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The Canadian Institute of Resources Law at Calgary

Constance D. Hunt
University of Calgary

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I. *The Institute's Establishment and Early Years*

When the University of Calgary's Law Faculty was established in 1976, one of its mandates was to develop a specialized program in resources and environmental law.¹ This process was embarked upon immediately through the use of many resources law issues as teaching vehicles in first-year courses such as constitutional and property law, and the development of an upper-year curriculum that featured several courses and programs in resources and environmental law.² As well, generous contributions from Calgary law firms and corporations resulted in the partial endowment of a Chair of Natural Resources Law.

Calgary's founding law dean, John McLaren, recognized at an early stage that a true claim to specialization and excellence in the resources law area could be realized only through the development of a strong research capacity. In the fall of 1977, the Alberta Law Foundation agreed to fund a study of the feasibility of establishing a resources law research centre in Calgary and a study team was assembled under the chairmanship of Professor Alastair Lucas, with representatives from the Calgary private and corporate bar as well as from the University of Alberta's Law Faculty.³

*Professor of Law, University of Calgary, and Executive Director, Canadian Institute of Resources Law.

**The assistance of the following individuals in reviewing this comment is gratefully acknowledged: A. Lucas, D. Detomasi, R. Harrison, O. Saunders, B. Barton, T. Goulet, E. Case.

1. For an overview of the Calgary program, see John P.S. McLaren, *Legal Education at Calgary: Blending Progress and Tradition* (1985), 9 Dal. L.J. 421.

2. The curriculum currently contains second- and third-year courses in Natural Resources Law, Natural Resources and Environmental Law, and Energy Law, as well as the intensive third-year program entitled *Natural Resources and Tribunal Practicum*, which embraces an Advanced Oil and Gas course, in-depth student research projects, two-week student placements with resource law practitioners, and a seminar dealing with topics of current interest in resources and administrative law.

3. The other study team members were Dean McLaren and the writer, of the Calgary Law Faculty; Professor David Percy of the University of Alberta Law Faculty; Gary Holland, then Associate General Counsel of Gulf Canada Resources; and Francis Saville, a senior partner with the Calgary firm Fenerty, Robertson, Fraser and Hatch. The study was coordinated by Everett Peterson, an Edmonton-based consultant with expertise in resources management. All the study team members became actively involved with the Institute, serving as Board members for at least the first seven years of the Institute's existence. Professor Lucas was the second Executive Director of the Institute, while Mr. Holland served as Chairman of the Institute's Board of Directors until December, 1986, when he was succeeded by Mr. Saville.

The study team reported in April, 1978, having conducted interviews with interested parties in the private and public sectors throughout Canada, explored the possibilities of obtaining funding for such a venture, and examined with the University the vehicles that could be used to set up a research centre. Visits to a number of organizations in American locations such as Tulsa, Denver and Houston convinced the study team that a diversity of public and private funding sources would have to be drawn upon to ensure that the proposed Institute could be, and would be, perceived as independent of the various societal groups with a stake in resources laws and policies.

The study team's report viewed "resources law" as a function of society's needs and desires in the utilization of its resources, encompassing the law relating to petroleum and natural gas, coal, water, hard rock minerals, forests and other renewable resources. It emphasized the fact that resources law was evolving from a primarily private to a largely public law subject. It envisaged a resources law research centre that engaged in research, educational and publication programs and that would serve to strengthen the Calgary law school's capacity to specialize in resources law. The report recognized that in order for a Calgary-based organization to take a national view of resources law, it would be critical to secure early involvement in the project of specialists from throughout Canada. Attention was also devoted to the relationship between resources law and other disciplines such as economics, environmental science and engineering. The study team recognized the importance of links being built with other disciplines but, given that the proposed Institute would be unique in Canada, recommended that its primary emphasis be upon law.

The study team's report was received favourably by the Alberta Law Foundation which, in August 1978, agreed to provide a \$250,000 grant to help underwrite the first two years of the proposed Institute's operation. With this generous assistance, matters moved quickly. The University's Board of Governors authorized Dean McLaren and the Vice-President (Academic) to seek external funding for the Institute's first five years of operation and, a few months later, approved the establishment of the Canadian Institute of Resources Law (C.I.R.L.) as an independent research institute affiliated with the University of Calgary. In January, 1979, a Steering Committee⁴ was set up to oversee the incorporation and launching of C.I.R.L.

