

The Saskatchewan Arts Board gives Saskatchewan people opportunities to engage in drama, the visual arts, music, literature, crafts and other arts. The arts board is autonomous, funded by the provincial government, earned revenue and donations. Two widely-known arts board projects are a school of the arts, and a permanent collection of arts and crafts by provincial artists.

Alberta Culture offers grants to organizations, public art galleries and individuals. Art distribution programs help Alberta artists and craftsmen to have their work exhibited. Travel grants help individuals and groups to take part in festivals, competitions, conferences and study tours. Community organizations may apply for interest-free loans to buy arts and crafts equipment.

A performing arts branch encourages dance, drama and music. Residential summer schools include courses in drama at Drumheller and Fairview and music at Camrose. Development of Alberta writers is encouraged in courses, workshops, competitions for playwrights and new Alberta novelists, scholarships and grants for authors. Annual awards are given for non-fiction and local history books. Funds for publishers and nominal grants to periodicals encourage Alberta literary output.

A library services branch helps set up community library systems. A cultural heritage branch promotes understanding of cultural diversity.

The British Columbia Cultural Fund was set up by statute in 1967. The act set aside \$5 million in an endowment fund; the interest was to be spent to stimulate the cultural development of BC people. An advisory committee was established to receive applications for cultural grants and to report their recommendations to the finance department. The amount of the endowment was raised to \$20 million in 1974. An advisory body, the British Columbia Arts Board, makes recommendations to the provincial government on the allocation of grants from the fund. Interest revenues from the endowment are supplemented with monies from the British Columbia Lottery Fund.

15.4.4 Canadian Conference of the Arts

The Canadian Conference of the Arts was established in 1945 as a national, non-governmental, non-profit association to "ensure the lively existence and continued growth of the arts and the cultural industries in Canada."

Conference membership of over 700 organizations and associations includes a wide spectrum of artistic and cultural associations, organizations and institutions. Individual membership includes artists, arts administrators, educators, and other concerned arts supporters.

The conference endeavours to strengthen public support and enhance public awareness of the role and value of the arts. In short, it is an arts-based advocate for the arts.

15.5 Museums and galleries

Museums of Canada range from collections of local historical artifacts and objects to large government-operated institutions. Many larger museums, especially the components of the National Museums of Canada and the Royal Ontario Museum, are distinguished for research and publication of scholarly works and as cultural centres. They offer many services through exhibits, guided tours, lectures and scientific and popular publications.

Work with schools may involve classes in the museum or visits to the schools by museum lecturers with exhibits, guided tours for visiting classes, loans of materials to schools, and training student-teachers in 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 staff act as professional consultants to foreign scholars and institutions.

For adults, museums offer lectures, film shows and guided tours. Staff members give lectures to service clubs or other groups, and hobby clubs such as naturalist groups, mineral clubs and astronomy societies, which may use the museum as headquarters. Travelling exhibits are prepared for local fairs, historical celebrations and conventions. Some Canadian museums have regular radio or television programs. Some historical museums stage annual events to demonstrate arts, crafts or industries represented by the exhibits.

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 15.8 gives the number of art galleries and museums and their location by region.

15.5.1 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 Aviation Museum. The national museum policy aims to increase public access to the collections and to help preserve them. The National Museum of Man and National