipated. The Provincial and Territorial consultations are planned for late summer.

The delegates emphasized the importance of data on housing structural type, place of work, the disabled population, aboriginal people, ethnicity and visible minorities. These factors are being taken into account in the content determination process.

Finally, the delegates from Ontario outlined the plans for a Municipal Assessment Census to be conducted in 1991 immediately preceding the Census. The Ontario Focal Points and Statistics Canada staff indicated that this issue would be carefully examined to assess the possible impact on the Census. It was also suggested that Ontario be encouraged to seek alternative dates for their enumeration if possible.

Presentations were made on the schedule for output releases from the 1986 Census, the undercoverage and over coverage studies conducted, the plans for the next round of consultations, the

## CENSUS OF POPULATION (continued)

plans for questionnaire testing (focusing on the National Census Test and the Remote Reserve Test) and on funding approaches for the 1991 Census.

### DATA DISSEMINATION

Last meeting: April 1989  
Next meeting: Spring 1990  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

Highlights of the 1989 meeting include:

1. The meeting opened with an exchange of information on developments in the data dissemination programs of Statistics Canada and the provincial and territorial statistical agencies. General trends include reductions in published output, increasing emphasis on cost-recovery, reliance on on-line systems for electronic data dissemination, growing demand for delivery of data by facsimile transmission, poor performance of standard diskette products for micro-computers and increased use of micro-computers in dissemination programs.
2. Representatives of the provincial and territorial statistical focal points confirmed that the report on routine communications with their respective governments, distributed at the 1988 meeting of the Consultative Council, had been useful and that they wished to continue receiving it. The Secretariat will be delivering the second annual report during the spring of 1989.
3. The Chairman reported on efforts made to resolve irritants arising from Statistics Canada's Policy on the Distribution of Products to Focal Points. These irritants had been identified by focal point offices as agreed at the 1988 meeting of the Committee. Committee members agreed that the results achieved made it unnecessary to raise this issue with the Consultative Council as had originally been proposed. Delegates were also advised that a mechanism had been established to pre-screen invoices destined to focal point offices.
4. An issue was raised concerning the extent to which focal points can redistribute products and services, purchased

DATA DISSEMINATION (continued)

from Statistics Canada, outside the provincial/territorial government. After some discussion, it was agreed that review by Statistics Canada of specific redistribution proposals from focal points would be the most constructive approach. Focal point offices were asked to refer specific redistribution proposals to the Secretariat for response. In the event of a disagreement between the Secretariat and the focal point, appeals will be referred to the Chief Statistician.

5. Delegates also heard presentations on the Secretary of State Canada's Jean Talon Project, Developments in Electronic Data Dissemination at Statistics Canada and Marketing in statistical agencies.

DEMOGRAPHY

Last meeting: March 1989  
Next meeting: March 1990  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

Some delegates felt the estimates and projections might be downwardly biased as they are based on the 1986 Census which has experienced a relatively high undercoverage. This is particularly true of young adults who have more than their proportionate share in the undercoverage. The use of the age-cohort method in future estimates does introduce a distortion in age distribution. The meeting considered the inflation/deflation method as a means of minimizing age-biases due to the differential age undercoverage.

An issue of policy regarding population projections has been raised. Some delegates felt that Statistics Canada should designate one "preferred" scenario from among those published. The argument is that users must turn to Statistics Canada for professional advice in order to choose among the alternatives offered (high, medium and low). It was pointed out to the delegates that such preferential treatment of a particular scenario would contravene the current Statistics Canada's policy on projections (March 19, 1986). The latter clearly stipulates that no single set of estimates should be labelled as "most probable".

## DEMOGRAPHY (continued)

The participants were briefed on the plans and progress regarding the development of the post-1991 estimation methodology. In this connection some delegates felt that the linkage between the Census and postcensal estimates calls for a serious examination.

The Quebec delegation presented a report on the statistical use of health care data. The results are very encouraging and they feel confident that medicare can generate reliable population estimates.

It was suggested that a special meeting should be organized to address the use of medicare files for estimation purposes.

The practices of consulting provincial and territorial agencies prior to the implementation of new estimation methods and the release of projections and estimates, have been reconfirmed.

The delegates strongly endorsed the terms of reference of the Federal/Provincial Committee on Demography as they stand now. They favour a committee which is primarily technical in character. Technical issues related to population estimates and projections remain of prime concern to the provincial and territorial statistical agencies.

The next Federal/Provincial Committee on Demography should be devoted primarily to review progress in the development of the post-1991 estimation methodology. By that time Demography Division will be able to report on the work currently underway in the internal and international migration. New data sources are being explored (the Current Population Profile Survey as a supplement to Labour Force Survey on Internal Migration, Customs and Excise data for returning Canadians from abroad, Medicare on internal migration, etc.).

## LABOUR STATISTICS

Last meeting: June 1988

Next meeting: June 1989

Members: Mostly composed of representatives from provincial departments concerned with Human Resources and a few Provincial and Territorial Focal Points.

The twenty-third meeting of this committee was held on June 7-8, 1988 in Ottawa. Presentations dealt with the labour aspects of



LABOUR STATISTICS (continued)

such Statistics Canada programs as the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH) ; the Labour Force Survey (LFS); the Labour Market Activity Survey; the Help-wanted Index; as well as the 1986 Census. Presentations were also made by speakers from Employment and Immigration Canada, Labour Canada, the Conference Board, the Canadian Labour Market and Productivity Centre, and provincial delegates from British Columbia and Nova Scotia.

Interesting research was presented on subjects such as structural change, compensation and benefits, regional unemployment data and on the use of labour market data for career counselling.

A status report involving the six resolutions of the previous year's meeting was presented.

Seven resolutions were adopted at the 1988 meeting which are:

1. Because of the reduction plan in the level of industrial detail published by SEPH, the provinces and the territories required to receive free of charge, in some appropriate medium, the information that would be deleted.
2. Ensure that Statistics Canada investigates a further breakdown of SEPH data for firms with 200 or more employees and report back to the committee.
3. Following the integration of SEPH with the CFDB, be it resolved that the Provinces and Territories be kept informed of the impact of changes to existing data series prior to public release, as well as updates on the differences between this survey and the LFS.
4. Be it resolved that Statistics Canada inform the Provinces and Territories of all proposed supplementary surveys attached to the LFS in their planning stage.
5. Ensure that the Provinces and Territories be notified in advance of the output to be released as well as the impact of post-census revision on the LFS data.
6. Because of the discontinuance of former government surveys, be it resolved that Statistics Canada reconsider alternative ways to fulfil the remaining gap in occupational labour wage rate statistics.
7. Be it resolved that the Planning Sub-committee on Labour Statistics for the 1989 Conference pay attention to provide

LABOUR STATISTICS (continued)

sufficient time for presentation and discussion for the next conference.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING AND STATISTICS

Last meeting: May 1987  
Next meeting: October 1989 (tentative)  
Members: Mostly representatives from provincial departments of Municipal Affairs and a few Focal Points.

The 1987 meeting of the above conference encompassed the following topics and included papers presented by Statistics Canada and provincial/territorial delegates and discussions on the various topics:

1. Progress Reports on Developments in Local Government Statistical Projects in Public Institutions Division;
2. Small Area Data Project Report;
3. Revision of Financial Information System for Municipalities;
4. Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants Research Study on Local Government Financial Reporting;
5. Data Processing Developments - Data Suppliers and Statistics Canada;
6. Dissemination of Data on Local Governments;
7. Users Perspective on Local Data
8. Treatment of Local Government Pension Plans.

The conference agreed to change the name of the group to The Intergovernmental Committee on Local Government Accounting and Statistics and to continue the tri-level cooperative efforts to develop standardized accounting and financial reporting systems and concepts which would contribute to improved financial statistics on the local government sector.

Delegates provided papers on most topics and agreed with proposals put forward by Statistics Canada to expand the use of

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTING AND STATISTICS (continued)

machine readable financial data developed by provincial and territorial departments.

The Conference concurred with the Public Institutions Division's plans to expand its programs of employment and payroll and public debt statistics and also agreed to assist in the collection of capital data and detailed municipal expenditure information for use by the Input/Output Division.

A conference consensus report is to be prepared for presentation to the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants on the accounting recommendations contained in its research study and their possible implication on municipal financial statistics.

In order to carry out inter-conference research and review projects and also to develop future agenda content, the conference had in the past created a Working Group on Financial Reporting which presented a discussion paper at the 1987 meeting. The mandate of this group was extended to cover the 1988 meeting as well.

## MINERAL STATISTICS

Last meeting: October 1988

Next meeting: October 1989

Members: Delegates from Energy, Mines and Resources (Chairman), Indian and Northern Affairs, Statistics Canada, all Provincial and Territorial Mining Departments or Agencies.

Observers: The Mining Association of Canada, The Prospectors and Developers Association.

The Federal-Provincial Committee on Mineral Statistics held its fourteenth Annual Meeting in Halifax, Nova Scotia, October 4-6, 1988.

### Committee in General

The Terms of Reference of the Committee were amended to reflect the membership and activities of the Committee. The changes were unanimously accepted by all members of the Committee.

## MINERAL STATISTICS (continued)

The Committee instructed a Working Group to look at the decision-making process of the Committee and to make recommendations so that the process could accommodate all of the interests of members.

The Committee received reports from Working Groups on Exploration Statistics, Questionnaire Design, Computerization, Mineral Valuation, Confidentiality and Service Industries Incidental to Mining.

The Committee agreed to adopt "Respondent Burden Reduction" as the overall objective for the next year.

### Exploration

The Working Group on Exploration statistics reported on the progress made in their attempts to define "mine-site" (on-property) and "general or outside exploration" expenditures. The varied interests in this item have prevented the group from reaching a consensus. Work will continue on this item.

### Questionnaire Design

The Working Group on Questionnaire Design has made proposals (accepted) for employment statistics in exploration and for universe reductions in the aggregate surveys.

The Harmonized System has been implemented for the 1988 survey cycle in the mining industry.

### Computerization

The Working Group reported on the efforts and progress of members in the automation area. EMR is developing an automated system to capture and process information from the Annual Census of Mines and other surveys. It is planned that the system will eventually link all members of the Committee.

### Mineral Valuation

The Working Group on Mineral Valuation made proposals for new series on mineral valuation in Canada. Experimental data will be developed in order to assess the new information.

## MINERAL STATISTICS (continued)

### Confidentiality

The Committee agreed to review information sharing agreements that are in place between EMR and the individual members. The purpose of the review is to bring them up to date and to take into account any legislative changes concerning information.

The Committee received an update on Section 11 agreements from Statistics Canada.

### Service Industries Incidental to Mining

This item has been on the Committee's agenda for some time and will likely remain as a concern. This Sector related to minerals is not well defined and is often misrepresented in analysis of the mineral industry.

## PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS

Last meeting: October 1988

Next meeting: October 1989

Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

The last meeting of the committee was held in Ottawa on October 20, 1988. The major items on the agenda included reports on the progress of existing provincial programs within the System of National Accounts (SNA) Branch, along with presentations on the following topics:

1. provincial distribution of labour income;
2. deflation of final domestic demand by province;
3. structure of the provincial Input-Output model; and,
4. provincial sales tax by commodity for 1984.

The committee also discussed a proposal by the SNA Branch to expand the coverage and timeliness of provincial GDP by industry.

One major data release took place during the year, that of the Provincial Economic Accounts for the years 1984 to 1987. Two

## PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS (continued)

corresponding publications were also issued, Provincial Economic Accounts, Historical Issues, 1961-1986, and Provincial Economic Accounts, 1976-1987. The estimates are now available on micro-computer diskettes as well.

The coming year will see the first release of preliminary Provincial Economic Accounts for 1988 at the end of April 1989, and of final domestic demand by province in constant dollars in January 1990. The 1984 provincial Input-Output tables should become available in the summer of 1989 and the provincial GDP by industry for the years 1985 and 1986, in the Fall of 1989.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for October 1989. Items on the agenda will include, among others, labour income, deflation, and possibly interprovincial trade flows.

## PUBLIC SECTOR STATISTICS

Last meeting: October 1988  
Next meeting: October 1989  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives) and delegates from Provincial Departments of Finance.

The fifth meeting of the Public Sector Committee encompassed the following major topics and consisted of papers presented by Public Institutions Division Staff and discussions on various topics raised in these papers:

1. The Program Evaluation of the Public Sector Statistics Program;
2. Pension Plan Revisions;
3. Local Government Issues;
4. Federal Government Debt;
5. Public Administration Data;
6. Data Input and the Provincial Government Employment (PGE) System;

PUBLIC SECTOR STATISTICS (continued)

7. Public Sector: Data Dissemination and Data Projects;
8. Quarterly Provincial Income and Expenditure System (QPIES);  
and
9. A Public Finance Micro-database System.

Delegates were provided with information on the initiatives and developments put forward by the Public Institutions Division. Delegates were requested to provide feedback on a number of subjects.

SMALL-AREA DATA

Last meeting: November 1988  
Next meeting: November 1989  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or  
representatives)

At the 1988 meeting provincial and territorial delegates presented an overview of new developments and activities within their jurisdictions. Among the many topics mentioned were:

1. the exploitation of records on retail sales, welfare and social assistance, and government employment;
2. the production of population projections and community profiles;
3. the development of systems for accessing and disseminating small area data; and,
4. problems of dealing with the variety of geographic breakdowns being used.

Statistics Canada provided an update on its activities in the following areas:

1. small area employment data;
2. products from the Small Area and Administrative Data program;
3. motor vehicle data;

SMALL AREA DATA (continued)

4. mapping of small area data;
5. postal code conversion files; and,
6. family income data.

The Committee also discussed and agreed to revised Terms of Reference that formally add consideration of issues of Geography to the Committee's mandate.

SOCIAL STATISTICS

Last meeting: June 1988  
Next meeting: Fall of 1989  
Members: Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (or representatives)

Major topics at this meeting included a review of the Committee's mandate and an examination of the changing federal/provincial/territorial relationships in the areas of health, culture and education statistics programs. The meeting also included updates from members concerning significant developments in their programs in the past year and their future plans. A discussion of the Social Policy Simulation Model, originally proposed for inclusion on the agenda was held over for future consideration.

