

mental, non-profit association to "ensure the lively existence and continued growth of the arts and the cultural industries in Canada."

Conference membership of 1,200 organizational and individual members 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.

15.4 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.

Heritage institutions, including archives, historic sites, exhibition centres, planetariums, aquariums, botanical gardens and parks, also provide a rich assortment of heritage-related activities.

15.4.1 National Museums of Canada

The National Museums of Canada (NMC), a Crown corporation established in 1968 by the National Museums Act, incorporates in a single administration: the National Gallery of Canada, including the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography; the Canadian Museum of Civilization, including the Canadian War Museum; the National Museum of Natural Sciences; and the National Museum of Science and Technology, including the National Aviation Museum and the Agricultural Museum. All these institutions are located in the National Capital Region.

The NMC has fostered co-operation among Canadian museums by establishing a network of 25 associate museums, including the above-mentioned institutions, and 23 national exhibition centres. In 1972, the Corporation began implementing a national museum policy designed to ensure that museum collections are preserved and that public access to them is increased; five national programs were created to further the objectives of this policy.

In February 1982, the Canada Museums Construction Corporation was formed to be responsible for the construction of buildings to house the National Gallery of Canada and the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

Designed by Montreal architect Moshe Safdie, the new building for the National Gallery of Canada is being constructed as a joint venture with Parkin Partnership of Toronto. The building is scheduled to open in 1988 at Sussex Drive and St. Patrick Street in Ottawa's historic Byward Market area.

For the Canadian Museum of Civilization, the government approved an architectural design by Douglas J. Cardinal of Edmonton, in co-operation with Les architectes Tétreault, Parent, Languedoc et Associés of Montreal. The model was unveiled to the Canadian public in November 1983, and construction began early in 1984, in Parc Laurier, Hull, Que. The museum is expected to be open to the public in 1988. The building will give the museum four times the exhibition space now available in its present location at the Victoria Memorial Museum Building for its archaeological, ethnographic, folk art and historical collections.

In 1982, the government also approved the expenditure of \$18.4 million over three years for the construction of the first phase of a new building for the National Aviation Museum. The need for more suitable accommodations was imperative. Containing one of the world's finest aeronautical collections, the museum is located at present in three antiquated and inadequate World War II hangars.