

satellite (DBS), have had worldwide impact. Using higher frequencies and smaller receiving dishes (earth stations) than earlier satellites, Hermes delivered television signals to individual homes, particularly in previously underserved or unserved rural and remote communities.

The CBC routinely uses Telesat Canada's Anik satellites to transmit television and radio signals across Canada. Live broadcasts of special events are sent simultaneously to stations in the country's six time zones; some national news broadcasts are centrally produced and transmitted at hourly intervals to centres across the country; news stories and programs are assembled in various cities for rebroadcast by local networks. Satellite coverage of fast-breaking news stories, elections, sports and special events is possible with the portable earth stations first developed by the Department of Communications.

Educational television networks, parliamentary coverage, Pay-TV, international broadcasts and radio programming are also transmitted by Anik satellite for redistribution in communities across the nation.

In 1981, the CRTC licensed CANCOM, a Canadian broadcast satellite service, to make additional radio and television broadcasting available to Canadians living in remote areas. CANCOM distributes to smaller privately or community-owned cable systems, rebroadcasters and individual subscribers.

#### 14.2.1 Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)

In 1929, a federal Royal Commission on broadcasting recommended the creation of a national public broadcasting system, to counter the effects of US radio and serve areas in which commercial radio was not economical. In 1936, Parliament passed the Broadcasting Act that created the CBC. The new public corporation had two responsibilities: to provide a national radio service, and to regulate all broadcasting in Canada — licensing, programs and commercial content. It was financed by licence fees, advertising and loans from the public treasury. Today, CBC's financing comes through its own revenues and through parliamentary appropriations.

There has been continuing debate in Canada over the roles of private and public broadcasting. The Board of Broadcast Governors, created to supervise the public sector in 1958, was succeeded, under the 1968 Broadcasting Act, by the CRTC, which was given overall responsibility for regulating broadcasting. Under the same Act, the CBC was required to offer a balanced service of

information, enlightenment and entertainment covering the whole range of programming in fair proportion; extend its coverage, as public funds became available, to all parts of Canada; broadcast in English and in French, serving the special needs of geographical regions and contributing to the flow and exchange of cultural and regional information and entertainment; and contribute to the development of national unity and provide a continuing expression of Canadian identity.

**Facilities and coverage.** By the mid-1980s, the CBC operated several national services: a French television network; an English television network; the world's first national parliamentary network; English and French AM radio and FM stereo networks; a special medium and shortwave radio service in the North; and an international shortwave and transcription service.

In 1985, the CBC owned and operated 31 television stations, and 585 television network relays and rebroadcasting transmitters. Its television programming was also carried by 31 affiliated stations, 73 affiliated rebroadcasters and 164 private or community-owned rebroadcast transmitters. Its national radio service owned and operated 68 radio stations and 584 rebroadcasters and low-power relay transmitters. The service was carried by 17 private affiliated radio stations and 57 private or community-owned rebroadcast transmitters. The CBC had production centres in Montreal (French), Toronto (English), and many other cities.

The CBC radio networks, English and French, were available to 99.3% of Canadians in 1985. The French and English television networks were available to 99.2% of Canadians.

CBC Radio presents popular and classical music, serious drama and light comedy, talk shows, analyses of politics and the arts, local news, current affairs, weather and traffic reports, and regional and network programming.

The English and French CBC television services present Canadian programming including news, current affairs, drama, sports, religion, science, children's programs, consumer information and light entertainment.

Both financially and culturally, the CBC is the major broadcaster in the country. In 1987-88, its parliamentary appropriation was \$887 million, up almost 4% over the previous year's allocation. The total CBC budget for 1987-88 was \$1.2 billion, with the balance made up by advertising (about \$300 million) and other revenues.

**Northern service.** CBC Northern Service provides radio and television to the Yukon and Northwest Territories. National network and northern-produced radio programs are delivered through