

research and planning, but also exploration of social, human and economic issues which result from changing patterns of communications. The department protects Canadian interests in the realm of international telecommunications and manages the radio frequency spectrum to permit development and growth of radio communications.

The duties, powers and functions of the communications minister include all matters relating to telecommunications over which the Parliament of Canada has jurisdiction, not by law assigned to any other department, branch or agency of the federal government. The general development and use of communication undertakings, facilities, systems and services for Canada also come under the minister's jurisdiction. The department has four sectors: policy, space program, research and services.

The policy sector recommends international and national telecommunications policies and proposes legislation for the government's consideration. This sector co-ordinates federal-provincial relations and is the point for contacts with Teleglobe Canada and the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission. It provides technological and socio-economic forecasts, identifies areas needing research and development, and carries out strategic planning.

The department's field organization, with 48 offices in the Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Central and Pacific regions, is primarily concerned with management of the electromagnetic spectrum.

The space sector comprises all space-related communications activities. These include Canada's experimental satellite launched in 1976; relations with Telesat Canada and other agencies concerned with space; development of new space systems and applications; and planning and international functions in communications technology.

The research sector carries out research and development in communications, both in-house and through university and industrial contracts. It is concerned with new communications systems and services, the use of the radio frequency spectrum and providing scientific advice to help formulate departmental policy and develop new programs. The department's principal research facility is a research centre near Ottawa.

A telecommunications regulatory service sets technical standards for broadcasting facilities and equipment, issues technical certificates and radio operating licences and manages the radio frequency spectrum. A government telecommunications agency provides consulting and centralized telecommunications services for the government.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission Act, put into effect April 1, 1976, transferred regulatory jurisdiction over certain telecommunications common carriers previously exercised by the Canadian Transport Commission to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). Telephone and telegraph companies incorporated under federal legislation are now subject to the jurisdiction of the CRTC.

Radiocommunications in Canada, except for matters covered by the Broadcasting Act, are regulated under the Radio Act and regulations and the Canada Shipping Act and ship station radio regulations. The Radio Act and regulations provide for licensing of radio stations performing terrestrial radio services, and licensing earth and space stations engaged in space radiocommunication services. Radiocommunications in Canada are administered in accordance with an international telecommunication convention and its radio regulations, an international civil aviation convention, and an international convention for the safety of life at sea. A number of Canada-United States conventions and agreements are also in effect: a convention for the promotion of safety on the Great Lakes by means of radio; a convention relating to the operation, by citizens of either country, of certain radio equipment or stations in the other country; an agreement relating to the co-ordination and use of some radio frequencies; television and FM agreements; and an agreement relating to the operation in either country of radiotelephone stations licensed in the citizens radio service of the United States and the general radio service of Canada. Canada is also a party to a North American regional broadcasting agreement.

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). Under the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission Act the CRTC also rules on all federally-regulated broadcast undertakings. The CRTC issues