



COMMUNICATIONS EXPRESS

February 1984

CCIS Task Force

A proposal now under study may lead to a new role for the Communications Research Centre (CRC) -- as the nucleus of a world-scale institute for R&D in telecommunications, space technology, informatics and computer science.

A task force, working under the direction of a joint industry-government steering committee chaired by Senior Assistant Deputy Minister Alain Gourd, will first determine whether the concept is feasible. The task force's work program is being conducted under contract by consultants from Price Waterhouse Ltd., in co-operation with Nordicity Group Ltd. and Philip A. Lapp Ltd.

If the findings are favourable, the task force will proceed to prepare business, organizational and implementation

(continued on page 2)



Some of the 19 semi-finalists in the Canadian Astronaut Program talk with Peter Townsend (back to camera) of the David Florida Laboratory during a tour of Ottawa-area space facilities. Steven Maclean (2nd from left) and Robert Thirsk (3rd from left) are among the six finalists who will train to carry out Canadian experiments in space. Ken Hepburn and Colin Franklin, from DOC, took part in the selection process.



NEED project reaches thousands in Pacific Region

WCY travelling exhibit prepared by Pacific Region.

What do you get when you put together an energetic team of workers determined to prove their skills in only 11 weeks? A 400-square-metre interactive exhibit on the main floor of the Arts, Sciences and Technology Centre in Vancouver (ASTC), a portable display which will tour British Columbia and the Yukon until 1985, a ten-minute video presentation, and school kits, brochures, radio and TV promotional materials are what the Pacific Region managed to produce as part of a national effort to celebrate World Communications Year (WCY).

The Vancouver office undertook this ambitious project with the help of a \$145,000 grant from Employment and Immigration Canada's NEED (New Employment Extension and Development) Program. Created early in 1983 to provide temporary jobs for unemployed Canadians, the program enabled the Pacific Regional Office to hire 14 contract employees to mount the exhibit.

In co-operation with the ASTC, the provincial government and local communica-

tions companies, the group produced a major display that was officially opened by Mr. Fox on International Telecommunications Day (May 17, 1983). Using hardware worth over \$750,000 lent by B.C. and Yukon communications industries, the display was divided into four modules: telecommunications, mobile radio, satellites and program production.

Since its opening, the WCY exhibit has attracted visitors from around the world, including a special delegation from the People's Republic of China, as well as representatives from DOC and other federal departments. The total number of visitors from May to October reached 75,000, an 86 per cent increase in the ASTC's summer attendance statistics, and over 22,000 students from grades 4 to 12 were given guided tours.

The smaller, portable display of the exhibit received an enthusiastic welcome in Prince George, Fort Nelson, Watson Lake, Faro, Dawson City, Haines Junction, Kelowna and Nanaimo.

ADMSM visits regions

Rob Gordon, the new Assistant Deputy Minister, Spectrum Management recently travelled across the country, visiting all regional offices, as well as district offices in Langley, B.C., Saskatoon and Edmonton. In British Columbia, Mr. Gordon presented a 25-year service award to Tony Tamayose, Manager of the Vancouver District Office, and attended the opening of the new district office.

"It was a very rewarding trip," Mr. Gordon said, "particularly as I had the chance to meet many DOC staff members and have a first-hand look at regional operations."

(continued from page 1)

plans, reporting its recommendations by March 31, 1984. At the same time, a government working group -- comprising officials from DOC, the Privy Council Office, the Treasury Board, the Public Service Commission, and other interested departments -- will examine the implications of any changes in the status of the CRC and its employees.

The proposed Canadian Communications, Informatics and Space Research Institute (CCIS) would be a not-for-profit corporation open to participation by the federal government and other sponsors, including provincial governments and private-sector organizations. It would derive its revenues from the sale of R&D services to government and private-sector clients.

In announcing establishment of the task force, Communications Minister Francis Fox said: "The purpose behind the proposal is to co-ordinate public and private-sector R&D resources more effectively at the national level, in order to ensure a competitive presence in domestic and foreign markets. In addition to conducting long-term projects on behalf of the federal government, the CCIS would also undertake short-term, mission-oriented projects in response to the needs of Canadian industry."

