



# Environmental Science

**122**

Environment Canada



## How is the environment governed?

- Environment Canada was established in 1971
- It is a branch of the federal government responsible for protecting Canada's environment, natural heritage, and meteorological information
- It relies on credible science and sound environmental decisions
- Considered to be an environmental science research leader
  - Conducts and publishes 80% of its research with external agencies
  - This research helps wildlife populations, improves ecosystems, assesses environmental risks, issues weather warnings, and supports policy and legislative action

## What topics do they research?

- Climate change
  - Causes and impacts
- Meteorological and weather research
  - Improve weather and environmental prediction
- Air quality research
  - Air pollutants, acid rain, source of pollutants, impacts on health and environment
- Water
  - Changes in levels and pollutants
- Nature
  - Preserves biodiversity

3

## Who do they work with to enforce these laws?

- Industries
- Farmers
- Businesses
- Provinces, municipalities
- Customs officials
- Hunters
- The US EPA
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- RCMP

4

## Other government agencies helping the environment...

5

- Canadian Conservation Institute
- Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
- Canadian Polar Commission
- Environmental Protection Review Canada
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- National Research Council Canada
- Natural Resources Canada

## More agencies...

- ~~National Research Council Canada~~
- ~~Natural Resources Canada~~
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
- National Energy Board
- Policy Research Initiative

## Laws and Policies of the Canadian Government

- The Canadian government strongly promotes research and development when creating policy
  - A policy is a deliberate plan of action to guide decisions and achieve rational outcomes
  - A law is a system of rules and guidelines typically enforced through a set of institutions
- Both laws and policy are created to help protect the environment
- Many government and public agencies as well as private corporations and citizens help create them