4. In addition to the original study team members, the Steering Committee included Professor Don Detomasi of the Faculty of Environmental Design, Professor Gail Starr of the Law Faculty, and Mr. Michael Rodney of the Edmonton law firm Parlee, Irving, Henning, Mustard and Rodney. Mr. Rodney served for several years as the Institute's Secretary-Treasurer, while

Within six months, the Institute had been incorporated as a federal non-profit corporation with the following objectives:

- To contribute to a better understanding of how legal systems and laws deal with natural resources, to analyze whether such laws accomplish their policy objectives and to propose reforms;
- To analyze the techniques by which resources policies are developed and implemented, to assess the appropriateness of such techniques and to make appropriate recommendations;
- To disseminate the results of the Institute's research by undertaking educational and publication activities;
- To complement the responsibilities of existing legal education institutions by providing a pool of expertise in Resources Law.

Professor Rowland Harrison, formerly of the Dalhousie law faculty, joined the Calgary faculty in the summer of 1979 and was appointed the first Executive Director, while Professor Lucas, then the holder of the Chair of Natural Resources Law, became the Associate Executive Director. A funding proposal was put before the Government of Alberta's Department of Advanced Education and discussions concerning financial support were initiated with the Government of Canada. Steps were also taken to assemble a national Board of Directors.

It had been recognized that securing long-term funding for a fledgling organization would be difficult without being able to demonstrate the contribution that such a research centre could make. Yet how could research projects be launched without sufficient funds to hire a permanent research staff? This "catch-22" situation was finessed when two major projects were undertaken in the Institute's name, but overseen by Professor Lucas and the writer. The first was a study of the impact of environmental regulation upon the petroleum industry, part of a larger study of regulation sponsored by the Economic Council of Canada. This project led to the Institute's first publication.⁵ The second was the creation of the *Canada Energy Law Service*, a three volume loose-leaf service published by Richard De Boo Limited of Toronto which covers Canada's major energy regulatory boards and which was being marketed by late 1981.⁶ The latter remains an ongoing part of C.I.R.L.'s research and publication program.

Professor Detomasi has been a member of the Institute's Board and Executive Committee ever since.

5. C.D. Hunt and A.R. Lucas, *Environmental Regulation—Its Impact on Major Oil and Gas Projects: Oil Sands and Arctic*, (Calgary: Canadian Institute of Resources Law, 1980).

6. Constance D. Hunt and Alastair R. Lucas (eds.), *Canada Energy Law Service*, (Toronto: Richard De Boo Limited, 1981)

The first meeting of the Institute's national Board of Directors was held in Calgary in December 1979. The founding Board members⁷ were drawn from all corners of the country and were intended to bring together expertise in relation to a variety of resources as well as to cut across the spectrum of lawyers practicing resources law in the private, government and corporate bars. Although most were lawyers, non-lawyers were also invited to join the Board in order to broaden the Institute's activities and viewpoint. With planning underway for a major conference to be held in conjunction with the Institute for Research on Public Policy and the hiring of three research associates and a secretary by the summer of 1980,⁸ the Canadian Institute of Resources Law had become a reality.

II. *The Institute's Finances and Administration*

1. *Funding*

With the decision to establish C.I.R.L. as an independent institute affiliated with the University of Calgary, it was apparent that contributions from the University were likely to take the form of space and access to university facilities and services. Of necessity, then, the matter of financial security has always been of prime concern both to the Board of Directors and the Executive Director. The majority of C.I.R.L.'s