Major outcomes of the meeting included the following points:

1. that a special meeting of officials from federal/provincial/territorial ministries of culture and interested members of the Social Statistics Committee be held to review the issue expanded funding and content for the culture statistics program. This meeting was subsequently held in September 1988;
2. that members of the Committee be kept apprised of developments with respect to federal/provincial/territorial agreements in the health and education areas.

It is tentatively planned to hold the next meeting of the Committee in the fall of 1989.



## TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS

Last meeting: June 1988

Next meeting: June 1989

Members: Delegates from Provincial and Federal Departments of Transportation and Provincial and Territorial Focal Points

All provinces and territories were represented at the last meeting except British Columbia.

The Working Group completed its tasks and a final report on the responses to the Working Group questionnaire "Survey of Data Requirements" was tabled. It was agreed that special meetings of experts should be held to focus on priority data gaps.

A special two-day meeting on the collection of trucking statistics was held in Ottawa, November 3-4, 1988. In addition to the participants from the provincial transportation agencies in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, there were participants from the Canadian Trucking Association, Transport Canada, the National Transportation Agency of Canada and six interested private consultants.

Developments since the special meeting on trucking will be reviewed in June 1989. This will include:

1. a discussion on the new Motor Carrier Freight Quarterly Survey;
2. expansion of the For-Hire Trucking Survey to include Canada/U.S. movements and quarterly data;
3. collection of private trucking data.

Other topics will include:

4. the new "Rail in Canada" publication (catalogue 52-216);
5. the implementation of the Marine/Trade project;
6. the impact of the new Aviation Statistics program; and
7. the impact of deregulation on transportation statistics and the need for cost-recovery financing.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Last meeting: June 1988  
Next meeting: June 1989  
Members: Provincial/Territorial registrars of vital  
statistics

The following are the achievements to June 1988.

1. Interim Council meeting, October 1987: to analyze Forms Revision survey results - preliminary step in the Forms Revision exercise. Forms Sub-Committees to produce reports based on survey results and deliberations of sub-committee members before, or at, the Council's June 1988 meeting.
2. Legislative Committee Report: it was directed at the June 1987 meeting to:
  - o examine the scope and operational extent of mandates of Vital Statistics Offices to collect statistical data; and
  - o examine alternative sources that may be used to collect statistical data now collected or proposed to be collected by the vital statistics system.

A questionnaire was circulated to all Provincial/Territorial registrars before the 1988 meeting and the ensuing report emphasized standard and secondary data sets as a method of data collection rather than by means of Model Forms - a proposal which sparked a great deal of discussion and debate among Council members.

3. Federal/Provincial Model Agreement: it was moved at the annual meeting that the draft agreement be accepted as circulated May 3, 1988, with modifications, as discussed at the meeting.
4. Uniform Vital Statistics and Change of Name Acts: it was reported that these documents were still in preparation.

The following are activities scheduled for the next twelve month period:

1. Forms Revision: many questions were raised by Council members at the 1988 annual meeting concerning the entire forms revision process and its objectives. As a result of intensive discussions on this subject and of the report presented by the legislative Committee, it was agreed by the Council membership that:

VITAL STATISTICS (continued)

- (a) The Chair of the Council, together with the Chairs of the four sub-committees (Birth, Stillbirth, Death and Marriage) work with the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Sub-Committee on Health Information (scheduled to meet in September 1988) to ensure that the Council's Forms Revision Process is appropriate to the overall collection of health related information and report back to Council at the next annual conference.
  - (b) All jurisdictions convey detailed comments on the Forms Sub-Committee reports, presented at the annual meeting, to each sub-committee chairperson by October 30, 1988, with revised reports to be prepared by January 30, 1989. These reports to include the core data elements and secondary data elements referred to in the Legislative Committee's report.
2. Birth-death matching: this was considered to be technically feasible by Statistics Canada representatives at the meeting and cost estimates for such a project are to be investigated before the next meeting.
  3. 1950-1985 Mortality Index: Statistics Canada to provide same before 1989 meeting.
  4. Project proposal to CIDA: following interest shown in this subject by the Council membership at the 1988 meeting, a detailed report on possible projects concerning vital statistics to be proposed to CIDA for their consideration will be presented at the 1989 meeting.
  5. Uniform Vital Statistics and Change of Name Acts: progress on these to be updated at 1989 meeting.
  6. Federal/Provincial Model Agreement: modifications as discussed at the 1988 meeting, were made as requested and the revised Agreements were circulated to their respective jurisdictions in October 1988, where the majority of them are still under consideration.

APPENDIX: FOLLOW-UPS FROM THE 1988 MEETING  
OF THE FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL  
ON STATISTICAL POLICY

STATUS REPORT

Item:	Responsible:	Action:
1.0	<u>Approval of Minutes</u>	
1.1	French text of the minutes of the Council's 1987 meeting to be corrected and distributed with the minutes of the 1988 meeting.	Text corrected and distributed with the minutes.
2.0	<u>Statistics Canada Report</u>	
2.1	Presentation on the Social Policy Simulation Data Base and Model to be given at the June 21, 1988 meeting of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Social Statistics, subject to the availability of key personnel.	Discussed at the Committee. The presentation was given on October 19, 1988.
2.2	Statistics Canada to provide the statistical focal points with written documentation on the Social Policy Simulation Data Base and Model.	Distributed at the meeting of the Social Statistics Committee.
2.3	Statistics Canada to provide statistical focal points with copies of the Chief Statistician's speaking notes and transparencies for this report.	Copies distributed.

Item:		Responsible:	Action:
2.4	Statistical focal points to advise the secretariat of specific program areas of interest. Secretariat to remind directors in these areas of the requirement to keep focal points informed of communications with their governments.	Focal points and Secretariat	Secretariat has not received any information from the focal points in this regard.
2.5	Statistical focal points to advise the Chief Statistician of suggestions they may have to improve flows of information from Statistics Canada to their offices.	Focal points	On-going.
2.6	Statistics Canada to clarify its policy on informing focal points of communications with their governments by advising senior managers to explicitly copy the focal points on non-routine correspondence with their respective governments.	Secretariat	Policy clarified during the collection of information on routine contacts.
2.7	Director of Public Institutions Division to advise the Bureau de la statistique du Québec on the availability of federal government employment data for sub-provincial areas.	Secretariat and Director of Public Institutions Division	Director of the division concerned has communicated with the BSQ in this regard.
3.0	<u>Provincial and Territorial Reports</u>		

Item:	Responsible:	Action:	
3.1	Preliminary data on inter-provincial trade flows from 1984 Provincial Input-Output Table program to be provided to focal points when available.	Secretariat and Director of Input-Output Division	Director of the division concerned undertook to send the data.
3.2	Statistics Canada's internal training courses are open to staff of provincial and territorial statistical agencies. Statistics Canada to investigate the feasibility of video-taping the lecture portion of these courses and making the tapes available to focal point offices.	Secretariat and Focal points	Calendar of courses distributed by the Secretariat. Focal points were asked to indicate priorities for video-taping. No responses have yet been received.
3.3	Statistics Canada to circulate information to the focal points on the project to accelerate reporting of key data on provincial government revenues and expenditures required for the System of National Accounts.	Secretariat and Director of Public Institutions Division	Information was circulated and subsequently discussed at the Public Sector Statistics meeting of October 18-19, 1988.
4.0	<u>Secretary's Report</u>		
4.1	Program Committee to review recommendations to make the Committee on Demography a full committee and to review the draft terms of reference.	Program Committee	Committee studied the issue and is returning it to the Council with recommendation.

Item:	Responsible:	Action:
4.2	Secretariat to submit a proposal to the Program Committee for an annual survey of provincial and territorial statistical agencies (resources, programs, products) to be summarized in an annual report to the Council.	Secretariat submitted its proposal. The Committee is referring to the Council without recommendation.
4.3	Program Committee to review the attribution of the subject matter of geography within the structure of federal-provincial committees and determine whether this subject should be attributed to the Committee on Small Area Data.	Committee studied the issue and is bringing it back to Council with recommendation.
4.4	Special meeting to be held to discuss treatment of under-coverage for the 1991 Census once results of the 1986 Census over-coverage study are available. Meeting may be of the Census of Population or the Demography Committee.	Issue discussed at the October 24, 1988 meeting of the Committee on the Census of Population.
4.5	Presentation and discussion of culture statistics program and particularly of mechanisms for federal-provincial collaboration in this area to be added to the agenda of the June 21, 1988 meeting of the Committee on Social Statistics.	Issue discussed at the Social Statistics Committee meeting. Subsequently, a special federal-provincial meeting on culture statistics was held in September 1988.



Item:		Responsible:	Action:
4.6	Confirm meeting of the Committee on Social Statistics to be held on June 21, 1988.	Secretariat	Confirmed during 1988 Council meeting.
5.0	<u>Memorandum of Understanding</u>		
5.1	Wayne Smith to develop a revised draft of the Memorandum of Understanding based on decisions taken by Council. The draft is to be circulated to members of the Council for comment.	Secretariat	New draft submitted to the Program Committee.
5.2	After incorporation of comments, final draft to be submitted to the Program Committee for approval of wording.	Program Committee	Draft approved by Program Committee. Distributed for signature.
6.0	<u>Study of the Provincial and Territorial Component of the National Statistical System</u>		
6.1	Focal points to be provided with a current list of members of the National Statistics Council indicating which members attended the May 4-5, 1988 meeting of that Council, in Quebec. Focal points to decide whether to contact members from their province/territory to discuss their role in the statistical system.	Secretariat and Focal points	Lists were distributed as stipulated.

Item:		Responsible:	Action:
6.2	Statistics Canada to provide focal points with a calendar of its existing training courses.	Secretariat	Calendar distributed.
6.3	Statistics Canada to make available, on request, audio-tapes of lectures from its lecture series program and to investigate whether interpretation of these lectures in the other official language can also be recorded.	Secretariat	Communications Division was already offering this service. However, provisions of contracts with interpreters preclude taping of interpretation.
6.4	Statistical focal points to write to the Chief Statistician if they wish to obtain the Social Policy Simulation Data Base and Model for a trial period. Feasibility of such trial periods to be determined.	Focal points and Secretariat	All focal points have been offered a copy of the model, without charge, for internal use and for analysis leading to publication.
6.5	Chief Statistician to write to the focal points to convey to them the concern of the National Statistics Council over the erosion of the stature and resources of the provincial and territorial component of the National Statistical System. A draft of this letter to be circulated to focal points for comment.	Office of the Chief Statistician and Secretariat	Letter sent to focal points requesting to receive it.
7.0	<u>Data Dissemination Committee Report</u>		

Item:	Responsible:	Action:
7.1	Statistical focal points to send lists of irritants arising from the distribution of Statistics Canada's products and services. Secretariat to begin follow-up with subject matter divisions.	Focal points and Secretariat
Lists received from six focal points. Results of follow-up reported to the Data Dissemination Committee.		
7.2	Statistics Canada to determine feasibility of pre-clearing invoices destined to the focal points through the Secretariat. Focal points to be advised of conclusions by end of June 1988.	Secretariat
Invoices are now being pre-cleared.		
7.3	Program Committee to develop a resolution on data exchange for submission to the 1989 meeting of the Council.	Program Committee
Data Dissemination Committee has decided not to proceed with the resolution.		
8.0	<u>Nomination of the Program Committee</u>	
8.1	Program Committee to consider topic of marketing activities in the statistical agencies for the agenda of the 1989 meeting of the Council.	Program Committee
By decision of the Program Committee, item placed on the agenda of the Data Dissemination Committee.		

SECTION I

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL  
CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ON STATISTICAL POLICY

AND

THE SECRETARIAT

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCILON STATISTICAL POLICYTERMS OF REFERENCEA. SPECIFIC

A Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy shall be constituted to achieve a more effective and co-ordinated statistical system in Canada. The Council shall discuss and review the general aspects of federal-provincial statistical activity, while specific terms of reference shall discuss and review technical subject-matter aspects of federal-provincial statistical activity.

The Council shall:

1. Review and recommend priorities in statistical programs by considering federal and provincial requirements.
2. Identify responsibilities for the production and dissemination of statistics to meet those requirements by categorizing specific work programs as either joint or separate.
3. Determine the outlines of contractual arrangements to facilitate the operation of joint programs.
4. Evaluate the progress of joint statistical work and receive reports on other identified priority programs.
5. Specify action and formulate guidelines pertaining to common problems in carrying out statistical work such as confidentiality, statistical standards and training and computer compatibility.
6. Review results and conclusions of the activities of statistical Committees and Work Groups, and make recommendations, if necessary.
7. Approve the establishment and dissolution of statistical Committees.
8. Set up ad hoc Work Groups, comprised of appropriate expertise and responsible to the Council, on such matters as legislation, methodology and technology.

9. Ensure adequate federal-provincial consultation by establishing a central secretariat (see Appendix "A") which will be responsible for (a) acting as a channel of communication between and for the Council and Committees, (b) providing logistical and technical support for the Council, Committees and Work Groups.
10. The Council shall be composed of the Chief Statistician of Canada, Statistics Canada, as Chairman, one senior official appointed by the Government of each Province, one senior representative of the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories and one senior representative of the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory.
11. The Council shall meet at least once every year and as frequently as necessary. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Council or by the Chairman and Central Secretariat.
12. The Council shall report annually on its activities to the specialized Committees and the Committees shall report annually on their activities to the Council.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of a Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of the Delegate from each Province or Territory.
2. Members of the Council may be accompanied to meetings with minimal support personnel.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and must be prepared and circulated within one month of each meeting.

Approved: November 1974

CENTRAL SECRETARIAT OF Appendix A  
THE FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ON  
STATISTICAL POLICY  
TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. SPECIFIC

A Central Secretariat shall be established to provide a channel of communication between the Council and its Committees and provide logistical and technical support for the Council, Committees and Work Groups.

