



For Immediate Release
December 11, 2007

Commission and Study Board Official to Share Nobel Prize for Seminal Role with Climate Change Panel

The International Joint Commission and the International Upper Great Lakes Study (IUGLS) congratulate Dr. James P. Bruce for the seminal role he played in helping to launch the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). At a ceremony in Oslo, Norway on December 10th, Dr. Bruce participated as the only representative from Canada in the presentation ceremony for the Nobel Peace Prize. The Norwegian Nobel Committee chose to honor the IPCC and former Vice President Al Gore “for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change.”

Dr. Bruce currently co-chairs the Public Interest Advisory Group of IUGLS. He has previously served as Canadian co-chair of the IJC Great Lakes Science Advisory Board and the Great Lakes Water Quality Board. Dr. Bruce is a world-renowned meteorologist who served in high levels of the Canadian government and with international organizations including the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for more than 50 years.

In 1988, as Acting Deputy Secretary-General of WMO, Dr. Bruce helped to write the terms of reference for IPCC and convened for WMO the first meeting of the panel in Geneva that same year. Under his leadership, the three Working Group structure of IPCC was established, and Dr. Bruce later co-chaired one of the working groups and served as review editor for the 2007 report.

Dr. Eugene Stakhiv, U.S. co-chair of the International Upper Great Lakes Study, is also an active participant in the IPCC, was co-chair of the first IPCC Water Resources Group, lead author in the second and third IPCC reports, and reviewer of the fourth IPCC report..

-30-

Editor’s Note: A letter from the International Joint Commission to Dr. Bruce is attached.

Contacts:

Frank Bevacqua (202) 736-9024
Greg McGillis (613) 947-1420

bevacquaf@washington.ijc.org
mcgillisg@ottawa.ijc.org

INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND CANADA



December 5, 2007

Dr. James P. Bruce
1875 Juno Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1H 6S6

Dear Dr. Bruce,

When Alfred Nobel's will was opened in 1896, the world was amazed to learn that he devoted most of his huge fortune to establish "prizes to those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit to mankind." Congratulations on joining this select company of men and women who have improved our lives by improving our understanding of science. Your leadership in helping to launch the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) may not be widely known to the public, but it is much appreciated by your IJC family and by the people of the our two nations.

Today, as a recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, the IPCC is almost as well known as its most vocal proponent, former Vice President Al Gore. But there was only one person in the room nearly 20 years ago when the terms of reference for the IPCC were drafted, and we are grateful you were that person. In addition, you went to the United Nations Environmental Program and brought them on board and later convened the first IPCC meeting in Geneva in 1988. So, even though the room may be crowded in Oslo when the prize is awarded, we will know that one scientist's vision and dedication deserves special recognition and praise.

Finally, we trust that you and Ruth will have a trip of a lifetime next week. We also trust that you will return, just as humble, just as thoughtful and just as committed to advancing the frontiers of science to benefit people worldwide.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Herb Gray
Chair, Canadian Section

Irene B. Brooks
Acting Chair, U.S. Section

Dr. Jack Blaney
Commissioner, Canadian Section

Allen I. Olson
Commissioner, U.S. Section

WWW.IJC.ORG

1250 23RD STREET NW, SUITE 100
WASHINGTON DC 20440
PHONE: 202.736.9000
FAX: 202.467.0746

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL OFFICE
100 OUELLETTE AVE., 8TH FLOOR
WINDSOR, ON N9A 6T3

234 LAURIER AVENUE WEST, 22ND FLOOR
OTTAWA, ON K1P 6K6
PHONE: 613.995.2984
FAX: 613.993.5583