7. A number of the founding Board members were appointed by the constituent organizations indicated in parentheses, as required by C.I.R.L.'s constitution. These included Gary Holland, Chairman (Canadian Petroleum Law Foundation); Michael Rodney, Secretary-Treasurer (Alberta Law Society); Dean McLaren and Professors Hunt, Lucas and Starr (Calgary Law Faculty); Professor Detomasi (University of Calgary); and Professor Percy (University of Alberta Law Faculty). Elected founding directors included: Francis Saville, Vice-Chairman; Jean Bazin, Montreal; Roger Duncan and Peter Manson, Vancouver; Clifford Lax, Peter Middleton and Donald Macdonald, Toronto; Robert Moncur, Regina; Andrew Wells, Charlottetown; and Ronald Havelock and Rowland Harrison, Calgary. Others who have since served on the Board include Dean Hughes and Professors Rendall, Cruickshank and Rounthwaite of the University of Calgary Law Faculty; John Howard, Vancouver; William Mustard, Edmonton; Roy Romanow, Saskatoon; Donald Kennedy, Merv Leitch, Hugh Gaudet and Gordon Brown, Calgary; John Ivany and John Roberts, Toronto; and Brian Flemming and Gerald Godsoe, Halifax.

8. One of the original Research Associates, Owen Saunders, remains on the Institute's staff. Of the two other original staff members, Ian Townsend-Gault departed in early 1984 to join Dalhousie's Law Faculty, while Sheila McAllister took up a position in the private sector in late 1981. Nigel Bankes and Sheilah Martin joined Calgary's Law Faculty after serving on the Institute's staff and Christian Yoder was with C.I.R.L. from 1984 to late 1985 on leave from the Calgary law firm Macleod, Dixon. Other current Research Associates are Barry Barton and Janet Keeping, with Susan Blackman as a Research Assistant. Many students have contributed to the Institute's work over the years as Research Assistants, and the organization has been blessed with excellent support staff. The first secretary was Pauline Briggs and the first administrator was Enid Marion. Currently, Shirley Babcock and Susan Parsons serve as secretaries, Evangeline Case as Publications Editor, and Theresa Goulet as Administrator/Public Relations Officer.

annual budget is devoted to salaries for staff and contract researchers, so financial stability has been a key to the Institute's ability to attract and retain top-level researchers.

In addition to its feasibility study and start-up grants, the Alberta Law Foundation has continued to be an important source of the Institute's funds, currently contributing approximately 13% of its annual budget. The Government of Alberta's first contribution, late in 1980, marked a turning point in the Institute's goal of diverse funding; the provincial government has also been a generous supporter of C.I.R.L.'s work, now supplying about 25% of the overall budget. Federal monies have been derived through grants, contract research, and special programs. Of particular significance are long-term pledges from the Departments of Energy, Mines and Resources and Environment, with overall federal sources currently funding about 23% of C.I.R.L.'s costs.

Project funds have been procured from a variety of other foundations and organizations. Most notable is the three-year grant of \$165,000 in 1984 by the Donner Canada Foundation to support C.I.R.L.'s Canadian Water Law project. Other projects have been funded by such organizations as the Canadian Petroleum Law Foundation, the Alberta Environmental Research Trust, the Foundation for Legal Research, the Canadian and International Bar Associations, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and various provincial and federal government departments.

Contributions from the private sector were especially critical to the Institute's survival in the early years. Corporate sponsors of the Institute's research on frontier oil and gas law have included Gulf Canada Corporation, Esso Resources Canada Ltd., Suncor Resources Ltd., Canadian Superior Oil Ltd., Petro Canada Resources, Chevron Canada Resources Ltd., Husky Oil Operations Ltd., Home Oil Co. Ltd., Shell Canada Resources, Mobil Oil Canada Ltd., and Dome Petroleum.

Contract research has also helped to meet C.I.R.L.'s budgetary needs. In undertaking such work, however, it has been the Institute's policy to maintain the right to publish the resulting research. While this has constrained the nature of the organization's contract research, it has enabled the Institute to maintain its reputation as an independent centre of research. In addition to work for government departments and the private sector, C.I.R.L. has contributed to the research efforts of the Macdonald Royal Commission on the Economic Union and Development Prospects for Canada and the Task Force on Northern Conservation.

The balance of C.I.R.L.'s financial needs are met from a variety of sources, including its education, conference and seminar activities.

Increasingly, monies are generated through publication sales and royalties from the *Canada Energy Law Service*.

