

Editorial

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In 1994, the Canadian Geoscience Council approved the formation of an expert committee whose mandate would be to review and discuss the current status and future development of the earth sciences in Canada. Canadian Geoscience Council president Dr. Glen Caldwell was asked by the Council to assemble and coordinate the committee. Additional funds were obtained from the Canadian Geological Foundation and by joining forces with the Geological Survey of Canada who were considering a similar assessment. The committee's studies were launched late that year under the chairmanship of Dr. Chris Barnes.

The committee's mandate was made as flexible as possible and it was encouraged to take the broadest and most far-sighted view. I believe that the attached report speaks for itself as a visionary comment on the evolution, the challenges and the opportunities that lie ahead as Canada's earth scientists prepare for the next century. The Canadian geoscience community has always played a major role in influencing and implementing development and change in our discipline. I am confident that the next quarter century will see this continue, and that this report will contribute significantly to the planning, decisions and actions that will be required.

The Canadian Geoscience Council is deeply grateful for the effort and dedication of the Committee, for the support and encouragement of its sponsors particularly the Geological Survey of Canada, and for the assistance of the Geological Association of Canada in making possible this publication in *Geoscience Canada*.

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