

high officers of the Government. At present, the associate members are the Deputy Ministers of Industry and Commerce, of Agriculture and Colonization, of Natural Resources and of Education and the President of Hydro-Quebec; the associate members attend meetings and take part in discussions but are not entitled to vote. There is also a Management Committee composed of five Advisory Council members, of which the President and the Vice-President are members *ex officio*.

The staff in charge of the administration and the organization of projects, which consists of a general manager and a small group of technical counsellors versed in economic matters, is subject to Civil Service regulations. Its duties consist of extracting the necessary economic syntheses based on fundamental studies made by government departments, boards and other agencies. Analyses of these syntheses are made by committees composed of government representatives, university professors, company heads, etc., and the results are submitted to the Cabinet through the Prime Minister.

Under the Act, the mandate of the Quebec Economic Advisory Council is to organize the province in the economic sphere, foreseeing the most complete utilization of its material and human resources, and to advise the government, upon request or on its own initiative, on all economic questions. The first task is broad and demanding; to elaborate a management plan is to project a complete view of the internal economic trend for a certain number of years, taking into account the correlation of all economic factors, especially population, employment, investments and production. The second task is more of a short-term nature; it consists of giving advice to the government on a particular problem or of suggesting to the Government certain measures dealing with the elaborations of policies.

The first phase of the Council's work was spread over the period 1962-64. Plan elaboration occupied about 15 work groups studying more or less deeply the various sectors of economic activity. The studies brought forward the main difficulties connected with the elaboration and execution of a plan suitable to the needs of the province; the difficulties resulted from lack of personnel, of statistical information and of co-operation between government, management and labour unions; from Quebec's particular economic problems; and from the separation of economic powers between the Government of Quebec and the Federal Government, etc. Since 1964, the Council has instituted deeper studies of five categories of problems leading to the elaboration of: a policy on employment and the labour force; a policy of regional development; a policy on research and productivity; a policy on natural resources; and a policy on public investments.

The Council has fulfilled its task of advising the government by proposing the adoption of measures and the creation of bodies leading to the execution of a future plan. Thus, it recommended to the Cabinet: the establishment of a steel industry; the creation of a General Investment Corporation; the nationalization of power companies; the issuing of Quebec Savings Bonds; the establishment of the Quebec Pension Board; the creation of the Deposits and Investments Fund (*Caisse de dépôts et de placements*); the division of the territory into 10 administrative areas; the recognition of 10 Regional Economic Councils; the creation of a Scientific Research Council; and the establishment of an Industrial Research Centre. Most of the measures recommended by the Council have been adopted by the Government of Quebec.

### **The Ontario Economic Council**

The Ontario Economic Council was established by Order in Council on Feb. 1, 1962. The Council was conceived as a vehicle where representatives of agriculture, labour, management, education, finance and of government could integrate their knowledge and experience of economic affairs, commission research and formulate policy recommendations to the public and private sectors.

Essentially, the Council operates as an advisory body to the Government of Ontario. Some of its findings are reported directly to the government; other reports and recommendations are published and distributed widely. Recent reports cover the fields of tourism, land-use, education, labour and skill-training.