As a result of private donations, in 1984 the Resources Law Endowment Fund was established. Revenue generated from this fund will be used to bring visiting speakers and scholars to Calgary and to support student participation in Institute activities. Although it has had a modest beginning, it is hoped that the continuing growth of the fund will be secured through the efforts of a committee recently struck by the Board of Directors.

2. *The Board*

The Institute's Board members are a volunteer group who meet twice a year. Between Board meetings, authority to oversee the Institute is vested in an Executive Committee drawn from those Board members who reside in Alberta. The Executive Director has day-to-day supervision of the Institute's activities, subject to direction from the Board and its Executive Committee.

Individual Board members serve on committees that deal with matters such as the Institute's finances, expenditures of endowment fund monies, long-term planning, and review of the Institute's productivity. Board members with expertise in matters that are part of C.I.R.L.'s research program sometimes participate in those programs by helping to draft proposals and organize and execute educational programs and by writing papers and articles for C.I.R.L.'s newsletter. The Board gives direction to the organization's overall research, education and publication program, determines policy, and oversees budgets and general financial matters. One measure of the Institute's success over its short past has been its ability to attract to its Board experts in many aspects of resources law from virtually all parts of the country.

During the early years, Board meetings were held in Calgary. Since 1984 at least one meeting per year has taken place in another location. Meetings have now been held in Ottawa, Toronto, Edmonton and Vancouver, and receptions held in conjunction with them have provided an opportunity to advertise more broadly the work and expertise of the Institute. In this way, new contacts have been developed for the Institute and its staff throughout the country.

3. *Relations with the University of Calgary and Its Law Faculty*

The establishment and growth of C.I.R.L. would not have been possible without encouragement and cooperation from the University of Calgary. During its embryonic period, space for the Executive Director and staff members was found on campus both within the Law Faculty's premises

and elsewhere. By late 1982, space for the Institute itself had been developed in close physical proximity to the law school and library; these facilities were opened officially in December, 1982, and have been invaluable in developing the sense of institutional self-identity and staff cohesiveness that are essential to the success of any organization.

The provision of office space and services by the University was affirmed in an affiliation agreement entered into between the two entities in early 1986. Access to the University's trust accounting services has helped the Institute to demonstrate financial control and management to outside funders. The University's direct stake in C.I.R.L. is acknowledged by its right to appoint a representative to the Board of Directors.

The close ties that have characterized the relationship between the Institute and the Faculty of Law are hardly surprising in view of the Institute's origins. The faculty appoints four members to the Institute's Board and has been able to recruit full-time teachers from the Institute's staff. The Executive Director traditionally has been a faculty member part of whose time is seconded to the Institute, and all Research Associates have engaged in teaching in the law school and elsewhere on campus, as adjunct professors, sessional lecturers, graduate student supervisors or guest speakers. The Institute supports the law library's resources law collection and makes available to the University community its own specialized resource centre. The Institute has been able to provide student employment and to relate student research projects to its research programs. It cooperates with the faculty in sponsoring visits and lectures by experts in resources law.

Perhaps most importantly, the Institute's successes and national and international reputation reflect favourably upon both the University of Calgary and its law faculty, assisting the latter to maintain a curriculum that specializes in resources law.

4. Relations with Other Organizations

Since it was founded, the Canadian Institute of Resources Law has striven to build cooperative relations with law and law-related organizations both in Canada and abroad.

Within Alberta, it has worked with such groups as the Canadian Petroleum Law Foundation, the Environmental Law Centre in Edmonton, the Canadian Association of Petroleum Landmen, the Resource Management Program of the Banff Centre's School of Management, the Canadian Energy Research Institute, and various subsections of the Canadian Bar Association. Nationally, it has co-sponsored conferences and workshops with the Nova Scotia Continuing Legal Education Society, the Institute for Research on Public Policy, the

Native Law Centre in Saskatoon, and the Energy and Resources Law Section of the Canadian Bar Association. At an international level, it has facilitated conferences held in Alberta by the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation and the International Bar Association (Section on Energy and Resources Law), and co-sponsored a conference with the Montana-based 49th Parallel Institute and others.