The Secretariat will:

1. Based on minutes and with the approval of Chairmen, establish future meeting dates to maintain an annual forecast schedule.
2. Establish efficient, continuing and overall arrangements with financial and administrative service areas of Statistics Canada and other agencies as necessary.
3. Arrange meeting accommodation, interpretation, security, social functions, etc., and ensure that necessary facilities are available at the meeting site.
4. Prepare and distribute in conjunction with the Chairmen, initial meeting invitations and agendas to all parties concerned.
5. Co-ordinate the translation, printing and distribution of pre-conference material (papers, documents, bulletins, attendance lists, etc.).
6. Prepare registration packages, name tags, publicity packages, seating arrangements, etc.
7. Provide secretariat facilities (the minutes of Committees remain the responsibility of Chairmen) during the meetings, handle registration, reproduction of documents, and routine administrative requirements during the meeting, including monitoring meeting progress and ensuring the smooth operation of the meeting.

- 2 -

8. Arrange for transcription of meeting tapes, if required.
9. Co-ordinate translation, printing and distribution of the minutes of meetings.
10. Prepare a summary of the recommendations or resolutions of meetings, have them translated, printed and distributed.
11. Develop a follow-up system so that recommendations or resolutions of the Council and of Committees are actioned as required and that all parties concerned may be informed of progress.
12. Keep the members of the Council and of the Committees informed of matters of interest to them.

Approved: November 1974



SECTION II

DECISION RECORD

OF THE

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL  
ON STATISTICAL POLICY

from May 1988 to November 1974

December 2, 1988

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2.1 Documentation	1
2.2 Pricing	3
2.3 Publications	6
2.4 Committees	7
2.5 Redistribution	19
2.6 Studies	20
2.7 Improvements	21
2.8 Policies	22
2.9 Consultation	24

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.1 Documentation

- 2.1.1 New report on cost-recoverable projects following a model proposed by the province of Alberta. (October 1987 - 3.) Ongoing.
- 2.1.2 Ensure that Provincial Focal Points are copied on the correspondence between Statistics Canada and provincial departments. (October 1986 - 4.2) Policy approved by Statistics Canada's Policy Committee, August 1987.
- 2.1.3 Ensure that the Secretary's report is distributed a month in advance even if it is incomplete and that Provincial Focal Points receive background material for Council meetings no less than a month in advance. (September 1985 - 2.2) Ongoing, it remains a Secretariat objective.
- 2.1.4 Re-instate the dissemination of information on international conferences. (Minutes - May 1981, p. 6) Was not implemented.
- 2.1.5 It was agreed that the Provincial and Territorial Focal Points would be informed as early as possible when Section 11 agreements were being negotiated with departments in their respective governments. (Minutes - September 1985 - 3.5 and March 1980, p. 4) List of new agreements is sent yearly, and Provinces/Territories directly concerned are informed as soon as they are finalized.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.1 Documentation (end)

2.1.6 In the future, the co-ordinators will receive prior notification when various products and sources of data change, even for those who are not already receiving the data. (Minutes - February 1979, p. xii)

Implementation not perfect. There exists no centralized information source specifying changes, which would render the application complete.

2.1.7 Ensure that Council members are informed of all federal-provincial co-operative agreements and to try and speed up the process of signing such agreements. (Minutes - October 1975, p. 4)

List of new agreements sent annually.

2.1.8 The Secretary agreed to ensure that Council members receive the full publication service of Statistics Canada. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 4)

Policy approved by Statistics Canada's Policy Committee, May 1986.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.2 Pricing

- |       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| 2.2.1 | When a special product has been prepared for a client, the second client will be charged the same amount as the first client. (October 1986 - 1.5)  | Policy approved by Statistics Canada's Policy Committee, August 1987.   |
| 2.2.2 | The Provincial Focal Points can regroup the special tabulations, pool their requests or do part of the processing themselves. The resulting cost reductions for Statistics Canada would be passed on to users. (September 1985 - 5.1) | Memo sent by Mr. Rochon November 14, concerning catalogue 72-002. Procedure for the formation of a consortium sent January 31, 1986. Provinces and Territories did not give suit. |
| 2.2.3 | Where a division considers a publication (print-out, special tabulation) the product of direct co-operation with a provincial government department, it may, at its discretion, waive the normal charge. (September 1985 - 5.4)       | Covered in the "Policy on the Distribution of Products to Provincial and Territorial Focal Points" distributed May 14, 1986.  |
| 2.2.4 | Statistical Focal Points will be billed every three months. (September 1985 - p. 12)  | Will be billed as needed, any other form being impractical.   |

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.2 Pricing (cont'd)

- 2.2.5 Bills for services provided to Provincial Focal Points and other provincial government departments could be forwarded to the Secretariat, and copies can be made available to the Provincial Focal Points. (September 1985 - 5.6)
- Ongoing, as far as bills intended for Focal Points are concerned. They are informed of bills sent to other departments by the recoverable projects list, which they receive.
- 2.2.6 With regard to economic accounts, an area in which the provinces need to work from unpublished Statistics Canada tabulations, the Provincial Focal Points and Stuart Wells plan to form a consortium to reduce the costs of producing individual tabulations. Afterwards, the procedure could be applied to other committees. (September 1985 - 5.8)
- Letter from S. Wells to provinces December 9, 1985. Memo sent from M. Rochon to provinces February 6, 1986.
- 2.2.7 To cut CANSIM costs, the Provincial Focal Points and government departments could establish closer user groups in which updating costs would be lower. (September 1985 - 5.9)
- No real action was undertaken towards creating a consortium. Other avenues will need to be examined, due to the costing structure of CANSIM. Ontario has become a secondary distributor.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.2 Pricing (end)

2.2.8 Establish clear invoicing procedures for special tabulations:

- repeated requests
- consortium
- certain cases where the request is anticipated and where the price is evenly distributed among users.

(September 1985 - 5.11)

After studying the item, it was established that it is impossible to follow-up on it. Nevertheless, a memo has been sent to all directors by M. Rochon on the subject of invoice standardization (August 25, 1986). Refer to the Policy on rights and costs for specialized services and products, August 1987.

RECORD OF DECISIONS

PRESENT  
SITUATION

2.3 Publications

2.3.1 Where a division intends to eliminate data from its publications, it should notify the Secretariat, which will in turn advise the Provincial Focal Points. The latter may then form a consortium (see item 5.1). (September 1985 - 5.5)

It has been impossible to establish a mechanism permitting the application of this decision.



RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees

- |       |  |  |
|-------|--|--|
| 2.4.1 | The procedure for nominating provincial/territorial delegates to the Program Committee and for selecting the Chairperson of the Committee was modified. It was proposed that each year's Program Committee develop a slate of candidates for the following year's committee, and one provincial or territorial member of the previous year's committee would serve both as chairperson and regional representative on the following year's committee to provide for continuity. The three delegates from Statistics Canada will be appointed by the Chief Statistician. (May 1988, p. 4) | Ongoing.   |
| 2.4.2 | Schedule next Consultative Council meeting near the spring rather than fall. (October 1987 - 9.)   | Completed.   |
| 2.4.3 | Return the accepted terms of reference of the Social Statistics Committee to the chairperson of this Committee. (October 1987 - 4.)  | Completed.<br>Committee is active.                                       |
| 2.4.4 | Confirm the existence of the Demography Committee as a separate committee, with its own terms of reference. (October 1986 - 3.3)   | Draft of terms of reference is at the approval stage.                    |
| 2.4.5 | The Social Statistics Committee will be reactivated. (October 1986 - 3.4)  | Meeting held<br>June 21, 1988.   |
| 2.4.6 | The Committee on Energy Statistics will no longer meet separately but the issues on Energy will be discussed under the Committee on Business Statistics. (October 1986 - 3.6)  | Accepted.<br>Energy issues will remain very secondary in this committee. |

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)

- |        |   |  |
|--------|---|--|
| 2.4.7  | Data on government employment will continue to be examined by the Committee on Public Sector Statistics rather than by the Committee on Labour Statistics. (October 1986 - 3.7)   | Completed.<br>Ongoing.   |
| 2.4.8  | The Provincial Economic Accounts Committee, under the direction of Stewart Wells, will act as a focal point in the creation of consortiums. (September 1985, p. 12E)  | No action undertaken.  |
| 2.4.9  | The new terms of reference of the Mineral Statistics Committee has been approved and the B.S.Q. will act as observer within this Committee. (Minutes - October 1984, p. 7)  | Ongoing.   |
| 2.4.10 | Council endorsed the need for closer links and asked the Secretary to continue to capture and report annually on the future plans of Committees. (Minutes - May 1983, p. 2)   | Summary is included in the Secretary's report to the Consultative Council. |
| 2.4.11 | The Data Development Committee is dissolved and is officially replaced by the Small Area Data Committee. It was decided that items in the terms of reference of the Data Development Committee not carried over to the new Committee would be absorbed by Council. (Minutes - May 1983, p. 2) | Implemented.   |
| 2.4.12 | It is recommended that the terms of reference of the Data Dissemination Committee be broadened to include aspects of marketing and user education. (Minutes - May 1983, p. 3)   | Approved.<br>Ongoing.  |

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)

- 2.4.13 There was general support voiced for the new Demography Committee and its work program. (Minutes - May 1983, p. 5)
- Approved, and a proposal that the sub-committee become a full committee was presented to the Program Committee.
- 2.4.14 The Data Development Committee be renamed the Committee on Small Area Information Systems. (Minutes - February 1982, p. 2)
- Approved and integrated to the Small Area Data Committee.
- 2.4.15 The Committees will deal with technical matters, preferable in an issue related environment. The Council should deal with policy items. (Minutes - February 1982, p. 5)
- Ongoing.
- 2.4.16 It was agreed that the Secretary should schedule Committee meetings irrespective of the date of Council meetings. (Minutes - February 1982, p. 5)
- Ongoing.
- 2.4.17 It was agreed to set up an ad hoc Committee on Demography, who would fall under the responsibility of the Social Statistics Committee. (Minutes - February 1982, p. 5)
- See discussions of the Council in 1983 (decision 2.4.13).
- 2.4.18 It was agreed to set up a Small Area Data Committee. (Minutes - February 1982, p. 5)
- See related decision for 1985 (decision 2.4.11).

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)

- 2.4.19 Increasing the number of official delegates on the Committee on Labour Statistics was discussed and it was decided that rather than having official delegates from other Federal Departments, they would be given the status of invited participants. (Minutes - May 1981, p. 2)
- 2.4.20 Setting up of a Program Committee was proposed by the Chief Statistician, it would be in charge of developing proposals, recommendations, location, duration and content for the next meeting, and would be consisting of members from Statistics Canada, provincial/territorial representatives and the Secretary as an ex-officio member. (Minutes - May 1981, p. 5)
- 2.4.21 Energy, Mines and Resources shall assume the Chairmanship of the next meeting of the Federal-Provincial Mineral Statistics Committee, planned for November 1979, and Statistics Canada shall retain membership on this Committee. (Minutes - February 1979, p. xii)

Accepted and ongoing.

Ongoing. See more up-to-date decision 2.4.1.

Accepted and ongoing.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)

- 2.4.22 It was requested that Council members continue receiving minutes from the Mineral Statistics Committee. (Minutes - February 1979, p. xii) Ongoing.
- 2.4.23 There was agreement on the desirability of relaxing the mandatory requirement for each federal-provincial committee directly accountable to the Council to meet at least once per year, as specified in the terms of reference of the committees. (Minutes - February 1979, p. xii) Meet as required.
- 2.4.24 Council members made a distinction between two types of committees; (1) the first being general committees: the Provincial Economic Accounts Committee, the Business Statistics Committee, a new Social Statistics Committee; and (2) the second being specialized subject-matter committees, namely two new functional committees, the Data Development and Data Dissemination Committees. (Minutes - February 1979, p. 32) Accepted. The committee distinction has disappeared with time.
- 2.4.25 Council unanimously adopted the restructuring of the Committees and the terms of reference of the Social Statistics Committee. (Minutes - February 1979, p. 33) Accepted and implemented.
- 2.4.26 Establishment of a regional data task force in Statistics Canada to promote better exploitation of small-area data. (Minutes - February 1977, p. 1) It became a Committee, see decision 2.4.11.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)

- 2.4.27 Formation of a new internal Data Dissemination Committee. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 5) Accepted.
- 2.4.28 The Council will meet annually between February 1 and March 15, with special meetings as necessary. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 7) Dates of meetings have varied according to constraints.
- 2.4.29 Issues requiring discussion, direction or a decision by Council shall normally be documented and distributed to Council members by the Central Secretariat in accordance with a prepared work plan, and exceptionally as particularly urgent issues arise. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 7) Ongoing.
- 2.4.30 Council will review its activities and achievements in terms of its stated functions and goals, as required, and consider whether any revision of such functions and goals might contribute to the more effective functioning of the Council. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 7) Ongoing, but without any action.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)

- 2.4.31 Reports of Council meetings will be prepared by the Central Secretariat and distributed within one month after meetings. They will clearly record the decisions and agreements which were reached, and actions undertaken will be specified in terms of who is to do what by when. In addition, progress reports on actions undertaken or directed by Council will be prepared by the Central Secretariat on a periodic basis (3 month intervals between Council meetings) and distributed to Council members. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 7)
- Accepted.  
Delays do not take in consideration the constraints of the procedure.  
Reports on steps undertaken are not distributed to Council members.
- 2.4.32 Chairmen of Committees in an exclusive relationship with the Council, are to bring forward for consideration by Council on a periodic basis (at least once a year) the programs of their respective committees, in accordance with established guidelines, where applicable. Chairmen are also responsible for placing policy matters affecting federal-provincial statistical relations before Council, in conjunction with the Secretariat. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 8)
- Ongoing.  
Committee plans and programs are summarized in the Secretary's report to the Council.
- 2.4.33 All requests for nominations of officials from provincial government departments for attendance at regular meetings of statistical Committees in an exclusive relationship with the Council shall be directed to the provincial government Council member. With respect to committees having other lines of accountability, Council members shall be informed of requests for nominations and shall be asked to use their good offices to ensure effective provincial representation. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 8)
- Ongoing.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)

- 2.4.34 Committee meetings shall be scheduled in related groups where possible from March 15 to October 31, thus allowing at least 12 weeks preparation after the last Committee meeting before the annual Council session. Committee minutes shall be finalized four weeks after each meeting. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 8)
- Is no longer viable. See decision 2.4.16.
- 2.4.35 Committee resolutions, etc., shall be reported on by the Central Secretariat 8 weeks after each meeting, i.e., action or proposed action, with subsequent follow-up time permitted during November and December. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 9)
- Ongoing, but according to different deadlines.
- 2.4.36 Minutes shall be mailed out as soon as they are printed (6 weeks) with resolutions and action to be taken mailed out in draft form as soon as finalized with final copies going out prior to December 31 (no material on committees will be sent to Council members between December 31 and the date of the annual Council meeting). (Minutes - February 1976, p. 8-9)
- Is obsolete.
- 2.4.37 On receipt of Committee minutes or resolutions with action taken, etc., Council members shall advise the Central Secretariat of any observations of contentious issues they feel require further amplifications or discussion. A lack of response will be considered as initial approval or understanding by Council members, except for resolutions, etc., which have been specifically designated for Council action. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 9)
- Ongoing.



RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)

- 2.4.38 The Central Secretariat will attempt to clarify or resolve any issues as quickly as possible and will keep Council members informed. In the event that an observation or a contentious issue has not been resolved to a Council member's satisfaction, it may, on request, become an agenda item for discussion or resolution at the next meeting of the Council. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 9) Ongoing.
- 2.4.39 Regular meetings of statistical Committees are recognized as confidential where mutually agreed to by federal and provincial government officials. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 9) Accepted.  
Rarely used.
- 2.4.40 Statistical Committees are to review their activities in terms of their stated functions and goals, as required, and consider whether any revision of such functions and goals might contribute to their more effective functioning. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 9) Accepted.  
Done on occasion.
- 2.4.41 Establishment of a new Committee to be called the Federal-Provincial Statistical Committee on Administrative Records. (Minutes - October 1975, p. 2) Does not exist anymore.
- 2.4.42 One new Committee was formed by splitting the Committee on Interprovincial Trade into a Committee on Transportation and Communications Statistics - to be chaired by the Director of the Transportation and Communications Division in Statistics Canada - and a Committee on Trade Statistics - to be chaired by the Director of the External Trade Division of Statistics Canada. (Minutes - October 1975, p. 3) The first Committee is now the Transportation Statistics Committee and the second has been amalgamated to the Business Statistics Committee.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)2.4.43 Guidelines applicable to each  
Committee:Accepted.  
Ongoing.

-Each Committee should identify the components of the present system of statistics within the Federal-Provincial and industry levels.

-Each Committee should identify statistical gaps and areas of duplication within the present system.

-Each Committee should develop an integrated statistical program for the activity under consideration.

-Each Committee should establish priorities of the various elements of the statistical program to be achieved within an agreed upon time frame.

-Each Committee should assign responsibilities for achieving the statistical program.

-Each Committee should submit the program to the Consultative Council for approval.

-Each Committee should oversee the implementation of the various phases of the program.

-Each Committee should arrange for the assessment and evaluation of the statistics resulting from the program.

-Each Committee should arrange for changes to the program to reflect the results of the assessment and evaluation.

(Minutes - October 1975, p. 3-4)

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (cont'd)

- 2.4.44 A working group on the pricing of statistical products and services, chaired by Statistics Canada (D. Worton), was established. The Work Group was asked to prepare its terms of reference for the Council's consideration. (Minutes - October 1975, p. 5) Accepted.  
Does not exist anymore.
- 2.4.45 Members of the Council agree to try to avoid formal voting procedures and reach decisions by consensus. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 3) Ongoing.
- 2.4.46 Committees should produce relatively standardized minutes which would indicate if there were areas of disagreement and permit the easy identification of resolutions and decisions. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 3) Minutes are written by each committee secretary, without any coordination.
- 2.4.47 Establish ad hoc Work Groups, as opposed to Continuing Committees, for specific short-run objectives. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 3) Approved.  
Ongoing.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.4 Committees (end)

- 2.4.48 The word "Retail" should be omitted from the title of the Prices Committee in order that this Committee could deal with all pricing matters. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 3)
- Accepted.  
This Committee does not exist anymore.
- 2.4.49 To establish a Work Group, under the Council, on Administrative Records. The Secretary was asked to set up this Work Group as soon as possible and to have the Group prepare its proposed terms of reference for consideration by the Council. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 3)
- Accepted.
- 2.4.50 The Council will work towards the ideal situation whereby each Committee has one designated official member from each Government, with whom the Secretariat and Chairmen of Committees could communicate on a regular basis. (This would not limit attendance at meetings but, rather, designate spokesmen). (Minutes - November 1974, p. 3)
- Ongoing.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.5 Redistribution

- 2.5.1 Census data can be subject of secondary re-distribution. Statistics Canada's position is that data provided without charge should be distributed only within the provincial/territorial government narrowly defined (e.g. departments, agencies, etc.) and not to more autonomous creations of that government (e.g. universities, municipalities, crown corporations, hospitals, etc.). Data purchased by the statistical agency, other departments or consortia, are not subject to this restriction. (Minutes - October 1987, p. 5) Ongoing.
- 2.5.2 The Provincial Focal Points are permitted to provide government departments with photocopies from the publications they receive free of charge. They may also distribute free of charge the results of CANSIM queries and copies of special tabulations. (September 1985 - 5.7) Ongoing.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.6 Studies

- 2.6.1 An annual report encompassing the recommendations of the Consultative Committees will be produced and distributed to statistical agencies. (Minutes - April 1985, p. 5)
- 2.6.2 Pursue with vigour the "integration of reporting" of the income tax project in Statistics Canada, to continue to use all possible approaches towards permitting the use of income tax records for statistical purposes. (Minutes - October 1975, p. 4)

Would be included in the Secretary's report presented to the Council. Committees rarely make recommendations.

Permission obtained and various projects in progress.

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.7 Improvements

- |       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| 2.7.1 | Improve the timing of the federal-provincial committee meetings. (October 1986 - 3.1)   | Ongoing.   |
| 2.7.2 | Ensure that the agenda of the committees is well balanced (not leaving the contentious issues towards the end). (October 1986 - 3.5)  | Ongoing.   |
| 2.7.3 | The Provinces and Territories should try to assume a more active role by providing greater input to the development of agendas; they should provide more show and tell about their own agencies and activities; there should be greater use of work groups; and more discussion-producing documentation should be circulated in advance of committee meetings. (Minutes - March 1980, p. 5) | Ongoing.   |
| 2.7.4 | It was agreed that all committee resolutions would be listed in next year's Secretary's Report. (Minutes - March 1980, p. 5)  | The decision 2.4.10 of May 1983, asks instead that the Secretary inform the Council of Committees plans. |
| 2.7.5 | It was agreed, where logistically possible, to circulate draft copies of the committee minutes for correction or clarification by those who were in attendance. (Minutes - March 1980, p. 5)  | Can't be circulated until translated.  |

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.8 Policies

- |       |  |   |
|-------|--|---|
| 2.8.1 | Revision of the Memorandum of Understanding. (October 1987 - 8.)   | Ongoing.  |
| 2.8.2 | Result concerning the Resolution put forward by the Agriculture Committee, for obtaining on a free basis by the provincial and territorial delegates of this Committee, various products produced by the Census of Agriculture. (October 1987 - 13.) | Delegates of Prov./Terr. Departments of Agriculture will receive on a complimentary basis, publications only. |
| 2.8.3 | Prepare a list of existing operational policies relating to the Council and identify missing policies. (October 1986 - 4.1)  | Approved by the Program Committee.  |
| 2.8.4 | Council, as a duly appointed body, shall be the principal mechanism by which members shall develop feasible and mutually acceptable statistical policy in areas of joint concern. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 6)                                    | Ongoing.  |
| 2.8.5 | Resolutions, etc., which involve policy matters shall be isolated and highlighted to Council members when minutes are mailed out. (Minutes - February 1976, p. 9)  | Ongoing.  |



RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.8 Policies (end)

- |       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| 2.8.6 | The Memorandum will be redrafted for discussion. (October 1986 - 4.6)   | Reviewed by the Program Committee. New draft sent to provinces at the end of September 1986.                             |
| 2.8.7 | Prepare a draft Memorandum of Understanding for the next Council meeting. Provincial delegates should submit suggestions. The document will be general in nature and should describe what the Provincial Focal Points have in common. It will be supplemented with bilateral agreements. (September 1985 - 3.1) | First draft sent January 16, 1986 (in English). Draft in French sent January 30, 1986. Comments received and integrated. |
| 2.8.8 | Prepare a paper on exchange of staff, showing what could be done and how. Exchange of services would be discussed in each service area in terms of specific programs. (September 1985 - 3.4)  | Text sent January 2, 1986 in English. French version sent January 23, 1986.  |
| 2.8.9 | Statistics Canada reiterated its policy of welcoming the opportunity to help train provincial employees. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 5)  | Ongoing.   |

RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.9 Consultation

- 2.9.1 Statistics Canada's internal courses are now open to employees of provincial and territorial statistical agencies and at a cost identical to the one charged to Statistics Canada's employees. (Minutes - May 1988, p. 3) Ongoing.
- 2.9.2 Applying the Policy requiring that Focal Points be informed of routine contacts between Statistics Canada and provincial/territorial administrations. (October 1987 - 14.) Ongoing.
- 2.9.3 Ensure that Provincial Focal Points are consulted before any significant change to the regional office structure as announced at the Council. (October 1986 - 4.3) Ongoing.
- 2.9.4 Inform one another, through the Secretariat, of statistical meetings and the establishment of important Committee structures (e.g., coordinating committees). (Minutes - November 1974, p. 3) Ongoing.
- 2.9.5 Consider the statistical capabilities of organizations when proposing new programs, and especially in the case of joint programs. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 3) Ongoing.
- 2.9.6 Ensure a good flow of information between the Council and the Committees. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 3) Ongoing.

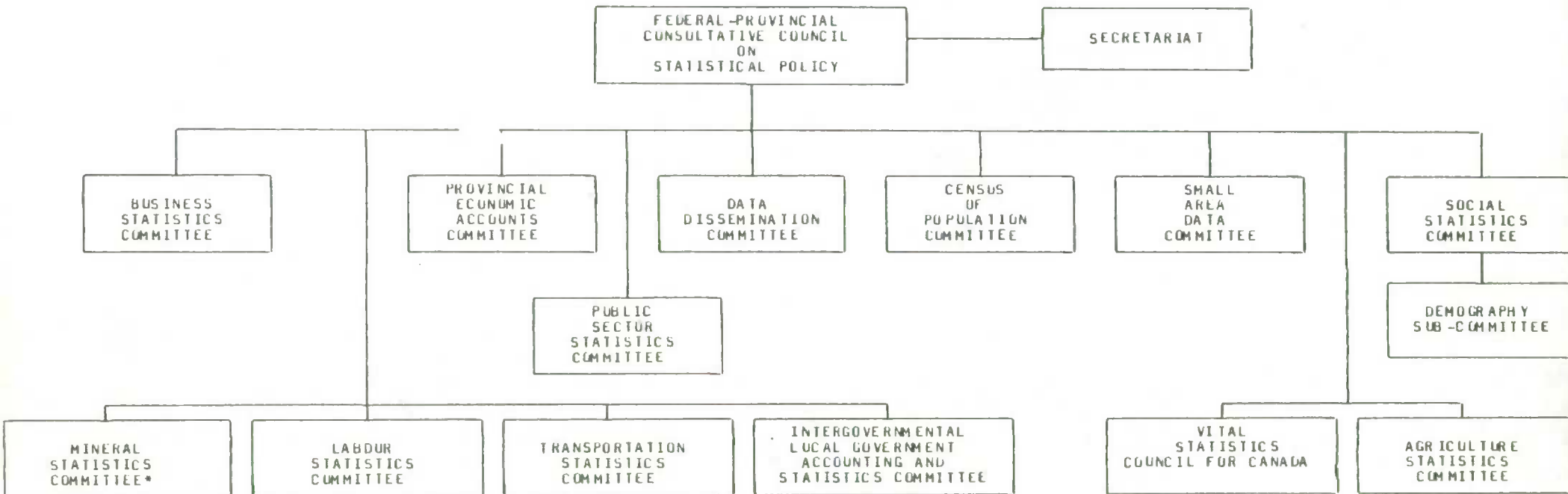
RECORD OF DECISIONSPRESENT  
SITUATION2.9 Consultation (end)

- 2.9.7 Suggest ways of making the Statistics Canada hierarchy aware of the role and importance of the Provincial Focal Points. (September 1985 - 3.2)
- Held on April 7, 1986. Suggested that presentations be made at the Field Committees meetings.
- 2.9.8 Before any decisions are made regarding substantial changes in the Regional Offices (opening of new branches, cutting operations in other offices and so on), the Provincial Focal Points will be consulted. (September 1985 - 4.1)
- Non-applicable until the 1986 meeting of the Council.
- 2.9.9 The delegates endorsed the idea of preparing Memoranda of Understanding on specific work sharing programs - as has been done successfully for the Census of Population - when it is not necessary to sign formal agreements under appropriate legislation, i.e., when identifiable individual data are not involved. (Minutes - November 1974, p. 6)
- No action resulted.

