



**White Owl
Conservation
Awards**

Imperial Tobacco
3810 St. Antoine
Street West
Montreal, Quebec
H4C 1B5
(514) 932-6161

Awards Committee:
Robert Franson
Roderick Hunter
Dr. Adrian Jones
Sen. Maurice Lamontagne
Gisèle Lamoureux
Louis Lapierre
Tony LeSauter
Peter Middleton
Norman Pascoe
Bryan Pearson
Dr. Stuart Peters

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Montreal, December 6, 1974 - The Canadian Environmental Law Association and the Canadian Environmental Law Research Foundation of Toronto have jointly won this year's \$10,000 White Owl Conservation Group Award. The Award is offered each year by Imperial Tobacco for the group deemed to have made the most outstanding contribution to the environment in Canada. Winners are selected by an independant Awards Committee from among nominations submitted from across the Country.

Federal Environment Minister Jeanne Sauvé presented the cheque along with a whalebone carving of a Snowy Owl to the winner during a brief ceremony in Montreal today.

In her speech, the Honourable Jeanne Sauvé outlined some of the achievements that have earned the Canadian Environmental Law Research Foundation and the Canadian Environmental Law Association their reward. First among these were the group's major publication Environment on Trial - A Citizen's Guide to Ontario Environmental Law. Using Ontario law as an example, the book gives the citizen an insight into his environmental rights and how he can assert them, legally and politically. This book, edited by David Estrin and John Swaigen, the first of its kind in Canada, presents the legal reforms necessary to protect our natural resources, and proposes a model Canadian environmental bill of rights. Although Environment on Trial was written on the Ontario model, it has proven to be very useful in other provinces as well. It is no surprise then that the publication has been praised by the environmental movement and by law journals together. The Canadian Environmental Law Association's work on environmental law reform was also given special praise. CELA's brief to the Ontario Government, "Principles of Environmental Impact Assessment" and draft legislation on the same subject were the highlights in 1974 of CELA's law reform activities.

