

The National Research Council's Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP) was originally developed to assist industry to become more competitive and innovative by promoting the formation of R&D teams in industry.

An IRAP grant provides financial assistance for an applied research project conceived by a company with an end product or process in view. To be eligible, companies must be incorporated in Canada, undertake to do the major part of the proposed research in Canada, exploit results through Canadian operations, and have access to export markets for the product. Under this program the NRC pays the direct salaries of scientists, engineers and technicians. The company is expected to provide laboratory space, equipment and consumable supplies and to pay overhead costs. Estimated grants were \$16.9 million for 1976-77.

Federal scientific establishments are located across Canada, although most expenditures and personnel are concentrated in the National Capital Region.

The Scholarships and Grants in Aid of Research Program will continue to be administered by the NRC until the proposed Natural Sciences Research Council is established. The program promotes and supports the development and maintenance of research in Canadian universities and the provision of highly qualified manpower in the natural sciences and engineering. The program has three principal sub-objectives: to support excellence in research for the creation of new knowledge in the natural sciences and engineering, to promote and support the development of research in selected fields of regional and national importance, and to assist in the provision and development of highly qualified manpower. The program includes peer-adjudicated grants, developmental grants, highly qualified manpower training and development, and national and international activities. Expenditures for this program were planned at \$93.0 million in 1976-77.

## Statistics Canada

### 9.2.3

Statistics Canada is the major performer of activities in the human sciences with expenditures estimated at \$174.7 million in 1976-77, \$160.7 million for data collection. This included expenditures for the 1976 quinquennial census.

Statistics Canada provides the statistical information required for understanding the Canadian economy and society. The information is needed to develop and monitor the economic and social policies and programs of virtually all levels of government, as well as to support research work and decision-making throughout the nation. For example, the Labour Force Survey's unemployment statistics and the consumer price index are key indicators of the economic health of the nation. The agency's program consists almost totally of related scientific activities in the human sciences and represents nearly half of total federal spending on human science RSA.

One of Statistics Canada's key jobs is conducting the Census of Canada at five- and 10-year intervals on population and housing; the latest 10-year census was in 1971 and the five-year census in 1976. The bureau also undertakes a comprehensive Census of Agriculture at the same time and regularly surveys social and economic changes under more than 20 broad subject-matter headings.

The growth of Statistics Canada, both in personnel and in the complexity of statistical activity, has paralleled Canada's development as a modern industrial state. The agency's staff includes the largest single body of social scientists in one organization in Canada. Several hundred additional persons are employed part-time on special surveys and censuses.

Statistical collection covers every area of Canada. Most Statistics Canada information is available to the public through publications but for users requiring information in a more sophisticated form there is an increasing output on micro-film, computer tapes and special tabulations.

## Department of Agriculture

### 9.2.4

The Department of Agriculture's research program is the largest single budgetary program devoted entirely to research with expected intramural expenditures of