SECTION III

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF  
FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEES

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL STATISTICAL CONSULTATION



\* Chaired by the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. Also reports to the Provincial Ministers Conference on Mines.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3-	Terms of reference of the Federal-Provincial Committees	
3.1	Federal-Provincial Committee on Agriculture Statistics	1
3.2	Federal-Provincial Committee on Business Statistics	3
3.3	Federal-Provincial Committee on the Census of Population	9
3.4	Federal-Provincial Committee on Data Dissemination	11
3.5	Federal-Provincial Committee on Demography	13
3.6	Federal-Provincial Committee on Labour Statistics	15
3.7	Intergovernmental Committee on Local Government Accounting and Statistics	17
3.8	Federal-Provincial Committee on Mineral Statistics (not available)	
3.9	Federal-Provincial Committee on Provincial Economic Accounts	19
3.10	Federal-Provincial Committee on Public Sector Statistics	?
3.11	Federal-Provincial Committee on Small Area Data	21
3.12	Federal-Provincial Committee on Social Statistics	24
3.13	Federal-Provincial Committee on Transportation Statistics	26
3.14	Vital Statistics Council for Canada	28

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ONAGRICULTURE STATISTICSTERMS OF REFERENCEA. SPECIFIC

The Federal-Provincial Committee on Agriculture Statistics shall continue, but shall also concern itself with matters relating to the quinquennial censuses for agriculture, as previously dealt with by the former Federal-Provincial Committee on the Censuses of Population, Housing and Agriculture.

1. The Committee concerns itself with:
  - a. reviewing developments in agriculture statistics in Statistics Canada, other federal departments and agencies, and the provinces;
  - b. determining future statistical needs for the near and longer-term future, having regard to lead times usually required to develop new data sources and series;
  - c. integrating the work of the various bodies collecting agriculture statistics to ensure compatibility as far as practical and to minimize respondent load;
  - d. informing major user groups, both public and private of developments in agriculture statistics, and providing a forum for such groups to express their needs and requirements;
  - e. developing or maintaining co-operative working relations with respect to work-sharing between the various agencies involved in collecting, analyzing and publishing agriculture statistics.

- 2 -

2. The committee shall be composed of the Directors of the Agriculture and Census of Agriculture Divisions, Statistics Canada, with Statistics Canada providing the Chairman, and one Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory in Canada. Advice or representation shall be provided by the Standards Division of Statistics Canada, as appropriate to the topics under consideration.
3. The Committee shall normally meet once every year. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairman and the Central Secretariat. The agenda for such meetings shall be prepared and distributed as far as possible in advance of their planned dates, and in full consultation with the Provincial, Territorial and any other delegates.
4. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of the Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of one Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory, for one meeting in each calendar year.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and are to be prepared within one month of each meeting.

Revised: July 1978



FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ONBUSINESS STATISTICSTERMS OF REFERENCEA. SPECIFIC

1. There shall be a Federal-Provincial Committee on Business Statistics which shall be responsible for federal-provincial consultation on all matters relating to statistics which derive from or describe the economic activities of business organizations. The Committee's specific terms of reference shall initially be made up of those hitherto covered by former Federal-Provincial Committees on the Census of Manufactures, Construction and Investment Statistics, Merchandising and Services, and Prices Statistics (see Appendices), and these shall be referred to as sectional components of the Committee. However, the Committee shall be free to set up new sectional components, or abolish existing ones, as it sees fit. The Committee shall also coordinate its work with that of other Federal-Provincial Committees in matters of common interest.
2. The General Chairman of the Committee shall be the Assistant Chief Statistician, Business Statistics, of Statistics Canada, who shall attend all meetings, but may yield the chair to an appropriate sectional chairman, who shall normally be a subject-matter Director in the Business Statistics field of Statistics Canada, according to the composition of the agenda. Each Provincial and Territorial statistical office shall be represented on the Committee, but not more than one delegate may speak for his or her province or territory on agenda items relating to a particular sectional component. Advice or representation shall be provided by the Standards Division of Statistics Canada, as appropriate to the topics under consideration.
3. The Committee shall not normally meet less frequently than once every year, but it is not required that business falling under the responsibility of a particular sectional component shall be introduced every year. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee, or by the Chairman and the Central Secretariat. Agenda for such meetings, including the question of which sectional components will take part in the meetings, shall be prepared and distributed as far in advance as possible, and in full consultation with the Provincial and Territorial Members.

4. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of the Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of one Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory, for one meeting in each calendar year.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and are to be prepared within one month of each meeting.

Revised: July 1978

SECTIONAL COMPONENT  
ON THE CENSUS OF MANUFACTURES  
TERMS OF REFERENCE

Appendix A

- (a) Maintaining a continuing review of provincial and federal data requirements which can be most effectively and economically be met through the Census of Manufactures.
- (b) Investigating the use of administrative records, such as taxation returns, and the results of other current or annual surveys, particularly of the commodity type, to reduce the burden on respondents.
- (c) Promoting the automation, to the fullest extent possible, of all phases of the Census of Manufactures to improve both the efficiency of the operation and the consistency, quality and timeliness of the data.
- (d) Developing procedures for establishing joint publication patterns at both the provincial and sub-provincial level to ensure the avoidance of residual disclosure.
- (e) Determining which aspects of the Committee's work may be most efficiently performed by ad hoc work groups and review their conclusions and recommendations for possible implementation.

Revised: July 1978

SECTIONAL COMPONENTAppendix BON CONSTRUCTION AND INVESTMENT STATISTICSTERMS OF REFERENCE

- (a) Facilitating continuing communication between the provincial statistical offices and Statistics Canada, for the mutual exchange of information on statistical projects currently underway and planned in the field of construction and investment statistics needs.
- (b) Formulating a program of statistical development designed to meet unsatisfied data requirements, as they currently exist and as they are likely to develop in the near future, and recommending a statistical program to satisfy these needs.
- (c) Periodically reviewing existing statistical series, including the underlying concepts, definitions, methodology and coverage.
- (d) Developing and maintaining multilateral co-operative working arrangements and ad hoc working groups as required to supplement the bilateral arrangements developed between Statistics Canada and each of the provinces.
- (e) Investigating current and alternative data sources to maximize the effectiveness of all data available in the integration of statistics from federal and provincial sources into a comprehensive computer-based national system of construction and investment statistics.

Revised: July 1978

SECTIONAL COMPONENT ON

Appendix C

MERCHANDISING AND SERVICE TRADE STATISTICS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

It concerns itself with reviewing, advising and deciding on matters, where appropriate, relating to on-going and/or proposed federal or provincial statistical programmes within the areas of retail, wholesale and services statistics.

Revised: July 1978

SECTIONAL COMPONENT

Appendix D

ON PRICES STATISTICS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

- (a) Acting as a vehicle for the exchange of views on existing prices statistics.
- (b) Communicating new developments in the area of prices statistics and reviewing areas of co-operation.
- (c) Receiving suggestions from the provincial committee members regarding requests for new data requirements from Statistics Canada. The subjects of concern are all prices and all expenditure survey matters.

Revised: July 1978

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ON  
THE CENSUSES OF POPULATION AND HOUSING  
TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. SPECIFIC

The Federal-Provincial Committee on the Censuses of Population and Housing shall continue to achieve a more effective and co-ordinated census program which will satisfy to the greatest extent possible the census data requirements of the provinces and their users.

1. By considering federal and provincial requirements, the Committee:
  - a. Reviews and recommends priorities in census statistical programs, identifies responsibilities for the dissemination of census statistics by categorizing specific work programs as either "joint" or "separate", determines the outlines of contractual arrangements to facilitate the operations of joint census dissemination programs, and evaluates the progress of census work and receives reports on specified priority programs.
  - b. Sets up ad hoc Work Groups, comprised of appropriate expertise on such matters as subject-matter, methodology and dissemination.
  - c. Ensures the fostering of educative programs to establish the highest technical competence for both Statistics Canada and Provincial Focal Points in the use and dissemination of Census data.
  - d. Reviews results and conclusions of census programs, and the activities of Work Groups, makes recommendations, if necessary, and specifies action and recommends guidelines pertaining to common problems in carrying out census statistical work such as confidentiality, statistical standards, training and computer compatibility.

- e. Establishes a Steering Committee under the Chairman of the main Committee to meet as necessary between regular meetings of the full Census Committee.
2. The Committee shall be composed of the Assistant Chief Statistician, Census Field, Statistics Canada, as Chairman, and one Principal Delegate from each Province and Territory in Canada.
3. The Committee shall meet at least once every year and as frequently as necessary. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairman and the Central Secretariat.
4. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provisions of a Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of the Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and are to be prepared within one month of each meeting.

Revised: July 1979



FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ON DATA DISSEMINATIONTERMS OF REFERENCEA. SPECIFIC

There shall be a continuing Federal-Provincial Committee on Data Dissemination.

1. It shall concern itself with the dissemination aspects of federal and provincial statistical programs and specifically with:
  - (a) policies and related procedures (including pricing) that will facilitate the access by provincial and territorial statistical offices to Statistics Canada's products and related services through all media, including textual, machine-readable, micro-form, etc., and covering both aggregated statistics and micro-data; and
  - (b) sharing knowledge on and promoting the development of uniform or consistent data dissemination systems within the provincial and territorial statistical offices through which can better serve their own clientele; and
  - (c) development of marketing techniques and identification of potential markets for the use of statistical data in both the public and private sectors for decision making.
2. The Committee shall be composed of the Assistant Chief Statistician, Communications and Management Practices, Statistics Canada, as Chairman, and one Principal Delegate from each Province and Territory in Canada. Advice or representation shall be provided by the Standards Division of Statistics Canada, as appropriate to the topics under consideration.

3. The Committee shall normally meet once every year, but may, by agreement between the Chairman and a majority of the Provincial and Territorial Members, meet more or less frequently. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairman and the Central Secretariat. Agenda for such meetings shall be prepared and distributed as far as possible in advance of their planned dates, and in full consultation with the Provincial and Territorial Members.
4. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of a Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of one Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory, for one meeting in each calendar year.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations, and are to be prepared within one month of each meeting.

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ON DEMOGRAPHYTERMS OF REFERENCEA. SPECIFIC

1. The objective of the Federal-Provincial Committee on Demography is to provide a mechanism for consultation and cooperation, as well as for the exchange of information in the area of demographic statistics, between Statistics Canada and the Provincial/Territorial statistical agencies.

Post-censal population estimates in particular, in view of their technical complexity and impact, call for close consultation and, where feasible, co-operation in developing suitable estimation methods.

Population projections constitute another endeavour where consultation and cooperation are mutually beneficial, as are the development of administrative data for the purpose of demographic statistics, and in particular, migration statistics.

Finally, the committee seeks to foster co-operation in understanding demographic analysis in an effort to more fully understand the current demographic situation in Canada.

2. The Committee shall be composed of the Director, Demography Division, Statistics Canada, as Chairperson, and one Principal Delegate from each Province and Territory in Canada.
3. The Committee shall meet at least once every year, or as frequently as necessary. The location and date of the meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairperson in consultation with the Central Secretariat.
4. The Committee shall report on its activities annually, or as required, to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council. The Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of a Secretariat staff, and simultaneous interpretation. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of the Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and are to be prepared within three months of each meeting.

Draft: June 15, 1988

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ONLABOUR STATISTICSTERMS OF REFERENCEA. SPECIFIC

The Federal-Provincial Committee on Labour Statistics shall continue.

1. It concerns itself with accelerating improvements in the diverse and complicated fields of labour statistics, as well as furthering continuing communication on labour statistics between Statistics Canada and the Provinces and Territories.
2. The Committee shall be composed of the Director of the Labour Division, Statistics Canada, as Chairman, and one Principal Delegate from each Province and Territory in Canada. Advice or representation shall be provided by the Standards Division of Statistics Canada, as appropriate to the topics under consideration.
3. The Committee shall normally meet once every year, preferably immediately prior to or following the meeting of the Canadian Association of administrators of Labour Legislation, but may, by agreement between the Chairman and a majority of the Provincial and Territorial delegates, meet more or less frequently. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairman and the Central Secretariat. Agenda for such meetings shall be prepared and distributed as far as possible in advance of their planned dates, and in full consultation with the Provincial, Territorial and any other delegates.
4. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of the Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of one Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory, for one meeting in each calendar year.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and are to be prepared within one month of each meeting.

Revised: July 1978

THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE ON  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFORMATION DEVELOPMENT  
TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. SPECIFIC

This Conference formerly know as the Federal-Provincial Conference on Municipal Statistics shall continue in being.

1. This Conference shall concern itself with providing effective communication between Statistics Canada and provincial and territorial government departments on matters pertaining to the development of a co-ordinated and integrated set of statistical programs on the activities of local governments in Canada with particular reference to financial activities and pursuant to the above objective shall involve officials of federal, provincial, territorial and local governments in Conference considerations as appropriate.
2. The Conference Chairman shall be the Director of the Public Finance Division, Statistics Canada. Each provincial and territorial government shall be entitled to provide a delegate, and meetings will be open to representation from local government. Local representation from each province or territory shall range from zero to three, at the discretion of the principal or territorial delegate. Representation may be only from the administrative or appointed officials of a municipality or a duly constituted municipal association or both.
3. The Conference shall meet at least once every year or more frequently if necessary. The location and date of meetings shall be determined by the Conference.
4. The Conference, through its Chairman, shall prepare a report on its meetings and file a copy with the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy.

B. GENERAL

1. The host government body shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of a Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of the Principal Delegate from each Provincial or Territorial government.
2. Principal delegates may be accompanied to Conference meetings by representatives from other government departments or agencies along with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each Conference meeting shall record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations; and shall be prepared not later than three months following each meeting and distributed to the Principal Delegates and all other persons attending Conference sessions.

Revised: May 1975



FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ON  
PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS  
TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. SPECIFIC

The Federal-Provincial Committee on Provincial Economic Accounts shall continue.

1. It shall concern itself with:
  - a. the definition and description of concepts, sources and methods for provincial economic accounting;
  - b. the establishment of uniform terminology to be used in provincial economic accounting;
  - c. the promotion and interprovincial comparability of data from provincial economic accounts;
  - d. the development and exploitation of co-operative arrangements among Provinces and between the Provinces and Statistics Canada.

Without restricting the generality of these concerns, the Committee shall specifically address the following subject-areas, as these impact upon a., b., c., and d. above: International Trade; Origin and Destination of Shipments statistics as reported by the Census of Manufactures; Provincial Financial Flows; and Origin and Destination Statistics as reported by the three modes of transport.

2. The Committee shall be composed of the Assistant Chief Statistician, Economic Accounts and Integration Field, Statistics Canada, as Chairman, and one Principal Delegate from each Province and Territory in Canada. The Committee may call upon Statistics Canada resource persons in the above or any other relevant subject-area, and advice or representation shall be provided by the Standards Division of Statistics Canada, as appropriate to the topics under discussion.