Mr. Fox added that the government will consult closely with public-service unions in developing a new role for the CRC.



On January 17, 1984, Communications Minister Francis Fox met with the Premier of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Zhao Ziyang, during his official visit to Canada. Mr. Fox later announced that Spar Aerospace Limited had signed agreements worth more than \$20 million for the sale of 26 satellite earth stations and the transfer of related technology to China.

At the CRC on December 13, 1983, James Taylor (right), President of Canadian Astronautics Limited (CAL), and Sir Peter Anson (left), space division head of Marconi Space and Defence Systems in Portsmouth, England, signed a \$2 million contract under which CAL will design, build and deliver a deployable satellite antenna for the British SKYNET 4 satellite, to be used for Royal Navy communications. CAL is one of a number of Canadian firms which make use of the advanced facilities of the department's David Florida Laboratory.



Productive ideas

Four more employees of the department have received concrete evidence that bright ideas can pay off. John Hall of the Mail Room, Lise Franklin and Liliana Conn of the Telecommunications Regulatory Service, and Marc-André Potvin, Administrative and Technical Services, have received cheques under the Suggestion Award Program for ideas which simplified work procedures and reduced government spending.

John Hall's suggestion that a direct billing system be used for parcels and general mail instead of the service provided by Supply and Services Canada saved the Department of Communications an estimated \$5,772 over a one-year period.

After Lise Franklin questioned the use of expensive accounting ledgers to register mail in her section, an enquiry revealed that a standard form was available for this purpose. Its use reduced the cost and incorrect use of ledgers.

During the 1982-83 fiscal year, the department was able to save close to \$4,500 thanks to Liliana Conn who suggested using photocopiers rather than printing services to make reduced-size copies.

John Hall (right)



Liliana Conn



First McLuhan Teleglobe Canada Award presented

On December 7, 1983, Governor General Edward Schreyer presented the first McLuhan Teleglobe Canada Award to Bolivian journalist Luis Ramiro Beltrán. This international prize for an outstanding contribution to communications is named for Canada's renowned theorist, the late Marshall McLuhan. It was established by the Canadian Commission for UNESCO and Teleglobe Canada as a World Communications Year initiative and will be awarded every two years.

In addition, Marc-André Potvin's suggestion for more efficient mail delivery to Canada Post is saving the department's mailroom about \$85 a week.

Each year some \$156,000 in awards are presented to employees in the federal public service and, over the past five years, the average award has been \$175, with 21 awards exceeding \$1,000.

Lise Franklin



Marc-André Potvin (left)



Mr. Fox attended the presentation ceremony at Government House, where Mr. Beltrán, a noted communicator, author and professor, received the \$50,000 prize and a silver medal designed by Canadian artist Lois Betteridge.

Currently working in Columbia, Mr. Beltrán is noted for his exceptional contributions to communications media and technology in Latin America.

DOC and NASA sign Arrangement to co-operate on MSAT

The Department of Communications and the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) recently signed an agreement which DOC officials feel will lead directly to a commercial MSAT or mobile satellite system providing reliable communications to users with terminals in their cars, trucks, boats or planes by 1988.

"Interest in Canada and the United States has been so great," said Bob Breithaupt, head of the MSAT program, "that we have agreed with NASA to support the establishment of an industry-led, commercial satellite program, rather than the demonstration satellite originally envisaged by Canada and the United States. The new Arrangement should benefit Canada by ensuring early commercial service, shared non-recurring development expenses and shared costs of spare spacecraft."

The Arrangement, signed by Assistant Deputy Minister for Technology and Industry Development Ken Hepburn and NASA Associate Administrator B.I. Edleson, allows for co-operation for the duration of the project definition phase of the MSAT program. Under the Arrangement, NASA will issue a notice of opportunity to U.S. satellite operators. The firm selected will then work with Telesat Canada to procure the satellites and associated ground equipment to provide mobile communications throughout North America.

Comings and goings

Headquarters

Don Stephenson, formerly the Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister, has accepted an appointment to the Cultural Affairs Sector as the Chief, Arts Policy. He has been replaced by **Nora Hockin**, who joined the Public Service in 1974 and worked most recently as a Marketing Support Officer, Technology and Industry Sector, after completing the CAP (Career Assignment Program) management course.