In addition to its ongoing ties with "sister" organizations in such far-flung locations as Australia, Norway, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and the United States, its staff members have acted as Canadian reporters for publications sponsored by the International Bar Association and the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation.

III. *The Institute's Programs and Activities*

The growth of the Institute from a fledgling research organization to a maturing centre of expertise is attested to by the direction which its programs have taken. In the early years, much of its work focussed upon problems of special concern to western Canada. While western issues remain of interest, its activities now have a national thrust.

1. *Research*

As mentioned earlier, one focus has been energy regulation. The *Canada Energy Law Service* has filled a major gap in the existing literature and serves as an important reference tool for lawyers and others who work before energy tribunals such as the National Energy Board, the Ontario Energy Board, the Manitoba Public Utilities Commission and so on. Although the Service's coverage now ends at the Ontario-Quebec border, the Québec *Régie* is expected to be included in 1987, and the Service eventually will be extended to other eastern provinces. Service issues are released bi-monthly through the joint efforts of the Institute's Service Editor and the publisher, Richard De Boo Limited.

Of ongoing interest to the Institute has been the law affecting frontier energy development. The industry- and government-sponsored Continental Shelf Project resulted in a series of working papers,⁹ contract work for the private sector, and the sponsoring of workshops and seminars dealing with the regulation of offshore installations, conflicting uses of the sea, and the federal government's energy security legislation.

9. Working papers published by the Institute from the Continental Shelf Project include Ian Townsend-Gault, *Petroleum Operations on the Canadian Continental Margin — the Legal Issues in a Modern Perspective* (1983); Ian Townsend-Gault, *The International Legal Context of Petroleum Operations in Canadian Arctic Waters* (1983); W. Wylie Spicer, *Canadian Maritime Law and the Offshore: A Primer* (1984); and Christian G. Yoder, *The Canadian Regulation of Offshore Installations* (1985).

The workshop program provided a neutral forum in which government, fisheries and energy representatives were able to explore means of resolving their differences in the offshore. A more recent industry-sponsored project entitled *Oil and Gas Law on Canada Lands* has led to publications¹⁰ and related activities such as the provision of advice and speakers to industry, provincial and international organizations and submissions to governments and parliamentary committees considering new or amended legislation.¹¹ These submissions have concentrated upon gaps, duplication and inconsistency in the law and the extent to which stated policies are reflected in the law. Such activities have been considered an appropriate part of the Institute's mandate to promote the development of clear, effective laws.

The C.I.R.L. Board has always emphasized the importance of the Institute's ability to respond to emerging issues in Canadian resources law. One demonstration of this is the Institute's work in the water law field, which was launched with a 1983 study of legal constraints on Alberta water management. Soon after, the federal Environment Department sponsored studies of interjurisdictional issues in water management and legal issues pertaining to the export of Canada's water. These two papers form part of the larger Donner project, referred to earlier, which will result in a series of working papers describing the framework for Canada's water legislation, security of title to water rights, issues in native water rights and water pollution, to name just a few.

A major thrust of the work in water law has been to share research results with water managers and other interested parties while promoting the candid exchange of views among interest groups that are often in conflict with one another. Workshops held in Ottawa, Edmonton and Saskatoon in 1985 and 1986 dealt with water allocations, native water rights and interjurisdictional issues. The workshop discussions have been partly shared with the Institute's broader audience through its newsletter, *Resources*.¹²

10. Institute working papers related to this project include Owen L. Anderson, *Oil and Gas Conservation on Canada Lands* (1985); N.D. Bankes, *The Assignment and Registration of Crown Mineral Interests* (1985); and Christian G. Yoder, *Liability for Drilling- and Production-Source Oil Pollution* (1986).

11. For example, in 1986 Institute researchers made presentations to parliamentary committees on Bills C-75 (which proposed amendments to the *Canada Shipping Act*), C-92 (the proposed *Canada Petroleum Resources Act*) and C-94 (which would have implemented the Atlantic Accord between Canada and Newfoundland).

12. For example, Issue No. 16 of *Resources*, published in Autumn, 1986, was devoted to legal issues in water rights administration and contained articles based on four of the presentations made at the Edmonton workshop in May of that year. Issue No. 18 contains papers from the Saskatoon workshop on Native Water Rights held in October.

