

with the Economic Council of Canada, an economic development plan for the region. The Board's staff, located in Ottawa and numbering 27 professional and 29 supporting personnel at Mar. 31, 1967, reflects these functions, being organized into a Program Division and a Planning Division, under an Executive Director. The Board itself consists of 11 members resident in the Atlantic region, three from each of the larger provinces and two from Prince Edward Island. Board members, including the Chairman, are unpaid. The Board meets every two or three months at some centre in the region, and once annually in Ottawa.

One of the obvious factors responsible for the continuing lag in the economic growth of the region has been the inadequacy of its infrastructure, the basic services which are the foundation of every modern economy. Consequently, during its first four years the Board has concentrated upon infrastructure—making grants to the provinces for electric power development, sharing in the cost of building modern trunk highways, constructing industrial water systems, assisting in the development of industrial parks and sites, contributing to the cost of facilities for postgraduate and industrial research, and providing other basic services to industry.

The aims of the Board's planning activities are to identify the potential of each sector of the regional economy; to formulate policy recommendations for achieving this potential; to integrate the various sector studies into a single comprehensive and internally consistent plan; and to indicate the implications of the plan for employment, income and population. The plan will serve as a guideline for the Board in making its recommendations on development projects and will provide a framework to assist other federal agencies and provincial authorities in formulating long-term development policies and the priorities to be attached to specific programs. The private sector, too, should find the plan valuable by identifying areas for new investment.

In all its work, the Board acts in close co-operation with the provincial governments as well as with other federal departments and agencies. Although there is no formal procedure for bringing projects to the attention of the Board, the Board follows the practice of consulting the provincial governments concerned before taking action on specific projects; each government has designated officers to maintain liaison with the Board. Less formal contact is also maintained in many ways. Because of its unique interest in the Atlantic regional economy, the Board is called upon frequently to act as co-ordinator on matters involving several federal, provincial, municipal and private agencies.

By Mar. 31, 1967, projects costing an estimated \$98,714,000 had been approved and expenditures amounting to \$54,069,000 had been made against that amount, leaving outstanding commitments of \$44,645,000. The projects are as follows:—

<u>Project</u>	<u>Projects</u>	<u>Funds</u>
	<u>Approved</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>
	\$	\$
POWER—		
Bay d'Espoir, Nfld.—hydro-electric power development.....	20,000,000	19,000,000
Mactaquac, N.B.—hydro-electric power development.....	20,000,000	16,980,878
Nova Scotia Power Commission—thermal power plant at Trenton	12,000,000	—
Power cable to link Prince Edward Island with mainland.....	4,300,000	25,000
Newfoundland and Labrador Power Commission—conversion to 60 cycles.....	4,000,000	3,055,164
Maccan to Amherst, N.S.—grant toward cost of power line.....	112,800	—
	<u>60,412,800</u>	<u>39,061,042</u>
TRANSPORTATION—		
Financial Assistance for Trunk Highway Systems—		
Province of New Brunswick.....	3,000,000	3,000,000
Province of Newfoundland.....	3,000,000	3,000,000
Province of Nova Scotia.....	3,000,000	1,362,762
Province of Prince Edward Island.....	1,000,000	1,000,000
Financial Assistance for Paving Access Roads to Selected Fishing Ports—		
Province of Prince Edward Island.....	675,000	410,817
	<u>10,675,000</u>	<u>8,773,579</u>