3. The Committee shall normally meet once every year, but may, by agreement between the Chairman and a majority of the Provincial and Territorial Members, meet more or less frequently. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairman and the Central Secretariat. Agenda for such meetings shall be prepared and distributed as far in advance as possible, and in full consultation with the Provincial and Territorial Members.
4. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of the Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of one Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory, for one meeting in each calendar year.
2. Provincial and Territorial Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and are to be prepared within one month of each meeting.

Revised: July 1978

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ONDATA DEVELOPMENTTERMS OF REFERENCEA. SPECIFIC

There shall be a continuing Federal-Provincial Committee on Data Development.

1. It shall address itself to ways and means of improving the coverage, reliability, geographic detail and integrated quality of the national statistical data base, and of simultaneously minimizing the burden on respondents, through the more effective utilization of available or potentially available data and quasi-statistical records.
2. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Committee shall particularly concern itself with:
  - (a) the exploitation of administrative records as sources of statistical information, including taxation records and other Federal and Provincial Government records, as well as non-governmental record systems (corporations, utilities, Crown agencies, etc.);
  - (b) issues relating to existing and required legislation, regulations and interpretations;
  - (c) issues relating to agreements between federal and provincial governments that may impede or assist in the more effective development of statistical information, with reduced response burden or with improved quality (for example, Federal-Provincial agreements on taxation data);
  - (d) contributing to the development and application of standards, concepts, definitions and classifications which will facilitate the use of administrative records for statistical purposes;
  - (e) the advancement of geographically referenced statistics from existing and new data sources, including the development of geographical reference systems and the geographical cross referencing of data from different sources and reference systems;

- 2 -

- (f) statistical issues of public concern which span subject-matter areas, such as privacy and access to government information, record linking, unique personal identifiers, voluntary/compulsory response, etc.;
  - (g) generally ensuring that the various undertaking of the Committee contribute as effectively as possible to the integrated character of the national statistical data base and to the compatibility and accuracy of its various parts;
  - (h) co-ordinating its work with that of other Federal-Provincial Committees in matters of common interest.
3. The Committee shall be comprised of a member of the Statistics Canada Executive Committee as Chairperson, and one Principal Delegate from each Province and Territory in Canada. Advice or representation shall be provided by the Standards Divisions of Statistics Canada, as appropriate to the topics under consideration.
  4. The Committee shall normally meet once every year, but may, by agreement between the Chairperson and a majority of the Provincial and Territorial Members, meet more or less frequently. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee, or by the Chairman and the Central Secretariat. Agenda for such meetings shall be prepared and distributed as far in advance as possible, and in full consultation with the Provincial and Territorial Members.
  5. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.
  6. The Committee shall be kept regularly informed of the proceedings of the Statistics Canada Executive Sub-Committee on Legislation and Administration Records, and shall be regarded as the primary source of provincial and territorial advisory inputs to the work of the Sub-Committee.

.../3

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of a Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of one Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory, for one meeting in each calendar year.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations, and are to be prepared within one month of each meeting.

Revised: March 1979

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ONSOCIAL STATISTICSTERMS OF REFERENCEA. SPECIFIC

1. There shall be a Federal-Provincial Committee on Social Statistics which will be responsible for federal-provincial consultation on all matters relating to the field of social statistics. In particular, the Committee will be regarded as the principal avenue for input on the part of the central statistical offices of each province and territory to be planning, development and integration of Statistics Canada's overall program of social statistics. The Committee shall also provide a forum for consultation between Statistics Canada and such provincial and territorial offices for subject areas where other formal consultative mechanisms do not exist. The Committee shall be free to establish and disband sectional components as it sees fit. The Committee shall co-ordinate its work with that of other federal-provincial committees in matters of common interest.
2. The Chairman of the Committee shall be the Assistant Chief Statistician in Statistics Canada principally responsible for social statistics. The Chairman may call upon other appropriate Statistics Canada officials, who shall normally be subject-matter division directors or directors-general in the social statistics field, according to the composition of the agency in each province and territory. Advice and/or representation shall be provided by the Standards Division of Statistics Canada, as appropriate to the topics under discussion.
3. The Committee shall normally meet once every year, but may, by agreement between the Chairman and a majority of the Provincial and Territorial Members, meet more or less frequently. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairman and the Central Secretariat. Agenda for such meetings shall be prepared and distributed as far in advance as possible, and in full consultation with the Provincial and Territorial Members.

4. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters.
2. Provincial and Territorial Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations and are to be prepared within one month of each meeting.

Revised: February 1979

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE ON  
TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS  
TERMS OF REFERENCE

A. SPECIFIC

The Federal-Provincial Committee on Transportation and Communications Statistics shall be re-constituted as a Federal-Provincial Committee on Transportation Statistics.

1. It shall concern itself with:

- (a) investigating federal, provincial, territorial and industry requirements for essential transportation statistics, reaching a consensus on the type of statistics required, and developing systems to fulfill these requirements.
- (b) reviewing survey objectives and concepts, making recommendations for new or modified surveys on the transportation of people and goods, and reviewing the effectiveness and efficiency of existing surveys and determining areas of possible co-operation.

2. The Committee shall be composed of the Director of the Transportation and Communications Division, Statistics Canada, as Chairman, one Principal Delegate from each Province and Territory in Canada, the Canadian Transport Commission, and the Ministry of Transport. Advice or representation shall be provided by the Standards Division of Statistics Canada, as appropriate to the topics under consideration.

3. The Committee shall normally meet once every year, but may, by agreement between the Chairman and a majority of the Provincial and Territorial delegates, meet more or less frequently. The location and date of future meetings shall be determined at each meeting of the Committee or by the Chairman and the Central Secretariat. Agenda for such meetings shall be prepared and distributed as far as possible in advance of their planned dates, and in full consultation with the Provincial, Territorial and any other delegates.



- 2 -

4. The Committee shall report annually on its activities to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy through the Central Secretariat of the Council; the Council shall also report annually on its activities to the Committee.

B. GENERAL

1. The host of each meeting shall provide suitable meeting accommodation. Normally, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the provision of a Secretariat staff, simultaneous interpretation equipment and interpreters. In addition, when meetings are held in Ottawa, Statistics Canada will be responsible for the transportation expenses of one Principal Delegate from each Province or Territory, for one meeting in each calendar year.
2. Members of the Committee may, at their own discretion, be accompanied to meetings with such support personnel as they deem necessary.
3. Minutes of each meeting should record major points of discussion, decisions and recommendations, and are to be prepared within one month of each meeting.

Revised: July 1978

CONSTITUTION OF VITAL STATISTICS COUNCIL FOR CANADATERMS OF REFERENCE

For the purpose of carrying out and giving effect to the provisions of the «Statistics Act» of the Dominion, in connection with securing uniform methods of collecting, compiling and publishing the Vital Statistics of Canada and the provinces, and other matters related thereto, under an agreement with the Provinces and the Dominion, agreed to at a conference between officers of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Dominion Treasury, the Dominion Council of Health and representatives of the Provincial Vital Statistics offices, held in Ottawa on September 28, 1944, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, pursuant to Section 9 of the said Act, does hereby constitute a Vital Statistics Council of Canada under the following terms:

1. The Council shall comprise one representative for each province (the officer actively in charge of the Provincial Vital Statistics office), one representative for Yukon and the Northwest Territories (to be designated by the Minister of Mines and Resources) and the Chiefs of the Vital Statistics and the Census Branches in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.
2. The Chairman of the Council shall be the Dominion Statistician and the Vice-Chairman shall be elected annually from the representatives of the Provinces, and Yukon and the Northwest Territories.
3. The Secretary shall be a member of the Council and shall be appointed for a term to be determined by the Council.
4. The Vital Statistics Council shall meet at least once a year for the purpose of discussing and advising on problems arising out of the administration of the Vital Record system and relative statistics.
5. The expenses of the Vital Statistics Council shall be borne jointly by the Dominion and the Provinces on the following basis:
  - (a) By the Dominion, transportation expenses of all Council members to and from the place of meeting and other expenses incidental to the meeting; and

- 2 -

- (b) By the Provinces, the living expenses of the respective Provincial Council members while at the place of meeting.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE VITAL STATISTICS COUNCIL FOR CANADA

1. This organization shall be known as the Vital Statistics Council for Canada.
2. The Council shall meet at least once during each calender year, and all meetings shall be at the call of the Chairman, provided that upon request of a majority of the members of the Council, the Chairman shall call a special meeting of the Council. Between Council meetings the Secretary shall submit to the members of the Council in writing any matters requiring consideration and approval. Such matters shall be decided upon by majority opinion.
3. A quorum shall consist of eight members of the Council.
4. Each member of the Council, including the officers, shall have the privilege of voting.
5. In the event that any provincial or Dominion member of the Council is unable to attend any meeting for any reason, he may designate a substitute by notifying the Chairman in writing and such substitute shall have full voting powers.
6. The Secretary shall be elected annually from the membership of the Council, provided that should the Secretary cease to be a member of the Council, for any reason, the Chairman shall appoint a person to act as Secretary until the next meeting of the Council.
7. The rules and regulations of the Council may be amended upon notice of motion given at a previous meeting of the Council and shall become effective by a two-thirds vote of Council.

APPROVED by Council this first day of June, A.D. 1945.

.../3

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF COUNCIL

It was suggested by the Committee that the meetings of the Council might be held not only in the Dominion capital, but in provincial capitals, as might be determined from time to time. Decision was reserved for discussion at the next general meeting.

November 1974

SECTION IV

POLICIES OF STATISTICS CANADA

ON

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

4-	Specific Policies relevant to Statistics Canada's Federal-Provincial Relations	
4.1	Policy on the Exchange of Staff (November 1985)	1
4.2	Policy on Provincial and Territorial Travel Subsidies (April 2, 1986)	6
4.3	Policy on the Distribution of Products to Provincial and Territorial Focal Points (May 14, 1986)	8
4.4	Policy on Informing Provincial and Territorial Statistical Representatives and Regional Directors (August 26, 1987)	10

November 1985

Novembre 1985

EXCHANGE OF STAFFÉCHANGE DE PERSONNELFEDERAL-PROVINCIAL  
CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ON  
STATISTICAL POLICYCONSEIL CONSULTATIF  
FÉDÉRAL-PROVINCIAL DE LA  
POLITIQUE STATISTIQUEPROPOSAL

It has been proposed by the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy that staff exchanges between Statistics Canada and Provincial Governments could be mutually beneficial. This paper will outline how these exchanges can be accomplished.

PROPOSITION

Le Conseil consultatif fédéral-provincial de la politique statistique a proposé la création d'un programme d'échange de personnel, entre Statistique Canada et les administrations provinciales, qui serait avantageux pour tous les intervenants. Le présent document donne un aperçu de la mise en oeuvre de ces échanges.

AVANTAGES OF STAFF EXCHANGES

Staff exchanges between Statistics Canada and other organizations have a number of benefits. They can help to:

- foster understanding and co-operation between Statistics Canada and other governments and organizations;
- assist managers and employees in increasing their understanding of the problems, work methods and areas of interest common to different sectors;

AVANTAGES DES ÉCHANGES DE  
PERSONNEL

Les échanges de personnel entre Statistique Canada et d'autres organismes présentent de nombreux avantages:

- Ils peuvent créer un climat favorable à la compréhension et à la collaboration entre Statistique Canada et les autres administrations publiques et organismes;
- ils peuvent aider les cadres et les employés à améliorer leur compréhension des problèmes, des méthodes de travail et des domaines d'intérêt commun à différents secteurs;

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- facilitate the diffusion of knowledge among professionals in specialized fields of interest;</li> <li>- assist in the career development of employees;</li> <li>- provide high quality professional staff for assignment for critical or hard-to-fill vacancies.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ils peuvent faciliter la diffusion des connaissances entre les professionnels de diverses disciplines spécialisées;</li> <li>- ils peuvent jouer un rôle dans l'avancement des employés;</li> <li>- ils peuvent servir à doter des postes très importants ou difficiles à combler à l'aide de personnel professionnel hautement compétent.</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

#### EXCHANGE MECHANISM

In order to encourage staff exchanges, it is important to identify and utilize a program which is effective, but not overly cumbersome in lead time and «red tape» required. Also, the rights of the individual employees in terms of pay, benefits and job security must be safeguarded.

For these reasons, methods of exchange which would not protect these rights have been eliminated. An example is the use of leave without pay, a situation in which an employee has less job security, does not retain his/her pay and benefits, and must be placed on the staff or under contract to the employing organization. The use of Personnel Service contracts has been discarded for similar reasons.

#### MÉCANISME D'ÉCHANGE

Afin d'encourager les échanges de personnel, il importe de monter un programme qui soit efficace, qui puisse démarrer rapidement et dont la procédure administrative ne soit pas trop lourde. Il faut en outre veiller à protéger les droits des employés à l'égard du traitement, des avantages et de la sécurité d'emploi.

Nous avons d'emblée éliminé les méthodes d'échange qui ne protègent pas ces droits. Les congés sans solde en sont un exemple, puisqu'ils représentent une situation dans laquelle l'employé a moins de sécurité d'emploi, ne conserve pas son traitement ni ses avantages et doit faire partie du personnel de l'organisme qui l'emploie, ou y travailler à forfait. L'utilisation des marchés de services personnels représente une autre solution qui n'a pas été retenue pour les mêmes raisons.



However, an appropriate exchange mechanism, «Interchange Canada» has been identified.

#### INTERCHANGE CANADA

This program has been designed to facilitate the temporary assignment of middle and senior levels of personnel between the Public Service and outside organizations including other levels of government. The primary objectives of these assignments are to encourage co-operation between organizations while gaining top quality professional staff support, and providing career development opportunities to staff members.

This program has been used by Statistics Canada for a number of years to achieve these objectives, and provides a good degree of flexibility and ease of use.

#### ADMINISTRATION

The basis for the «Interchange Canada» exchange is a letter of agreement between the two organizations, outlining such aspects as the start and termination dates for the assignment, job title, financial responsibility, and conflict of interest guidelines.