Environmental law issues have also concerned the Institute. In part this has taken the form of conferences which have led to major publications.¹³ Acid rain is a topic that has received attention,¹⁴ and, through its summer research assistant program, C.I.R.L. has conducted pioneering work in the area of reclamation law.

Among the diverse subjects examined in C.I.R.L. publications and through its contract research are surface rights,¹⁵ mining law,¹⁶ forestry law,¹⁷ the regulation of electricity,¹⁸ constitutional law and resources, and aboriginal rights. Of growing interest to the Institute is the area of trade law in relation to Canada's resources.¹⁹

Much of the Institute's research is conducted internally. The assistance of experts from other universities, however, is also drawn upon and adds immeasurably to the depth and breadth of the research program.

2. *Education*

Many of the Institute's educational activities flow directly from its research initiatives, taking the form of workshops and seminars as described above. In addition to active involvement in the law school and University of Calgary's teaching program, Institute staff have made presentations throughout Canada literally from Victoria to Yellowknife to St. John's, and at other locations including the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Germany, Norway and Iceland.

Short courses on energy regulations and oil and gas law have been developed. One of C.I.R.L.'s most successful courses has been a two-day program entitled Contract Law for Oil and Gas Personnel. Designed specifically for non-lawyers whose daily work involves contracts, the course is taught in conjunction with Professor Nicholas Rafferty of the Law Faculty and has been offered in-house at several Calgary companies as well as to the public at large.

13. Including the Institute publications, Peter Z.R. Finkle and Alastair R. Lucas (eds.), *Environmental Law in the 1980s: A New Beginning* (1981) and Evangeline S. Case, Peter S.R. Finkle and Alastair R. Lucas (eds.), *Fairness in Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Processes* (1983).

14. Douglas M. Johnston and Peter Finkle, *Acid Precipitation in North America: The Case for Transboundary Cooperation* (1983).

15. Barry Barton and Barbara Roulston, *A Guide to Appearing Before the Surface Rights Board of Alberta* (Second Edition, 1986).

16. Barry Barton, Barbara Roulston and Nancy Strantz, *A Reference Guide to Mining Legislation in Canada* (1985).

17. N.D. Bankes, *Crown Timber Rights in Alberta* (1986).

18. Alastair R. Lucas and J. Owen Saunders, *Canadian Electricity Exports: Legal and Regulatory Issues* (1983).

19. This topic forms the theme for the third Banff Conference held in May, 1987. See also: *The Canadian Forest Product Industry and U.S. Trade Laws*, Resources, No. 17 (an article based upon one of C.I.R.L.'s current research projects).

In addition to occasional conferences on specific topics, in 1983 C.I.R.L. launched a biennial national conference on resources law held at the Banff Centre. Themes of the first three conferences have been Public Disposition of Natural Resources, Managing Natural Resources in a Federal State, and Trading Canada's Natural Resources. The conferences have attracted participants from government, academia and the private sector and the conference papers have been transformed into collections of essays, partly in cooperation with a commercial publishing house.²⁰

Over the years the Institute has provided a home for visiting scholars and speakers from various countries. The Institute has cooperated with the Faculty of Law in appointing two American professors to the Chair of Natural Resources Law, Bill Ellis of New Mexico and Owen Anderson of North Dakota. Professors Michael Crommelin of Melbourne and Hans Jacob Bull of Oslo have also visited as a result of this cooperation, providing seminars within the law school and participating in a variety of other educational activities with members of the downtown community. Study visits at the Institute of six to ten months have enabled members of the Norwegian Royal Ministry of Petroleum and the University of Oslo's Scandinavian Institute of Maritime Law to learn about the regulation of Canadian offshore petroleum and to share their expertise with Canadians. Other visitors have come from Australia, New Zealand, Norway, the United Kingdom, Zimbabwe, Japan, Fiji and elsewhere. This continuing exchange of information has provided a comparative context for Institute researchers.

