Public lectures, film presentations and special interpretative programs prepared by the Interpretation and Extension Division are popular with school classes and the general public. In addition, the division prepares publications, provides educational materials for loans to schools and conducts a program of travelling exhibits.

The National Museum of Man

Through its six divisions — Archaeological Survey of Canada, Canadian Ethnology Service, Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies, Canadian War Museum, History and Communications — the National Museum of Man conducts research in Canadian studies, collects and preserves artifacts of material culture and extends the museum's programs across Canada through exhibits and educational loans.

The Canadian Centre for Folk Cultural Studies is both a research institute and a repository of the largest archive in Canada of folk culture materials. The Canadian War Museum houses an extensive collection of the memorabilia of Canada's military past ranging from military art and medals to tanks and bayonets from all wars involving Canadian participants. The Archaeological Survey of Canada has undertaken more than 360 research and salvage projects in Canadian prehistory in the past 13 years, including 10 in 1975, which have dramatically altered the knowledge of Canada's past. The Canadian Ethnology Service collects and analyzes information pertinent to the traditional cultures of Canadian Indians, Inuit and Métis through ethnographic research and artifact acquisition and disseminates information through publications and exhibits. Research in Canadian history is conducted by the History Division which has acquired for preservation over 30,000 items of period furnishings and Canadiana. The Communications Division conducts an extension program to provide access to the museum's collection across Canada and to ensure museum service at the community level. Its responsibilities include travelling exhibitions, 10 of which were circulated in 1975-76, and educational loans including kits of museum materials. Exhibitions depict Canada's ethnic cultures, folk toys, Inuit history and art, Ouebec furniture, and the Athapaskan Indians. Catalogues and monographs are part of the museum's diverse program of national and international travelling exhibitions, films and television programs.

The National Museum of Science and Technology

The newest of the four national museums, the National Museum of Science and Technology, opened in November 1967. This museum challenges visitors to climb, push, pull or just view its definitive collections. Thousands of others annually visit the National Aeronautical Collection at Rockcliffe Airport.

The exhibit pavilions contain examples from the history of ground transportation such as sleighs, streetcars, steam locomotives and antique cars, to aviation and space, beginning with Canada's first powered heavier-than-air flight. Trains have figured prominently both as acquisitions and in programs. Steam train excursions, operated in collaboration with the National Capital Commission, are popular summer events. There are also "seeing puzzles", experiments and skill-trying tests in the physics hall; the history of agriculture to present-day techniques; marine transport; meteorology; time pieces; a model workshop and astronomy.

In the National Aeronautical Collection over 90 aircraft illustrate the progress of aviation from primitive to present times and the importance of the flying machine in the development of Canada. Included is one of the world's largest collections of aircraft engines.

Educational programs are developed and conducted by a staff of tour guides on general or special topics for all age groups. The museum's observatory houses Canada's largest refracting telescope which is used for evening educational programs. The museum's 10,000-volume library places special emphasis on a retrospective collection of Canadian aviation. The museum participates in the creation of distinct exhibits for tour throughout Canada. There are also exchanges of artifacts with museums abroad.

7.8.4

7.8.3