

gold town of Barkerville has become the first Provincial Historical Park. A new venture is the establishment of a marine park system; there are now five marine parks, all with water access.

Subsection 3.—Canada's National Capital*

Ottawa, the city selected by Queen Victoria in 1857 to be the seat of government for the Province of Canada in British North America, was designated the National Capital upon Confederation on July 1, 1867. The community had grown out of the military and construction camp that served as headquarters for the building of the Rideau Canal, a project carried out between 1826 and 1832 to establish a safe navigable waterway between Lake Ontario and the Ottawa River. The building of the Canal was the crowning achievement in the life of a distinguished British military engineer, Lieutenant-Colonel John By, R.E., who gave his name to the new settlement inhabited mainly by stone masons and discharged soldiers. As time passed, Bytown prospered as a timber centre and was incorporated as a town in 1847. Then, on Dec. 18, 1854, by Act of the Legislature of the Canadas, the name of Bytown was changed to Ottawa and under that name the community was incorporated as a city on Jan. 1, 1855.

The city, situated in an area of great natural beauty and surrounded by waterways, has remained a self-governing municipality and, although throughout the years the Federal Government co-operated with the municipal authorities in the development of a system of driveways and parks, the city expanded without the benefit of a comprehensive plan. However, in 1950 a Master Plan was presented to the Government of Canada, designed to guide the development of the Capital's urban area over the following half-century and to protect the beauty of the surrounding National Capital Region. This Region originally covered 900 sq. miles but was increased in 1959 to 1,800 sq. miles—half in the Province of Ontario and half in the Province of Quebec. Although the successful implementation of the Plan is dependent upon the co-operation of the cities of Ottawa and Hull—which are treated as a physical, social and economic whole—and of about sixty other autonomous municipalities and the two provincial governments involved, the National Capital Plan is not officially recognized by the Governments of Ontario and Quebec, and the City of Ottawa has as yet no municipal plan to govern its growth and development.

The federal agency responsible for the planning of Canada's Capital is the National Capital Commission, created in 1959 to replace the Federal District Commission which, in turn, was the lineal descendant of the Ottawa Improvement Commission. The National Capital Commission, which reports to Parliament through the Minister of Public Works, is composed of twenty members appointed by the Governor in Council and representing each of Canada's ten provinces. It is headed by a chairman and a general manager and has a personnel of about 650, although this number fluctuates because of the seasonal character of a large part of the work involved. Six committees give advice and direction to the Commission: the *Executive Committee* consists of the chairman and vice-chairman of the Commission and three other members appointed by the Commission, one of whom is from the Province of Quebec; the *Land Committee*, composed of several experts in land evaluation, advises the Commission on matters of land purchases and property administration; the *Advisory Committee on Design*, comprising prominent Canadian architects, town planners and landscape architects, gives advice on the external appearance of government buildings, locations, site plans and landscape designs; the *Historical Advisory Committee* advises the Commission on matters of preservation, marking and interpretation of buildings and sites having historical significance within the National Capital Region; the *Information and Historical Advisory Committee* studies and considers the publicity and public relations activities of the Commission, and carries out an extensive program of historical research and preservation; and the *Gatineau Park Advisory Committee* looks after matters concerning Gatineau Park.

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