

22-5-80

D. G. Heyberg



National Research Council
Canada

Conseil national de recherches
Canada

President

Président

22 May 1980.

MEMO TO: National Research Council Staff

According to the calendar I will have reached the mandatory retirement age of 65 on June 1st of this year. And so the time has come to lay down my responsibilities as President of the National Research Council.

I would be less than honest if I did not admit to you mixed feelings of sadness and pride at severing my connection with NRC at this time. These have not been easy years for the Council, but in spite of many frustrations and an adverse climate, we can now begin to see some light at the end of the tunnel. The fact that NRC has survived this difficult period virtually intact, and is now receiving greater recognition and appreciation (which hopefully will now also lead to greater support), is entirely due to the high quality performance and research achievements of NRC staff. This is our strength and I am certain, if this strength can be maintained and built upon, NRC has a very bright future and will make tremendous contributions to our future Canadian development.

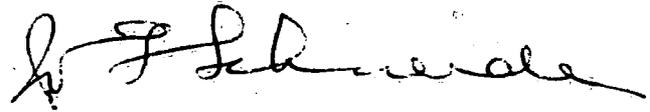
In a more personal vein I believe NRC is unique among research institutions. I suppose I would not have devoted thirty-four years of my life and energies to it had I felt otherwise. Much admired and imitated abroad, NRC has been given but grudging recognition in Canada. But this is a typically Canadian characteristic and we have learned to live with it. NRC's uniqueness is its human capital - very able, dedicated and highly motivated scientists, engineers, technicians and administrative personnel, together with a broadly-based Council of peers, - all with a strong collective sense of purpose. I am deeply grateful to have had the opportunity to be part of such an enterprise, to be able to work in its innovative and stimulating environment, and to serve the Council as its President.

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Je voudrais vous en remercier sincèrement et vous dire combien j'ai apprécié l'appui que vous m'avez apporté et la loyauté dont vous avez fait preuve à mon égard au cours de mon mandat de président. Sans cela et vos réalisations personnelles qui ont été pour moi une source inépuisable de fierté, les charges de ma fonction auraient été moins faciles à supporter.

Un communiqué annonçant la nomination d'un nouveau président sera fait au moment opportun. Je suis sûr que mon successeur peut compter sur votre appui total pour poursuivre la difficile mission du CNRC qui est d'apporter une contribution efficace par la Science et la Technologie au développement futur du Canada.

Permettez-moi de terminer en vous souhaitant tout le succès possible dans vos entreprises et en vous adressant mes vœux les plus sincères pour l'avenir.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W.G. Schneider', with a stylized flourish at the end.

W.G. Schneider.