

The terms of reference are specified in the legislation that established the board which is authorized to prepare, on behalf of the government, detailed plans, programs and projects for management of the land and development of particular regional potential, to make better use of social and economic resources. The board advises the government on policies and programs developed by the departments, to foster harmonization. It co-ordinates research, studies and inventories undertaken by government departments and agencies and provides liaison between those organizations when the implementation of a project concerns several of them. The board has the status of a corporation whose president is the director general.

**The Ontario Economic Council**, set up in 1962 as a public policy institute, undertakes research and policy studies to encourage optimum development of Ontario's human and material resources. Studies concentrate on a wide range of economic problems in education, health, manpower, social security and urban affairs as well as government regulation, intergovernmental relations and macro-economic policy. Areas of study are established as a result of liaison with the public and private sectors.

The council sponsors research projects and publishes studies. It organizes conferences and regional seminars on Ontario's economic issues. The annual report details research publications and work in progress.

### Provincial research councils

### 14.3.2

Eight provinces have established research councils or foundations, with responsibility for assisting firms with technical problems and aiding development of provincial natural resources. Their expenditures by scientific area for 1978 are summarized in Table 14.4.

**Nova Scotia** has a Crown corporation with control vested in a board of directors appointed by the province. Its objective is to assist in the economic development of Nova Scotia by promoting, stimulating and encouraging effective utilization of science and technology by industry and government and to undertake, singly or in conjunction with others, such research, development, surveys, investigations and operations as may be appropriate.

The corporation's laboratories in Dartmouth were built on a site donated by the province. The staff of 91 includes 39 engineers and scientists and 37 technicians. The corporation's six scientific and technical divisions provide a strong multidisciplinary capability.

A geophysics division carries out gravity, seismic, magnetic and other surveys on land and at sea. A chemistry division stresses R&D related to minerals and other natural resources. Services are available to industry and government in inorganic and food chemistry, pollution control and chemical engineering.

An operational research division provides a service using mathematical techniques of systems analysis. Divisions on engineering physics and ocean technology emphasize ocean-oriented electronic and mechanical engineering. Another division provides technical information on materials, equipment and processes, and engineering assistance to manufacturing industries. The biology group researches distribution, growth, conservation and utilization of commercial seaweed. It also does microbiological research related to water pollution and treatment of industrial waste waters.

**New Brunswick** set up a council on research and productivity in 1962. It is governed by an independent group of citizens from management, labour and the professions, appointed for three-year terms. Capital investment was provided by the federal government. Most council operations are carried out on a cost-recovery basis under contract with industry, trade associations and national and international agencies. The council maintains a centre for engineering and problem-solving, industrial research and development.

A **Quebec** industrial research centre was created in 1969. Its primary mission is to contribute to economic development of Quebec through encouragement of innovation in manufacturing enterprises, in particular those of small and medium size. It collaborates closely with such industries in research and development covering various fields of applied science and directed toward creation of new processes and products. In