In recognition of the importance of encouraging student interest in resources law, in 1983 C.I.R.L. began to offer a \$1,000 prize annually for the best student essay on a topic in Canadian resources law. As many as 18 submissions have been received in a single year, with contestants representing schools from coast to coast. The award-winning essay is selected by a panel of independent judges chaired by a member of the Institute's Board or the law faculty. Winners in the first four years of the contest have been from the Universities of Toronto, Alberta and Calgary, with winning essay topics spanning constitutional and resources law, water law, and international law in relation to Canadian natural resources.

3. *Publications*

In addition to its ongoing service work for the *Canada Energy Law Service*, the Institute has published proceedings from its conferences and

20. Nigel Bankes and J. Owen Saunders (eds.), *Public Disposition of Natural Resources* (1984); J. Owen Saunders (ed.), *Managing Natural Resources in a Federal State*, (Toronto: Carswell Legal Publications, 1986).

monographs on acid rain and environmental regulation. Its major publications appear in the form of working papers covering the diversity of topics described above.

In 1982, a quarterly newsletter entitled *Resources* was launched. Now circulated without charge to approximately 6,200 readers worldwide, *Resources* provides a vehicle for short articles of current interest in Canadian resources law. Contributions come from the Institute's research staff as well as from scholars and others elsewhere, with offerings embracing an array of topics including forestry policy, privatization of Crown corporations, developments in offshore petroleum laws and water legislation. *Resources* also serves as the primary vehicle for publicizing the Institute's programs, activities and publications.

Much of the Institute's work is published elsewhere. For example, participation by research staff in conferences and symposia frequently results in publications in books and conference proceedings. Institute researchers have contributed to a variety of law journals both nationally and internationally. As well, activities sponsored by the Institute sometimes lead to publication by other organizations.

Over the past two years, major efforts have been put into promoting the Institute's publications. A French-language brochure about the Institute has received wide circulation and Institute displays have been mounted at book exhibits in Canada and the United States. Increasingly, C.I.R.L.'s books are reviewed in publications such as the *Canadian Bar Review*.

IV. *The Future*

In only seven years, the Canadian Institute of Resources Law has grown from a concept in the minds of a few Alberta lawyers and law professors to a well-established national research organization whose advice is sought by both the public and private sectors. All the activities envisaged by the Institute's founders have come to fruition in one way or another but, inevitably, the organization has moved in directions beyond the imagination of its architects.

C.I.R.L. continues to be deeply involved in the law school's programs. The presence of the Institute and its researchers have proven invaluable to the maintenance of the school's resources law curriculum, especially in view of the small size of Calgary's law faculty. Both students and faculty have benefitted from interaction with the Institute's visiting scholars and the Institute's external funding has provided a medium for faculty involvement in an array of research and educational projects. The symbiotic relationship between the two organizations demonstrates well the benefits that can flow to a faculty from the presence of a group of

scholars who share common interests.²¹ Of particular interest at present is a proposal to establish an LL.M. program in Calgary with a specialization in resources law. This would enable graduate students from Canada and elsewhere to participate in the Institute's research program and would further facilitate the sharing of the Institute's expertise with law students. As part of this initiative, the Institute organized a discussion of graduate programs in resources law in conjunction with the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation's meeting in Calgary in July, 1986, and is preparing a directory of graduate law programs in resources and environmental law for the Energy and Natural Resources Law Section of the International Bar Association.

A related thrust is the continued effort to internationalize the Institute's programs and profile. It is recognized that Canada's own resources laws and policies can be strengthened through drawing upon the experience of other countries; at the same time, Canada's long experience as a developer of natural resources may make its laws and policies of interest and assistance to other nations.

Partly because of the economic conditions of the late 1980s, expansion of the Institute's research staff is not anticipated. It has stabilized at a level where continued funding seems attainable and expertise in a diversity of resource law areas can be built upon. Changing issues in resources law promise that the next seven years will be as challenging for the Canadian Institute of Resources Law as the first.

21. Support for the establishment of such institutes and centres is found in the Arthurs Report. See: *Law and Learning*, Report to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada by the Consultative Group on Research and Education in Law, 145 and 158 (Ottawa: Minister of Supply and Services Canada, 1983).