Le Conseil a toutefois trouvé un mécanisme d'échange convenable; il s'agit du programme «Échanges Canada».

#### ÉCHANGES CANADA

Ce programme vise à faciliter l'affectation temporaire du personnel aux niveaux intermédiaire et supérieur entre la Fonction publique et les organismes externes, y compris les autres ordres de gouvernement. L'objectif principal de ces affectations consiste à favoriser la collaboration entre les organismes, et ce, en employant les services de professionnels hautement compétents et en donnant aux employés concernés d'intéressantes expériences de travail.

Pour atteindre ces objectifs, Statistique Canada a recours depuis déjà un certain nombre d'années à ce programme, caractérisé par assez de souplesse et de facilité d'emploi.

#### ADMINISTRATION

Les échanges en vertu du programme susmentionné se font conformément à un protocole entre les deux organismes. On y définit par exemple les dates du début et de la fin de l'affectation, le titre du poste, la responsabilité financière ainsi que les directives concernant les conflits d'intérêt.

An employee on assignment with the Interchange Canada program receives his/her salary payment directly from the home organization, which arranges financial recovery from the host organization. Regarding re-location expenses (if applicable), each organization normally pays for one move. Other expenses, such as training, would be borne by the host organization. If an individual on assignment to the Federal Government is performing duties at the EX or SM level, he or she must be counted against the appropriate management complement.

The Public Service Commission in Ottawa acts as the co-ordinating body in preparing the agreements. It should be noted that each sponsoring organization commits itself to guarantee re-employment within the organization to each employee at his/her current occupational group/level upon completion of the interchange assignment. As well, the agreements specifically state that the host organization will not offer continuing employment to the assignee at the end of the period.

Once the employee(s) and assignment(s) have been agreed to by the organizations, the Public Service Commission is contacted to prepare the letter of agreement. This normally requires 2-3 weeks.

L'employé en affectation dans les cadre du programme Échanges Canada reçoit son traitement directement de son employeur régulier, qui prend les dispositions pour recouvrir les frais auprès de l'organisme hôte. Pour ce qui est de la réinstallation (le cas échéant), chaque organisme assume habituellement les frais d'un déménagement. L'organisme hôte devrait accepter de payer les autres dépenses, comme celles relatives à la formation. Si une personne en affectation dans l'administration fédérale travaille à un poste EX ou SM, elle doit compter dans les effectifs de la catégorie appropriée.

La Commission de la Fonction publique à Ottawa agit à titre de coordonnateur de la préparation des ententes. Il est important de noter que chaque organisme parrain s'engage à redonner à l'employé, à la fin de l'échange, un poste au groupe et à l'échelon qu'il occupait au moment du départ. Par ailleurs, les ententes stipulent que l'organisme hôte ne devra pas offrir un emploi permanent à la personne échangée à la fin de la période.

Lorsque les organismes s'entendent au sujet de l'employé et de l'affectation, ils communiquent avec la Commission de la Fonction publique pour qu'elle prépare le protocole d'entente. Cette préparation prend habituellement deux ou trois semaines.

The agreements are signed by the Deputy Minister (or equivalent) of each organization, the employee and a representative of the Public Service Commission.

Les ententes sont signées par le sous-ministre (ou par une personne occupant un poste équivalent) de chaque organisme, par l'employé ainsi que par un représentant de la Commission de la Fonction publique.

Interchange Canada assignments normally last one to three years.

Les affectations dans le cadre d'Échanges Canada durent normalement d'une à trois années.

SELECTION OF CANDIDATES/  
ASSIGNMENTS

SÉLECTION DES CANDIDATS ET DES  
AFFECTATIONS

It is recommended that a co-ordinating body or focal point in each organization determine both the available candidates in terms of willingness to undertake an assignment, skills and expertise, as well as the identified assignments regarding the knowledge and skills base required.

Un service de coordination ou un point de contact dans chaque organisme devrait définir quels sont les candidats qui sont prêts à obtenir une affectation et quelles sont leurs compétences et connaissances, ainsi que les affectations qui pourraient être offertes, en tenant compte des connaissances et des compétences nécessaires.

It may occur that a two-way exchange is mutually beneficial at a given point in time, or that an employee is assigned to another organization without an immediate exchange.

Il se peut que des échanges bilatéraux soient avantageux pour les deux organismes, à un moment donné, ou qu'un employé soit affecté à un autre organisme sans que l'échange dans l'autre sens soit effectué immédiatement.

April 2, 1986

Le 2 avril 1986

STATISTICS CANADA'S POLICY ON  
PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL  
TRAVEL SUBSIDIES

POLITIQUE DE STATISTIQUE CANADA  
SUR LE REMBOURSEMENT DES  
DÉPENSES DE DÉPLACEMENT  
DES DÉLÉGUÉS  
PROVINCIAUX ET TERRITORIAUX

POLICY

Upon request, Statistics Canada shall pay transportation expenses for one delegate from each Province and Territory for every meeting of the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy and its constituent Committees.

POLITIQUE

Sur demande, Statistique Canada défrayera les dépenses de déplacement pour un délégué de chaque province et de chaque territoire pour toute réunion du Conseil consultatif fédéral-provincial de la politique statistique et de ses comités constitutifs.

DEFINITIONS

- Transportation expenses are the cost of economy fair and taxis according to Treasury Board regulations. Special arrangements may be made with the Provinces in order to obtain reduced rates, in accordance with policies and procedures of the Operational Planning and Finance Branch.
- Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy and Constituent Committees:

The Council is a consultative body chaired by the Chief Statistician of

DÉFINITIONS

- Les dépenses de déplacement sont le coût du billet d'avion classe économique et des taxis selon les règlements du Conseil du Trésor. Des dispositions spéciales peuvent être convenues avec les provinces afin d'obtenir des tarifs réduits selon les politiques et les procédures de la Direction de la planification opérationnelle et des finances.
- Conseil consultatif fédéral-provincial de la politique statistique et comités constitutifs:

Le Conseil est un organisme consultatif présidé par le Statisticien en chef du

Canada and composed of senior officials appointed by the Premiers of each Province and the Commissioners of the Territories. The consultative system also includes a Program Committee and specific subject Committees, but does not include the Committee on Mineral Statistics since it is the administrative responsibility of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

Canada et composé de fonctionnaires supérieurs nommés par les premiers ministres des provinces et les commissaires des territoires. Le système de consultation comprend également un Comité du programme et des comités spécialisés, mais ne comprend pas le Comité de la statistique des minéraux, puisque celui-ci relève administrativement du ministère de l'Énergie, des Mines et des Ressources.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

##### 1. Communications Division:

Pays for the transportation expenses of the provincial and territorial delegates through the Secretariat of the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy.

Monitors and reports annually to the Policy Committee on the costs of this travel subsidy program.

#### INQUIRIES

Inquiries concerning this policy are to be directed to the Director, Communications Division at 951-2808.

#### RESPONSABILITÉS

##### 1. Division des communications:

Règle les dépenses de déplacement des délégués provinciaux et territoriaux par l'entremise du Secrétariat du Conseil consultatif fédéral-provincial de la politique statistique.

Surveille et fait rapport annuellement au Comité des politiques sur les coûts de ce programme de remboursement des dépenses de déplacement.

#### DEMANDES DE RENSEIGNEMENTS

Les demandes concernant la présente politique doivent être adressées au Directeur de la Division des communications au 951-2808.

May 14, 1986

Le 14 mai 1986

POLICY ON THE DISTRIBUTION  
OF PRODUCTS TO  
PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL  
FOCAL POINTS

POLITIQUE SUR LA DISTRIBUTION  
DES PRODUITS AUX  
CONTACTS  
PROVINCIAUX ET TERRITORIAUX

POLICY STATEMENT

Statistics Canada has a long standing tradition of co-operation with provinces and territories. In keeping with this tradition, Statistics Canada will provide through the Provincial and Territorial Focal Points:

- one set of all catalogued publications, on a complimentary basis;
- any other product or service negotiated as a result of contractual or quid pro quo agreement.

Provincial and Territorial Focal Points will be charged the standard rates for all other products and services.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Dissemination Committee

- Coordinates and monitors the application of this policy.

2. Communications Division

- Arranges, and covers the costs of, distribution of all catalogued publications to each Focal Point.

ÉNONCÉ DE LA POLITIQUE

Statistique Canada possède une longue tradition de collaboration avec les provinces et les territoires. Pour poursuivre cette tradition, Statistique Canada fournira à chaque contact provincial et territorial:

- à titre gracieux, une série de toutes les publications cataloguées;
- tout autre produit ou service offert à la suite d'un contrat ou d'un accord de réciprocité.

Les contacts provinciaux et territoriaux devront payer les tarifs réguliers pour les autres produits et services.

RESPONSABILITÉS

1. Comité de la diffusion

- Coordonne et assure le suivi de cette politique.

2. Division des communications

- Identifie et finance le coût de la distribution à chaque point de contact de toutes les publications cataloguées.

- Monitors, and reports annually to the Policy Committee, on the costs of all complimentary distribution under this policy.
- Ensures that the policy is applied in a consistent manner throughout the Bureau.
- Contrôle et fait le compte rendu annuel au Comité des politiques des coûts de la distribution à titre gracieux effectuée d'après la présente politique.
- S'assure que la politique est appliquée de façon uniforme dans le Bureau.

3. OTHER DIVISIONS

- Provide products or services as per contractual or quid pro quo agreements.
- Inform the Communications Division of the cost of any products and services provided to the Provinces and Territories as a result of contractual or quid pro quo agreements.

DEFINITIONS

Provincial and Territorial Focal Points - Senior officials appointed to the Federal and Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy by the Premier of each province.

INQUIRIES

Director, Communications Division, at 951-2808.

3. AUTRES DIVISIONS

- Fournissent les produits et services offerts dans le cadre d'un contrat ou d'un accord de réciprocité.
- Informent la Division des communications du coût des produits et services fournis aux provinces et territoires dans le cadre d'un contrat ou d'un accord de réciprocité.

DÉFINITIONS

Contacts provinciaux et territoriaux - Hauts fonctionnaires nommés au Conseil consultatif fédéral-provincial de la politique statistique par le premier ministre de chaque province.

RENSEIGNEMENTS

Directeur, Division des communications, 951-2808.

August 26, 1987

Le 26 août 1987

POLICY ON INFORMING PROVINCIAL  
AND TERRITORIAL STATISTICAL  
REPRESENTATIVES AND  
REGIONAL DIRECTORS

POLITIQUE SUR L'OBLIGATION  
D'INFORMER LES REPRÉSENTANTS  
STATISTIQUES PROVINCIAUX ET  
TERRITORIAUX ET LES  
DIRECTEURS RÉGIONAUX

POLICY STATEMENT

Statistics Canada will keep statistical representatives of the provinces and territories informed of developments with respect to the national statistical program. To this end, information on contacts with and visits to officials of the provinces and territories by Statistics Canada will be provided to the respective provincial and territorial statistical representatives and to regional directors.

ÉNONCÉ DE POLITIQUE

Statistique Canada tiendra les représentants statistiques des provinces et territoires au courant de l'évolution du programme statistique national. À cette fin, les représentants statistiques provinciaux et territoriaux et les directeurs régionaux seront informés chaque fois que des fonctionnaires de Statistique Canada auront des contacts avec les représentants des provinces et territoires ou leur rendront visite.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. All Divisions (including Regional Offices):
  - identify routine contacts with provincial and territorial officials and report these to the Government Relations Section, Communications Division, on an annual basis;
  - inform the appropriate provincial and territorial statistical represen-

RESPONSABILITÉS

1. Toutes les divisions (y compris les bureaux régionaux):
  - identifier les contacts courants avec les représentants provinciaux et territoriaux et en faire rapport annuellement à la Section des relations avec les administrations publiques de la Division des communications;
  - informer les représentants statistiques provinciaux et territoriaux concernés



tative, of planned, non-routine visits by Statistics Canada staff to provincial and territorial government offices;

- provide a copy of correspondence from Statistics Canada to provincial and territorial government officials, other than that of a routine nature, to the appropriate provincial and territorial statistical representative.

## 2. All Headquarters Divisions

- Inform the appropriate Regional Director of planned, non-routine visits by headquarters staff to provincial and territorial government offices.
- Provide a copy of correspondence from headquarters staff to provincial and territorial government officials, other than that of a routine nature, to the appropriate regional director.

## 3. Communications Division

- Compiles information on routine contacts with provincial and territo-

des visites spéciales que le personnel de Statistique Canada prévoit faire dans les bureaux des administrations provinciales et territoriales;

- fournir aux représentants statistiques provinciaux et territoriaux concernés copie de toute correspondance, sauf la correspondance courante, entre Statistique Canada et les représentants des administrations provinciales et territoriales.

## 2. Toutes les divisions du bureau central

- Informer le directeur régional concerné des visites spéciales que le personnel du bureau central prévoit faire dans les bureaux des administrations provinciales et territoriales.
- Fournir au directeur régional concerné copie de toute correspondance, sauf la correspondance courante, entre le personnel du bureau central et les représentants des administrations provinciales et territoriales.

## 3. Division des communications

- Rassembler l'information sur les contacts courants avec les ministères

rial departments and once a year distributes it to: (a) provincial and territorial statistical representatives; (b) regional directors; (c) senior managers.

- Ensures that the policy is applied in a consistent manner throughout the Agency.

DEFINITIONS

Provincial and Territorial Statistical Representatives: those persons named by the responsible Provincial Ministers and by Territorial governments as official representatives to the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy.

Routine contacts: encounters or correspondence that are part of established program operations.

INQUIRIES

Director, Communications Division, at 951-2808.

provinciaux et territoriaux et distribuer cette information une fois par année: (a) aux représentants statistiques provinciaux et territoriaux; (b) aux directeurs régionaux; (c) aux gestionnaires supérieurs.

- S'assurer que la politique est appliquée de façon uniforme dans tout le Bureau.

