

Early in 1974 the company became fully involved in the utilization of remotely sensed data (aerial photography, satellite imagery, infra red photography and the like), to coincide with and support field investigations.

During the summer of '74, the company proposed to the Federal Government that the "Canada Land Inventory land-use maps", should be updated. The land-use maps in the coverage primarily of southern Canada, were completed as part of the ARDA (Agricultural Rehabilitation and Development Act) project. The information in these maps being now eight or more years old.

With recent expressions of concern about urban development and the loss of agricultural land, the company considered that a revision of these maps, especially around the major urban centres would provide valuable information on the trend of further development.

That study was approved and a contract awarded to EcolCon Canada Ltd. in March 1975.

New land-use maps in the twenty-two major metropolitan census areas will be produced by interpretation of aerial photographs, and will be prepared for computer input and then turned over to the Lands Directorate, Department of the Environment.

The company has grown dramatically since the first of the year, and now includes: - business administrator, vice president Tim Moran of Belleville; five professional geographers, Barbara Legun from Hamilton, a graduate of McMaster University; Don Morse from Montreal a graduate of Carleton University; Ting Wong originally from Hong Kong, a graduate of McMaster University, and presently completing his thesis requirement for a Master of Science degree; Brian Ogden from Kettleby, Ontario a graduate of Waterloo University; Marlene McEwen from Maxville, Ontario, a graduate of McMaster University; three biologists, Dr. J. A. McLeod and associate of the company presently residing in Winnipeg who completed his Doctorate of Science at the University of Manitoba and undertook post-doctoral studies at the University of Minnesota and the University of Michigan; Gary Moran of Belleville, Director of Research and Development, and company President a graduate of Brandon University and the University of New Brunswick; Sandra Burke of Brandon, Manitoba Director of Science and Technology and company Secretary - Treasurer a graduate of Brandon University and Chris Moran, Belleville biological technician and aerial photograph analyst.

The company has also expanded its physical facilities and now has its own remote sensing interpretation equipment.