

one new one. It is actively engaged in development of the tourist industry as well as primary products and various secondary industries. The Corporation offers a very flexible program and the amount of financial assistance it makes available is determined by the merits of each individual application. The Corporation reports to Parliament through the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

**Other DREE programs.** The Agricultural and Rural Development Act (ARDA) is a federal-provincial shared-cost program with provisions for rural development and adjustment programs. Five-year ARDA agreements, for the 1970-75 period, have been signed with all provinces except Prince Edward Island, which is covered by a comprehensive rural development plan. New special agreements emphasizing programs for disadvantaged Indian and Métis people have also been signed with Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

The Fund for Rural Economic Development (FRED), which is still active in five areas, will continue until the existing projects reach completion. Thereafter, the General Development Agreement and its Subsidiary Agreements will be the DREE instrument for action.

Since its creation in 1935 the Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (PFRA) has concentrated on large irrigation and water-control projects, and on irrigation, stock-watering and domestic water supply projects at the farm level. It has also distributed, free of charge, up to 10 million seedlings a year for farm shelterbelts. While activities of this kind retain their importance, PFRA is shifting its emphasis to become an instrument for implementing various adjustment and development programs in western Canada. Among these programs are the Agricultural Service Centres Agreements, signed with each of the Prairie provinces, to assist with the installation of water and sewage facilities in centres that provide essential services to the surrounding agricultural communities.

The Newfoundland Resettlement Program is a federal-provincial shared-cost program established to help people in Newfoundland move from areas where economic prospects are poor to parts of the island that afford better employment opportunities and public services.

The Atlantic Development Council, with 11 members appointed by the federal government in consultation with the governments of the Atlantic provinces, and the Canada Council on Rural Development, composed of representatives of private organizations who are appointed by the Minister, both act as advisory bodies to the Minister of Regional Economic Expansion.

The Department also administers, on behalf of the Department of Finance, the Winter Capital Projects Fund. This fund provides loans to municipalities across the country, to undertake construction projects that will create jobs in the period of high winter unemployment.

The Department through the Atlantic Development Council, continues the support given formerly by the Atlantic Development Board to the development of a research capability in universities in the Atlantic provinces. The support is provided through capital grants for major research equipment; there is no provision for operating expenses or minor equipment. The grant pattern is irregular: \$3.6 million in 1971; less than \$1 million in 1972 and 1973; no grants in 1973-74. Since inception in 1966, over \$11 million has been provided in this program.

### 9.2.12 Economic Council of Canada

The Economic Council of Canada is a research and advisory body with a broad mandate to study and report on matters of economic concern to the government and people of Canada. The right to publish enables the Council to present its own views directly to a wide public audience. The Act requires the Council to publish annually a review of medium- and long-term economic prospects and problems. The *Eleventh Review: Economic targets and social indicators* was issued in November 1974. Other consensus studies are issued individually without a predetermined timetable. In this category are the 1974 publication *Toward more stable growth in construction* and the recent report on commercial policy, as well as ongoing work on financial markets, the labour market, social indicators, regional studies, and the long-term future. The Council also publishes background research studies, and technical reports on the CANDIDE model of the Canadian economy. An important activity of the Economic Council in 1973 and 1974 was its sponsorship of the National Economic Conference, a forum