Maryse Brunet-Lalonde is the new Special Assistant to the Senior Assistant Deputy Minister; she comes to us from the National Capital Commission, where she was Chief of Public Relations and Information.

Peter Liebel has joined the department as Director General, Industry and Economic Development. Before accepting this appointment, he was the Assistant Secretary for Communications at the Ministry of State for Economic Development.

The Director of Informatics Applications Management, **James Feeley**, has left the department to pursue interests in the videotex industry. **Roy Marsh** is now the Acting Director.

DGFP has a new Director of Policy Coordination, **Jean Bélanger**. He was previously a Senior Policy Analyst in DGPA.

Ken Yokoyama joined the International Consultative Committee Activities Section of the International Relations Branch. He was previously employed by Teleglobe.

GTA Superintendent of Systems Development, **Kelly Collins**, has left DOC to join the Department of Supply and Services. **André Gouin** was appointed Manager, Telecommunications Planning, while **Richard Paukstaitis**, formerly with National Defence, joined GTA as Manager, Policy and Analysis, with the Planning and Coordination Division.

DGBP has welcomed **Tom Caplan**, formerly with the old Communications Economics Branch, as an Economic Policy Analyst. He reports to the Director of New Content Services, **Mary Meloshe**, who is also in charge of the DOC Office



Peter Liebel

Communications System field trial. The field trial Project Officer is **Lyse Fournier**, who comes to us from the private sector through an industrial interchange program, while **Ken Dagg**, formerly with Computer Services, is the new Technical Advisor. From the Australian Department of Communications, **Dominic Kelly** has joined Extension of Services for one year, as part of an executive exchange program. **René-France Boivin**, from the Correspondence Unit, is now with DGBP as the Administrative Clerk. And finally, two more employees from the old Communications Economics Branch are now with Broadcasting Policy: **Hseih Wong**, as a Statistical Analyst, and **Janet Horton**, who performs clerical duties.

Information Services recently welcomed **Louise Lafleur** as Media Relations Officer in the Public Affairs Section. She comes to us from the Prime Minister's Office where she was a Press Assistant.

Atlantic Region

Micheline Chase, Regional Director since September 1980, has left DOC for a year to take a special course at the Royal College on Defence Studies in London, England. **Réal Valiquette** has assumed her duties on an acting basis.

Regional Superintendent of Broadcasting Engineering **Rolland Richard** has accepted a new assignment at headquarters as Executive Assistant, ADMSM.

The Standards Officer, Enforcement, with the Moncton Regional Office, **Louis Hughes** retired in February 1984. Hired as a Radio Inspector on oil tankers in the merchant navy during the Second World War, he joined the Canadian Department of Transport in 1960 and DOC in 1969. He held positions at the Montreal and Ottawa District Offices and was appointed Manager of the Bathurst District Office in 1974. He assumed his current duties in 1978.



Micheline Chase

Quebec Region

Jean Couture has moved from his position as a Radio Inspector in Saskatoon to the Sept-Îles district sub-office where he is the Senior Inspector. **Michelle Rompré** recently took on her new duties as Communications Development Officer at the regional office in Montreal.

The Superintendent, Operational Services, **Jean Gruslin**, moved from the Montreal Regional Office to the GTA office at headquarters.

Ontario Region

Four employees have left the Government Telecommunications Section: **Larry Hargrove**, Superintendent, Operations, joined the Bank of Montreal; **Don Cross**, Analyst, is now working for the Mitel Corporation; **Mun Seng Liu**, Development Officer, resigned to work for the Government of Ontario; and **Gerry Parnis**, Operations Officer is continuing his studies at the University of Toronto.

The Program Development and Policy Analysis Section lost its Communications Development Officer, **Cliodhna McMullin**, who has moved to the Department of Justice.

Central Region

Jean Proceviat, Pay and Benefits Supervisor in the Winnipeg Regional Office, retired after 35 years with the Public Service. On December 7, 1983, at a reception organized in her honour, she was presented with a silver medal, a framed plaque from the Prime Minister and many messages of congratulations from the district offices.

Pacific Region

Word processing operator **Janice Herchuk** has resigned from the department to work in the private sector.