

medium-size businesses. Hence it attempts to ease the problems encountered by businesses which are unable to set up research facilities essential to their economic and technological development.

**The Ontario Research Foundation (ORF)**, established in 1928, is an independent corporation. It derives its powers from a special act of the Ontario legislature. Its board of governors consists of leading members of the industrial, commercial and scientific communities. The organization was financed initially by an endowment fund provided by industrial and commercial corporations through the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, and a matching grant from the provincial government. Most of its income is derived from contract research undertaken mainly for industry. Since 1967 the Ontario government has provided an annual grant to ORF, the amount of which is directly proportional to ORF's income from Canadian industry. The foundation is concerned primarily with the development of Canadian industry through the application of science and technology. At the request of the various levels of government, it undertakes work relative to federal and provincial needs. Foundation activities are not restricted to Ontario; work is undertaken for any organization in Canada on an equal basis.

The foundation undertakes industrial research, development and testing for companies and government agencies, and maintains an effective applied research and development facility for the use of industry and government agencies. Ontario government funds support the back-up research necessary, and help bring to the attention of industry and government agencies the research opportunities that promise economic or social benefits. Situated in the Sheridan Park Research Community near Toronto, ORF has a staff of approximately 300 scientists, engineers, technicians and service personnel.

Since its establishment, ORF has provided both large and small companies with a variety of scientific and technical services. These have ranged from short-term investigations, market research and feasibility studies, through product and process development to long-range fundamental scientific investigations. All projects are conducted confidentially; this includes all business, technical or proprietary information revealed to ORF by clients or prospective clients. Patents resulting from research and development studies are assigned to the client.

**The Manitoba Research Council** consists of seven members, as well as four advisory committees whose members represent natural-resource-based industry, manufacturing, labour, the universities and government. The main reason for the establishment of the council is to assist Manitoba industry to improve its market position by developing a more scientifically based production capability. The council maintains an office in Winnipeg. Permanent staff members are provided by the provincial government. Its work is financed by provincial government appropriations, although fees and service charges may be levied for its services. The council promotes or carries out research and development investigations related to the natural resources and industrial operations of the province. Research sponsored by the council is performed in existing research laboratories of the province. Much of the research is aimed at establishing Manitoba as a centre of excellence in food products, electronics, materials research and building systems.

In addition, through a Technical Assistance Centre, industries are encouraged to incorporate new technological developments in their operations. The centre is staffed by engineers and scientists, all of whom have had extensive industrial experience. The centre received more than 120 inquiries for assistance during 1975-76 and a substantial amount of technical data on material selection and properties was conveyed to entrepreneurs.

**The Saskatchewan Research Council** was set up in 1947 under an act of the Saskatchewan legislature. The council carries out research in the natural and management sciences with the aim of improving the provincial economy. At first the council carried out its research programs at the University of Saskatchewan by