

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* is concerned with the administration and development of Gatineau Park.

The National Capital Plan, as conceived by the eminent French town planner Jacques Gréber, was dedicated to those who gave their lives for Canada during the Second World War and has since constituted the Commission's planning guide for the Capital of Canada. In accordance with the first proposal of the Master Plan, the principle of "open space" is being applied, a policy beneficial to both residents and visitors. Part of this policy involves the restoration to their natural beauty of the shores of the waterways in and around Ottawa, a program evident in the work of the Commission at Rideau Falls Park opposite the City Hall and in the development of Vincent Massey Park in the heart of the city; the latter is a 75-acre park and playground extension to 50-acre Hog's Back Park at the foot of Hog's Back Falls. The Commission owns 36 miles of riverfront property in the National Capital and makes these attractive areas accessible to the public. On the Quebec side of the Ottawa River the Commission maintains two parks—the historically interesting Brébeuf Park and Jacques Cartier Park, both on the shores of the Ottawa River. There are at present 40 miles of wide landscaped roadways in Ottawa and Hull, and 30 miles of right-of-way have been acquired for future expansion. The Commission cares for the landscaping of 13 municipal parks in Ottawa-Hull, of which Strathcona Park in Sandy Hill district and Rockcliffe Park are the most extensive and attractive. The acquisition of land along both shores of the Ottawa and Rideau Rivers and the exceptionally wide rights-of-way for parkways have given Ottawa about 7,000 acres of open space.

The program of partial decentralization of new government buildings has been under way for some time and excellent examples of planned sites for government structures now exist at Confederation Heights, at Tunney's Pasture and at the Printing Bureau site in Hull. Other areas, such as the large tract of already serviced land at Pinecrest, are awaiting development. The advantages of decentralization are many—planned government building areas away from centre-town offer some solution to the ever-pressing problem of traffic congestion and, from the humanitarian point of view, workers occupy buildings erected on large landscaped grounds with plenty of parking space and are close