

CNF REPORT

BY DAN McASKILL

The 14th Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Nature Federation was held on July 5th at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Events prior to the meeting indicated that the issue of regional representation by affiliates was still a problem in some areas and a motion calling for constitutional changes to the composition of the Board was debated. The motion was eventually defeated after amendment but it did serve to point out the need for continual efforts towards communications between the CNF and its affiliates. The one resolution submitted called on the CNF to make representations to the governments of Canada and British Columbia regarding exploratory drilling for hydrocarbons (gas and oil) off the B.C. coast.

The new officers of the Federation are as follows:

Past President.....J. Willms
President.....D. Wake
Vice-Presidents.....R. Fox (B.C. and Yukon)
.....B. Waldron (Prairies and NWT)
.....J. Bank (Ontario)
.....H. Mead (Quebec)
.....M. Majka (Atlantic)
Secretary.....K. MacInnes
Treasurer.....C. Armstrong

This year's Annual Conference was hosted by The Federation of British Columbia Naturalists with the theme, Our Pacific Coast: The Challenge of Caring and Sharing. The field trips which accompanied the conference allowed the participants to explore rainforests, alpine meadows, the Fraser Canyon, the Queen Charlottes and a multitude of other areas. The Conference sessions provided a detailed insight into the geological diversity of B.C.'s mountains and the plants, animals and human interactions that have occurred in them and the adjacent waters. Dr. Ian McTaggart Cowan's presentation entitled "Mammals of the North Pacific" was a highly entertaining and fitting conclusion to the Conference.

An Atlantic regional meeting of the Nature Federation is in the planning stages and will probably be held in late October or early November. Further information will be provided at the next Natural History Society meeting.



Sugar Maple