

rationalize the coal industry of Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island and to broaden the base of the area's economy by assisting financing and development of industry to provide employment outside the coal mines.

The corporation acquired former interests of the major coal producer in the Sydney coalfield and is operating three mines, two of them new, a modern coal preparation plant and other ancillaries. It is active in development of tourism, primary products and secondary industries.

The act provides for a board of directors, comprising a chairman, a president and five other directors. Head office is located in Sydney. The corporation reports to Parliament through the minister of regional economic expansion. Its operations are financed by the federal government.

Columbia River Treaty Permanent Engineering Board. The permanent engineering board, consisting of two Canadians and two Americans, was established under the 1964 Columbia River Treaty between Canada and the United States. The board assembles records and inspects and reports at least annually on matters within the scope of the treaty. It reports to Parliament through the minister of energy, mines and resources.

Commissioner of Official Languages. Appointed by Parliament pursuant to the Official Languages Act (RSC 1970, c.O-2), the commissioner holds office for a term of seven years, and is eligible to be re-appointed for a further term not exceeding seven years. He is responsible to Parliament for ensuring recognition of the equal status of French and English as Canada's official languages and for ensuring compliance with the spirit and intent of the act in all the institutions of the Parliament and Government of Canada. The commissioner is empowered to receive and investigate complaints from the public and, on his own initiative, to conduct investigations into possible violations of the act. The results of investigations must be communicated to the complainants and the institutions concerned and may, at the commissioner's discretion, be the subject of a special report to Parliament. The commissioner reports annually to Parliament on the conduct of his office and the discharge of his duties, and may make recommendations for changes in the act as he deems necessary or desirable.

Communications, Department of. The department was established under the 1969 Government Organization Act and operates under authority of the Department of Communications Act (RSC 1970, c.C-24). The minister of communications is responsible for fostering the orderly operation and development of communications for Canada. This includes recommending national policies and programs regarding communications services for Canada, promoting the efficiency and growth of Canadian communications systems and helping them adjust to changing conditions, and encouraging development and introduction of new communication facilities and resources. Responsibilities also include managing the radio frequency spectrum to permit orderly use of radio communications, protecting Canadian interests in international telecommunications matters, and co-ordinating telecommunications services for departments and agencies of the federal government.

Teleglobe Canada, the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission and Telesat Canada report to Parliament through the minister of communications.

Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Department of (Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada). This department was established in 1967 (RSC 1970, c.C-27) replacing the Department of the Registrar General of Canada. The duties, powers and functions of the minister extend to and include all matters over which Parliament has jurisdiction, not by law assigned to any other department, branch or agency of the federal government, relating to: consumer affairs; corporations and corporate securities; combines, mergers, monopolies and restraint of trade; bankruptcies and insolvencies; and patents, copyrights, trade marks and industrial design.

The functions of the department are divided into three main areas. The consumer affairs bureau co-ordinates government activities in the consumer field and supervises the department's field operations across Canada; the corporate affairs bureau administers the government's corporate activities, laws and regulations, including those pertaining to patents, trade marks, industrial design and copyright; competition policy is regulated by the competition policy bureau. As registrar general of Canada, the minister of consumer and corporate affairs is the custodian of the Great Seal of Canada, the Privy Seal of the Governor General, the seal of the administrator of Canada and the seal of the registrar general of Canada. The Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (Combines Investigation Act) is part of the department and reports directly to the minister.

Copyright Appeal Board (Copyright Appeal Board Canada). The board provides a means by which those using music protected by copyright can oppose the amount of the fees proposed to be collected annually by performing rights societies for the use of the music within their respective repertoires in Canada. The Copyright Act (RSC 1970, c.C-30) empowers the board to deal only with the amount of the fees that the societies propose to collect for an ensuing calendar year. It has no authority to draft terms and conditions of the tariffs. Hearings before the board are conducted in a quasi-judicial manner. After considering proposed statements of fees and all objections received thereto, if any, the board makes such alterations to the