Botanical investigations were conducted in Yukon, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Nova Scotia. Two visiting botanists under contract with the National Museum investigated the shoreline vegetation of lakes in northern Manitoba and conducted ecological studies of cryptogams on Axel Heiberg Island.

The major field operation in mineralogy was a five-week project near Bancroft, Ont., where veins of large, well-formed crystals of nepheline and biotite were opened. This is believed to be one of the finest sources in the world for these minerals. There were also investigations and collections made in other parts of Ontario and in Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Vermont and California. The Museum's mineral display was removed in 1966 from the mezzanine gallery where it had been installed in 1936 to a larger area in the Museum's east wing on the main floor, which now holds a greatly expanded exhibit.

The education program continued with weekly lectures for adults, Saturday morning film programs for children, the junior nature club, the school loan collection, children's classes, guided tours, and the National collection of nature photographs.

The Human History Branch.—In the past six years there has been a marked expansion in the research and publication activities of the Human History Branch. This work combines the efforts of staff scientists and that of other scholars whose work is sponsored, in toto or in part, by museum research contracts. Research, laboratory and office studies are conducted by the Branch in history, archaeology, physical anthropology, folklore, ethnology, linguistics and ethnohistory. In 1966, about 75 research projects were under way including: archaeological field work in every part of Canada from the Pacific Coast to Newfoundland and the Arctic Islands as well as in Alaska; ethnological research in several subdisciplines of ethnology in all parts of Canada; a score of collecting projects in the folklore of Canadian ethnic groups; and diverse studies in Canadian history.

The 1966-67 exhibition program included the completion of renovations in the Indian Hall and the Bird Hall, both of which were opened to the public in late 1966, and the planning and designing of a Centennial exhibit on Confederation and of three major galleries for the new quarters of the Canadian War Museum. Exhibit assistance was also given to other museums, to Expo 67, and to the Centennial Train. Staff scientists gave many guest lectures in various centres, answered over 1,000 mail enquiries and served as consultants or advisers to foreign institutions and scientists. In addition to the production of popular articles and a long list of professional publications on the Museum's work, research papers were prepared and read at professional meetings.

The Science and Technology Branch.—In 1961 the Government announced the intention to establish, as a third Branch of the National Museum, a Museum of Science and Technology, which would incorporate the existing National Aviation Museum. Funds for the inauguration of this project were provided in the year ended Mar. 31, 1967, and a Director was appointed. A large building in southeast Ottawa was leased and the Museum was opened to the public in September 1967. Its purpose is to enable the people of Canada to understand the role of science and technology in the development of their land of great distances and many environments. Represented are the railways, so important in opening up and uniting Canada; automotive transportation; aviation; industrial technology; marine technology; agriculture; communications technology of many kinds; power, forestry and fisheries technology; mining technology and metallurgy; and the physical sciences.

An active program of public lectures and streamed tours for school children complements publication of popular accounts of many of the subject areas in an extensive education plan. It is generally built around three themes relating to the national development—how man has overcome space and time in this vast land by varied methods of transportation and communication; how man has changed his environment with science and technology and the tools he has built and used; how man has changed his living habits as a result of the changes from sod hut and log cabin to the world's second highest standard of living.