DÉFINITIONS

Par représentants statistiques provinciaux et territoriaux, on entend les personnes nommées par les ministres provinciaux responsables et par les gouvernements territoriaux pour les représenter officiellement au Conseil consultatif fédéral-provincial de la politique statistique.

Par contact courant, on entend les rencontres ou l'échange de correspondance dans le cadre de l'exécution des programmes établis.

DEMANDES DE RENSEIGNEMENT

Directeur, Division des communications, 951-2808.



DISCUSSION OF MEASURES FOR THE PRESERVATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL  
STATISTICAL SYSTEM

Presentation given by Dr. William McReynolds, Provincial  
Statistician for British Columbia, to the May 24-25, 1989  
meeting of the Federal-Provincial Consultative  
Council on Statistical Policy

At its 1987 meeting in Edmonton, the Consultative Council focused considerable attention on the state of the provincial/territorial component of the national statistical system. The discussion revealed that the provincial component (not necessarily the territories) had declined in recent years. Provincial capacity has been eroded to a dangerously low level and the system is fragile. Council decided to study the issue in detail and Statistics Canada provided the services of Gail Graser to carry out the analysis. In her report, she concluded that:

The strength of the provincial/territorial component of the National Statistical System has been seriously eroded by resource reductions both at the provincial/territorial level and at the federal level. In particular, the ability of provincial/territorial statistical agencies to adequately fulfil their coordinating role is in jeopardy.

The issue has been studied, the problems have been identified, and I believe that there is consensus that steps must be taken to improve the situation. Although it has been brought to the attention of the National Statistics Council, it would be inappropriate to look to that body alone for relief. Nor can we leave the solution to Statistics Canada or to any other single body. If we want to arrest the downward trend, we must work individually and collectively, despite current restraints, to strengthen the provincial/territorial component of the national statistical system, and raise the level of understanding of our important role. It is our problem to solve.

The suggestions which follow are exactly that - suggestions. They are not ideas that I am asking the Consultative Council to accept, only discuss. I hope that they will serve to get the creative process going, so that together we can find ways of rebuilding the system.

- (i) Purpose: to establish a mechanism to explain fully the national statistical system and thereby foster appreciation and understanding of what it accomplishes.

Suggestion: to publicize the role the provinces and territories play in making the national statistical system more efficient; highlighting how intensive collaboration and cooperation reduces costs and response burden by avoiding duplication, etc.

- (ii) Purpose: elevate the professional competency and mutual awareness of staff in Statistics Canada and the provincial and territorial agencies, and thereby develop stronger advocacy.

Suggestion: develop a "national training program" on what is the national statistical system for both federal and provincial people. This would be a course of studies on a curriculum with a certificate of completion at the end. There may or may not be some moving around. Those working in statistics in provincial departments and ministries would be encouraged to take the program.

- (iii) Purpose: to help overcome the lack of focal point resource needed to present the case for statistics.

Suggestion: share materials - documents, presentations, arguments - used in negotiating resources and defending programs. Taking the time to tell our story is much more important than may first appear. And it has to be re-told and re-told in different ways in changing circumstances to new audiences. As much as we may dislike this chore and begrudge the resources it requires, it is absolutely necessary.

- (iv) Purpose: to elevate the visibility of focal points and thus strengthen their function.

Suggestion: perhaps Statistics Canada could become proactive in this regard, using its national scope to publicize the work of provinces and territories. A national achievement or other award could be instituted, for example, and the winning province or territory written up in SCAN. The provinces/territories could prepare a brochure on their work and their role in the national statistical system for circulation throughout Statistics Canada.

- (v) Purpose: to study the provincial/territorial component of the national statistical system, systematically identifying ways of strengthening it.

Suggestion: institute an ongoing research program to examine issues related to the effectiveness of the Consultative Council. Resources would come from members' organizations.

- (vi) Purpose: to provide ways of developing and expanding the experience of statistical staff and fostering mutual understanding.

Suggestion: develop an "employee pool". Using the good offices of Marvin Blauer, identify people and skills (provincial as well as federal) who could

undertake specific assignments at Statistics Canada or in the provinces. Exchange of personnel would let us see how each of us carries out our jobs "in the trenches". Greater appreciation of our common concerns and our differences would enrich the system.

(vii) Purpose: to provide guidance on how to work within the federal-provincial statistical framework.

Suggestion: create a policies and procedures manual for federal-provincial statistical relations. Perhaps the Council Secretariat could coordinate the project and keep the manual current.

(viii) Purpose: to raise the profile of the Consultative Council.

Suggestion: establish a scholarship program. Council could award a research scholarship in recognition of work in the field of statistics in Canada.

(ix) Purpose: to address the problem of critical mass.

Suggestion: Statistics Canada could arrange to conduct contract work through those focal points that are willing and able to accept such responsibility.

(x) Purpose: to increase the effectiveness of focal point staff.

Suggestion: develop an orientation program to Statistics Canada for provincial/territorial statistical staff. Such a program, I believe, was established for Statistics Canada's regional staff, and could be extended to focal point staff visiting Ottawa for committee meetings etc.

It is emphasized that these are merely suggested examples of what we might individually and collectively undertake to contribute to the stabilization and advancement of the "provincial component". They are put forward not as a comprehensive proposed solution to our concerns but to stimulate the inventive minds of the members of this Council to generate a wide range of self help ideas.





PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL PARTICIPATION  
IN PRIORITY SETTING IN AN ENVIRONMENT  
OF BUDGETARY RESTRAINT

Presentation given by Mr. Luc Bessette, Director General  
of the Bureau de la statistique du Québec, to the May 24-25, 1989  
meeting of the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council  
on Statistical Policy

In a context of budgetary restraint, it is very important to optimize the use of the resources at our disposal and, above all, to ensure those resources are used to the best purposes. In a context where organizations must cut established programs to meet down-sizing objectives, it is even more important to ensure that these reductions are made in the right places.

In recent years, Statistics Canada has experienced severe reductions in its budget. It is clear these cuts have affected established programs and have led to setbacks in some sectors. Similarly, many provincial statistical agencies and provincial statistical and research organizations have also experienced their share of budget reductions. For example, the BSQ has lost one third of its staff over the last seven years and its 1989/90 budget will be, in absolute terms, lower than that of 1982/83. The paper prepared by Gail Graser showed clearly the staff reductions that have been experienced by most statistical agencies since 1982/83.

In as much as the statistical agencies are expected to complement the programs of Statistics Canada, to integrate those programs with what is being done at the provincial level and to play an active part in coordination, the elimination or even the down-scaling of certain activities can affect not only the equilibrium of the statistical systems in the provinces, but also under-cut a thrust in certain sectors or even compromise the existence of a program.

In this context, it is obvious that when Statistics Canada decides to withdraw from certain activities, or to pass their costs on to clients, the consequences can be more or less disastrous for the provinces and the provincial statistical agencies. This is why it is essential to be informed sufficiently early of decisions that have implications for established programs whether in terms of statistical content or future directions, in order to be able to react and adjust to the changes. But by itself, this is not enough. The provinces ought to have the opportunity to influence these choices. It has been my observation that too often the provincial agencies, for all kinds of reasons that are likely quite valid, are not advised of these choices until the last minute, when the decisions have already been taken.

The provincial statistical agencies are privileged sources of information on the utility and priority of the statistical needs of their province. Statistics Canada could benefit greatly by consulting them before finalizing its choices. One should not, however, consult the provincial statistical agencies only when Statistics Canada or its staff are looking for support to defend their projects, or only when they are concerned about overly negative reactions. Statistics Canada can, of course, employ a

variety of consultative mechanisms, but these should not compete with or replace consultation with the provincial statistical agencies. The federal-provincial committees are doubtless excellent forums for the exchange of information permitting participants to express their view-points, but they can and must also become opportunities for dialogue, otherwise it will be necessary to find another forum.

The provinces are important clients and are often the first victims of this type of decision. The situation is that much more difficult in that the provinces, and particularly the provincial statistical agencies, do not have the means to step into the breach, nor, what is worse, the time to react and attempt to find alternate solutions. The result is a loss of information and a set back to the statistical program.

The provinces and their statistical agencies realize the axe of budgetary reductions falls quickly and that, ultimately, the decisions belong to Statistics Canada. At the same time, there are important consequences. That is why it seems to us that the statistical agencies ought to be consulted in a spirit of dialogue rather than simply informed, and with this being done early enough to allow us to find solutions. This type of collaboration is essential for the healthy management of the Canadian statistical system.



No documentation  
distributed in advance  
of the meeting



No documentation  
distributed in advance  
of the meeting





No documentation  
distributed in advance  
of the meeting



PROPOSAL FOR AN ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE  
PROGRAMS, RESOURCES, PRODUCTS AND SERVICES  
OF THE PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL  
STATISTICAL AGENCIES

Proposal submitted by the Council Secretariat to the  
May 24-25, 1989 meeting of the Federal-Provincial  
Consultative Council on Statistical Policy.

## Introduction

At the May 1988 meeting of the Federal-Provincial Consultative Council on Statistical Policy, the Secretary to the Council proposed to the members that an annual review be conducted of the status, programs, resources, products and services of the provincial and territorial statistical agencies (or focal point office in the absence of a statistical agency). The results of the review would be reported to the Council each year as part of the Secretary's report.

The Council agreed that a proposal for such an annual review should be prepared by the Secretariat and submitted to the Program Committee for approval. This document develops a proposal for consideration by the Program Committee.

## Coverage and Process

The Secretariat proposes that the annual review cover six themes:

- o Statistical legislation
- o Reporting relationship within the provincial/territorial government and organizational structure
- o Resources, budgets and revenue targets
- o Programs (e.g. provincial economic accounts)
- o Products and services (e.g. L'Annuaire du Québec, Ontario Statistics, Manitoba Statistical Review)
- o Data-sharing and collection agreements with Statistics Canada

Initial collection of the base data would be undertaken in the period February to May 1989, if approved by the Program Committee. In subsequent years, the previous year's report for each province and territory would be returned to the focal point for review and updating during the first quarter of the calendar year. Information on data-sharing and collection agreements would be compiled at Statistics Canada.

The specific information to be collected from each province and territory is discussed below.

## Statistical legislation

In the initial year, each focal point would be asked to provide a current copy of provincial or territorial legislation creating and governing the operations of the statistical agency, where

such legislation exists. In subsequent years, the focal point would be asked to identify any amendments to this legislation and to briefly explain the purpose of the amendments.

### Reporting relationship

In the initial year each focal point would provide a description of the path by which the statistical agency (or focal point office in the absence of a statistical agency) reports to the premier of the province or the head of the territorial government. In subsequent years, the focal point would be asked to identify any changes to this path and to briefly describe any anticipated impact of the changes.

### Resources, budgets and revenue targets

Each year the focal point would be asked to report the following for the fiscal year in progress:

- o authorized person years: total, professional and support staff
- o authorized salary budget
- o authorized non-salary budget
- o anticipated revenues from products and services
- o revenue targets established for the agency

The focal point would be requested to describe the implementation of the revenue targets and identify any constraints or requirements that would effectively reduce person years or non-salary budgets below the authorized level.

### Programs

In the initial year, each focal point would be asked to describe all programs of the statistical agency or focal point office under the following broad headings:

Programs involving analysis of existing data sources (e.g. provincial economics accounts, population estimates, etc.)

Survey programs

Administrative data programs

Data dissemination programs

In subsequent years each focal point would be asked to identify changes in the programs from the previous year describing the reasons for the program adjustments.

### Products and Services

In the initial year, each focal point would be asked to list the current products and services of the provincial/territorial statistical agency under the following headings:

Publications (by title giving frequency and price)

Electronic products (by title giving frequency and price)

Other products (by title giving frequency and price)

On-line data retrieval services

Off-line special tabulation services

Survey taking

Statistical consulting

In subsequent years, focal points would be asked to identify changes to their products and services and indicate the purpose of these changes.

### Data-sharing and collection agreements with Statistics Canada

Statistics Canada will compile, each year, a listing of data-sharing and data collection agreements in effect with each province and territory. New agreements will be highlighted.

### Conclusion

The annual compilation and publication of the above information will provide an overview for the Consultative Council of the current status of the provincial and territorial component of the National Statistical System. In presenting the findings of the annual review emphasis will be placed on trends in resource levels and programs.

It is anticipated that provincial and territorial statistical agencies will also find this documentation useful for internal purposes.

December 2, 1988





NOMINATIONS TO THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE  
 OF THE FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL ON  
 STATISTICAL POLICY  
 1983-1988

Date of Council Meeting	Provincial Nominations	Statistics Canada Nominations
May 26-27, 1983	Nicole Gendreau (Quebec)	Ivan Fellegi
	John Tylee (Ontario)	Stewart Wells
	Harvey Ford (Alberta)	Ellis Drover (ex officio)
October 29-30, 1984	Clifford Marks (New Brunswick)	Yvon Fortin
	Nicole Gendreau (Quebec)	Bruce Petrie
	Ralph Joyce (Northwest Territories)	Stewart Wells
		Richard Morris (ex officio)
September 23-24, 1985	Clifford Marks (New Brunswick)	Harry Hodder
	Jan DePoe (Ontario)	Jacob Ryten
	Tom Beynon (British Columbia)	Michel Rochon (ex officio)

Date of Council Meeting	Provincial Nominations	Statistics Canada Nominations
October 1-2, 1986	Paul Dober (Nova Scotia)	Yvon Fortin
	Nicole Gendreau (Quebec)	Jacob Ryten
	Wilf Falk (Manitoba)	Ed Pryor
		Michel Rochon (ex officio)
October 22-23, 1987	John Palmer (Prince Edward Island)	Bruce Petrie
	Jan Kestle (Ontario)	Gordon Brackstone
	Ron McMahon (Saskatchewan)	Yvon Goulet
		Denis Desjardins (ex officio)
May 25-26, 1988	John Palmer (Prince Edward Island)	Guy Labossière
	Nicole Gendreau (Quebec)	Jean-Paul Trudel
	Bill McReynolds (British Columbia)	Ray Ryan
		Denis Desjardins (ex officio)



Ca 005

Statistics Canada Library  
Bibliothèque Statistique Canada



1010085641