

# 70

**seventy years of service**

**researched and  
written by**

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## foreword

Until recently, NB Power was known to many New Brunswickers as “the hydro”. This name is rooted in our historical traditions. The first Europeans who settled this province immediately began constructing dams and mills that turned waterpower into

mechanical power.

The New Brunswick Electric Power Commission was formed in 1920 and quickly followed the lead of the New Brunswick pioneers by harnessing the Musquash River to convert hydro power into electricity. From this beginning, NB Power has grown to become a

major component in the development of New Brunswick’s economy and in our quality of life.

This book tells the story of NB Power’s role in the development of the electric power industry in New Brunswick and how this form of energy has become an integral part of our everyday lives.



*Rayburn D.  
Doucett, chairman,  
NB Power*

*Rayburn D. Doucett*

## preface

Great strides have been made, particularly during the last 100 years, in the manufacture and delivery of electricity. Industrialization has provided the impetus to search for sophisticated new methods of generating and transmitting electric power.

Seventy Years of Service is the story in words and pictures of how NB Power delivered electricity to New Brunswick. The words tell the story of the utility's attempt to satisfy the province's increasing demand for electricity. The pictures do much to bring the words to life. They record the significant events and places, many of which have been forgotten. The photographs also recall the faces of the men and women who worked to make electricity avail-

able in all areas of the province.

Many sources have been consulted in order to compile the information presented in this book.

The research revealed many fascinating aspects of the story of NB Power that could not be dealt with satisfactorily given the scope of this publication. These will be examined in greater detail in a future work.

Many people merit recognition for their assistance in the production of this book. Foremost among them are Janice Haig and her staff in Visual Communications for the co-operation in dealing with the numerous photographs that had to be copied and printed. Karen Smith's contribution to the design and

copy layout is particularly noteworthy. Anne Marie Slocum and her staff in Records Management facilitated access to a great many written records. Julie Robinson and the staff of the Reference Centre provided published material. Thanks to Christine Nassrallah and her staff, particularly Genevieve Jain, for their excellent translation and to Public affairs for their constant support, especially Jeffrey Carleton who did the editing. A large number of other people throughout the province provided information and guidance: rather than single out any other individuals, a special thanks is tendered to the people of New Brunswick. We believe that this book will enhance the diverse heritage that is ours.

*Walter A. Stare  
Daniel L. Myer*