



## Foundation News

### CFCAS lauded in Interim Evaluation

A recent evaluation of CFCAS has confirmed its continued effectiveness, efficiency and success in meeting its goals. The evaluation, conducted by the management consultant firm Goss Gilroy Inc. concluded that CFCAS is an efficient funding body with a sound management structure and a fair and transparent proposal evaluation process; and that research is conducted in a cost-effective manner. The report notes several important achievements, including the fostering of collaborations between university and government scientists, the training of several hundred students and research personnel, and the reinforcement of Canadian expertise in key areas.

The report recommends that CFCAS ensure that relevant government policy is informed by research; a greater investment in communications; and better use of committees of the Board of Trustees. Furthermore, the report encourages CFCAS to develop improved performance indicators to demonstrate better the impacts of funded research in its next (2010) evaluation.

### CFCAS staff news

The Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Kelly Crowe as Communications Officer. Ms Crowe, who has a background in journalism, is responsible for the Foundation's publicity, outreach and media relations.

### CFCAS statistics

As of May 2007, 79 CFCAS-funded projects and networks had completed their work; 76 more are on-going. The research has contributed to the training of over 660 highly-qualified personnel. CFCAS is currently developing a strategy for use of its remaining resources.

### CFCAS briefings on the 2007 IPCC Report

CFCAS hosted briefings on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fourth Assessment Report. Canadian lead authors from all sectors presented key findings from the reports of Working Group I: "The Physical Science Basis" (February 2); and Working Group II "Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability" (April 10). The April session was co-hosted by the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction. Both events were well attended by federal decision makers, media and agency representatives.

## News Briefs

### Federal S and T Strategy Released

The federal government released its long-awaited science and technology strategy on May 17. The strategy focuses on creating a more competitive, sustainable economy with the help of science and technology. It calls for stronger private sector involvement in research and development, and continued efforts to strengthen Canada's knowledge base. The plan will foster three 'Advantages for Canadians':

- ◆ Entrepreneurial advantage: an environment that encourages private sector S&T investment and the translation of knowledge into commercial applications;
- ◆ Knowledge advantage: a strong knowledge base; strategic targeting of research to priority areas;
- ◆ People advantage: a skilled S&T workforce; talent generation and mobilization; commitment to training.

The plan outlines principles and policy commitments to accomplish these goals. For details see <http://ic.gc.ca/cmb/welcomeic.nsf/ICPages/CorporatePublications#s-t>.

### New President of Canadian Space Agency

The appointment Laurier Boisvert as new President of the Canadian Space Agency was announced on April 12, 2007

### Summer in Toronto

Ontario's first smog advisory for 2007 was issued May 8 for southern Ontario. The City of Toronto is launching an Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) pilot project, to assess pollution and associated health effects. The index uses a scale of 1 to 10 to measure risk, based on the interaction of ground-level ozone, particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide. Health Canada is funding the 18-month project.

## CFCAS Network update

### Polar Climate Stability Network (PCSN)

On May 1<sup>st</sup>, researchers in the CFCAS-funded PCSN met with media in Vancouver to provide information on their research on Canada's north. The research news received wide coverage across the country.