

municipal affairs, recreation and culture. This division is responsible for developing and administering programs for heritage conservation, museums, public libraries, and the arts. It also operates many historical parks; among them, Barkerville and Fort Steele.

In addition, the province financially supports the following cultural agencies: the Royal BC Museum, BC Film, the Knowledge Network, the Arts, Science and Technology Centre, and the Emily Carr College of Arts and Design.

15.3.4 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 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 exhibitions 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 often 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.

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

In 1987, the government announced the disbanding of the National Museums of Canada (NMC), a Crown corporation that was established in 1968 by the National Museums Act, and which had incorporated the national museums 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 will function independently as Crown corporations upon passing of this new proposed legislation. All are located in the National Capital Region.

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 was constructed as a joint venture with Parkin Partnership of Toronto. The building was opened 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 Tétrault, 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 was opened to the public in 1989.

In 1982, the government also approved the construction of the first phase of a new building for the National Aviation Museum. In June 1988,