

distinguished for research and publication of scholarly works and as cultural centres. They offer many services to the public through exhibits, guided tours, lectures and scientific and popular publications.

Direct work with schools may involve classes in the museum or visits of museum lecturers, with exhibits, to the schools. More informal are guided tours for visiting classes, loans of materials to schools, and training student-teachers in the educational use of the museum. For children, a number of museums have Saturday lectures and film showings, nature clubs and field excursions. Museum field parties provide research training to university students, and museum staffs act as professional consultants, answer inquiries and serve as advisers to foreign scholars and institutions.

For adults, museums offer lectures, film shows and guided tours. Staff members may give lectures to service clubs or other groups, and hobby clubs such as naturalist groups, mineral clubs and astronomy societies, which may be allowed to use the

The four national museums in Ottawa and the associate network of 21 major museums and galleries have common goals of preserving Canada's heritage and making it more accessible to a wider public. Travelling exhibits, educational programs and research facilities invite visitors to participate in learning more about the resources, development and cultural treasures of Canada.

museum as their headquarters. Travelling exhibits are prepared for local fairs, historical celebrations and conventions. Some Canadian museums have conducted regular radio or television programs. Some historical museums stage annual events where the arts, crafts or industries represented by the exhibits are demonstrated.

Public art galleries and art museums in the principal cities conduct Saturday classes and tours for school pupils and adults. Radio talks, lectures and concerts are provided by various galleries as well as travelling exhibitions for their surrounding areas. Several galleries maintain an art rental service. Table 17.4 gives the number of art galleries and museums and their location by region.

17.3.1 National Museums of Canada

The National Museums of Canada, a Crown corporation established in 1968 by the National Museums Act, incorporates in a single administration Canada's four major national museums, affiliated with a nationwide network of associate museums and exhibition centres. It administers a series of programs with main purposes to preserve and increase access to the treasures of the national heritage.

The four national museums in Ottawa are: the National Gallery; the National Museum of Man, which includes the Canadian War Museum; the National Museum of Natural Sciences; and the National Museum of Science and Technology, including the National Aeronautical Collection. Since 1972 the corporation has been implementing a national program under the national museum policy. Its aims are to increase public access to the collections and to help preserve them. The National Museum of Man and National Museum of Natural Sciences are served by the corporation's 180,000-volume library system.

17.3.2 National Gallery of Canada

The National Gallery of Canada marked its 100th anniversary in March 1980. Its beginnings are associated with the founding of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in 1880. In 1913, the National Gallery was incorporated by an act of Parliament and placed under the administration of a board of trustees. Its function was to encourage public interest in the arts and to promote the interests of art throughout the country.

The gallery's collections have been built up along international lines and indicate the origins of Canadian traditions. The collection of Canadian art, the most extensive in existence, is continually being augmented. Over 60% of all acquisitions since 1966 have been Canadian. There are now more than 18,000 works of art in the collections.