

Editorial

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[Aller au sommaire du numéro](#)

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EDITORIAL

Geoscientists are increasingly caught up in issues related to man's interaction with the Earth. It is becoming more and more difficult in many parts of Canada to gain permission to explore for mineral resources, and development of any discovery is possible only after lengthy and expensive environmental impact studies. News media are replete with stories of pollution of the air, oceans and fresh waters and the land surface. Concerns abound about the greenhouse effect, depletion of the ozone layer, and other impacts on the Earth that may be anthropogenic. These issues not only affect us in our personal lives; they are of major significance to our professions and our science.

Geoscience Canada plans to publish contributions to discussions about environmental problems and "global change" to heighten awareness of these issues. The first of these contributions appears in this issue, and comprises papers from a symposium on global warming, held at the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi. The organizers of the symposium also submitted a brief introduction to the problems of global change by Prof. W.S. Fyfe, widely known for his interests in these problems. We have also included Dr. Fyfe's comments.

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