

efforts depends essentially upon the co-operation of each municipality and provincial government: As a result of this co-operation, the cities of Ottawa and Hull and their surrounding areas have, as a whole, become an efficient and aesthetically satisfying place in which to carry on the nation's business and a fitting symbol of Canada's cultural and linguistic values.

In recent years, the efforts of the Commission have focused on the development of a unified and lively core for the Capital. At a constitutional conference in Ottawa in 1969, the federal and provincial first ministers declared "the cities of Ottawa and Hull and their surrounding areas" to be the Canadian Capital Region. Almost immediately, work began to remove the longstanding economic disparity between Hull and Ottawa. Fifty-nine acres have been acquired in Hull for a federal building program to house various government departments. These 59 acres include 44 acquired in 1972 by the Commission from the E.B. Eddy Company. In 1973 work was completed on the new Portage Bridge linking Ottawa and Hull and the new Airport Parkway from the airport to downtown Ottawa-Hull was opened.

The recreational amenities of the Region have been developed for people to use and enjoy. In addition to the well-known scenic driveways, parks and playgrounds, the Rideau Canal has been designed to provide a five-mile ice skating surface in winter and boating in summer. Maple sugar shanties, large garden allotments and 50 miles of bicycle paths winding past waterways and through pleasant wooded areas have also been developed. Public concerts in the parks, walking tours, attractive pedestrian malls and museums are there for the participation of all Canadians and their visitors and the Region has become a centre of national significance in which all may have a sense of pride and possession.

1.5 The environment

The Department of the Environment was created as a federal government department in June 1971 to spearhead the attack on pollution and ensure the proper management and development of Canada's renewable natural resources. It has the responsibility to initiate government-wide programs and to co-ordinate efforts related to environmental protection. It also provides specialist advisory services to other departments both in the formulation of programs and in the development of regulations under Federal Acts assigned to other ministers.

The Environmental Protection Service of the Department is responsible for developing and enforcing environmental protection regulations and other instruments used in implementing federal laws relating to the environment. It also serves as an information source for other federal departments administering legislation under which environmental regulations are developed.

The principal objective of the water pollution control program is the control and abatement of water pollution in Canada. The main objectives are: the reduction of existing pollution and the prevention of new problems; achievement of regional water quality objectives by means of appropriate programs; and the development of new technologies to solve water pollution control problems more economically. Water pollution control regulations and guidelines are being developed for all major industrial sectors. At the moment regulations governing the pulp and paper industry, mercury from the chlor-alkali industry and the petroleum refinery industry already exist. These regulations are promulgated under the Fisheries Act and restrict the amount of effluents an industry can discharge into waters inhabited by aquatic life. Other programs include water pollution surveys in shellfish growing areas; phosphorus concentration control regulations; analytical and advisory services to other federal departments and agencies; inventories of water pollution problems in Canada and annual assessments of pollution control costs and studies on the treatment of municipal and industrial waste waters.

The broad objectives of the air pollution control program are to preserve, restore, or enhance the quality of the ambient air in Canada for optimum social and economic benefits. Programs carried out to achieve these objectives include: collection and evaluation of information regarding air pollution sources in Canada; development of abatement and compliance programs for stationary and mobile air pollution sources; preparation of regulations controlling the amount of lead in leaded gases and defining the limits of lead and phosphorus in "unleaded" grades of gasoline; maintenance of a mobile motor vehicle emission testing facility and promulgation of national air quality objectives.