



Natural Sciences and Engineering  
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en sciences  
naturelles et en génie du Canada

350 Albert Street  
Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 1H5

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Ottawa, Canada  
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December 13, 2017

Dear Atmosphere-Related Research in Canadian Universities Working Group,

Re: Endorsement of the ARRCU activities

We are writing to express NSERC's support for the self-organized group of Canadian university faculty, the Atmosphere-Related Research in Canadian Universities (ARRCU) Working Group.

The ARRCU initiative focuses on areas of research under NSERC's mandate in the fields of atmosphere-related research (ARR) including weather, climate, and air quality. We believe that increased academic sector planning and coordination can contribute to and inform the development of initiatives such as the Climate Change and Atmospheric Research (CCAR) program. CCAR has been a demonstrated success of government-university partnerships in ARR in the last five years and we hope that such collaborations could also extend to other partners, including industry and other stakeholders.

The ARRCU Working Group has recently posted a White Paper which undertakes the development of a strategic plan in ARR through broad consultation across the Canadian university, government, and industry sectors. The intent is to help configure academic ARR to most benefit Canada in a time of rapid environmental and socio-economic change.

We welcome the perspective put forward in the ARRCU Working Group's White Paper which points out the benefits of strengthened support of fundamental ARR in the academic sector as well as support of partnerships with government and industry in applied ARR. We look forward to seeing the planned deliverables of this process, including focus papers on university-government and university-industry partnerships, and on education, training and outreach. NSERC is providing some administrative support to this initiative and would be willing to consider further requests from the ARRCU Working Group for feedback, financial support of particular workshops and representation at meetings.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Boston  
Director  
Mathematical, Environmental and Physical Sciences  
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada