

privately owned affiliates or rebroadcasters. The corporation has production centres in Toronto (English), Montreal (French), and in several cities across the country.

CBC AM radio networks are within reach of 99% of the Canadian population and CBC television networks cover 98%. Remaining unserved locations are gradually being provided with radio and TV transmitters under the Accelerated Coverage Plan (ACP), a six-year program approved by the federal government in 1974. The ACP will involve nearly 700 engineering projects by the time it is completed. By late 1977, applications had been submitted to the CRTC for 250 ACP projects and licences have been granted for 174.

The demand for a unifying reflection of Canadian society through the CBC was brought into focus with the 1976 Quebec election and the constitutional issues arising from it. For the CBC this meant increased emphasis on continuing responsibilities such as fair and thorough news coverage, the reflection of Canada's cultural diversity and special co-operative efforts between the French and English networks.

**General programming.** CBC radio and television continued to offer varied program schedules in news, current affairs, music, drama, sports, religion, science, children's programs, consumer interests and light entertainment. Interest in greater regional development was expressed both outside and inside the CBC. Plans were announced to increase regional resources and production capacity, to enrich regional news and current affairs capabilities in particular, and to start on a five-year plan of gradually increased regional production in drama, music and variety. The radio services celebrated the 40th anniversary of the CBC, and continued the development of new programs and schedules for the AM and FM-stereo networks. The Northern Radio Service combined network programming with local and regional broadcasts in English, French and 10 native languages and dialects. One of the goals for CBC television, moving into its 25th anniversary year, was to maintain attractive Canadian programs in competition with other sources of television.

All CBC networks supported the work of Canadian artists and performers through presentation of Canadian drama, literature, music and films. Renewed attention was also given to regional talent development and intraprovincial programming. CBC programs or performers won more than 60 awards in Canadian and international competitions. Selected programs from English and French CBC television networks were made available for post-broadcast distribution to educational bodies through the National Film Board.

**International activities.** Radio Canada International (RCI), the CBC's overseas shortwave service with headquarters in Montreal, broadcasts daily in 11 languages and distributes free recorded programs for use by broadcasters throughout the world. In shortwave programming an attempt was made to draw firm lines between information and opinion, so as to avoid confusion for the listener. A central talks unit was created under the general supervision of the news department to commission commentaries and provide press reviews combining opinion from English- and French-language newspapers in Canada. Program personnel were regrouped under five target area desks: Eastern Europe, Western Europe, Africa, North America and Latin America.

Under agreement with the defence department, the CBC Armed Forces Service provides recorded and shortwave programs for Canadian forces radio stations in the Federal Republic of Germany, with staff seconded to manage the stations. The Armed Forces Service reports to Radio Canada International.

**Finance.** The CBC's total operating expenses for the fiscal year 1976-77 were \$476.0 million, including \$20.9 million for the 1976 Summer Olympics; \$234.0 million for television, and \$64.0 million for radio programs broadcast; and \$59.2 million for television and \$16.6 million for radio program distribution. This operating budget was provided by parliamentary appropriation of \$389.0 million, general revenues of \$86.0 million (including \$82.0 million from commercials), \$12.7 million from the Olympics Organizing Committee, with the balance covered by depreciation.

In constant dollars the increase in expenditures in 1976-77 was 10.1% over that of 1975-76. The largest part of the increase in operating expenditures went to the financing