

a new building, housing one of the world's finest aeronautical collections was opened to the public.

The spectacular triangular-shaped building provides space for aircraft display, collection storage and restoration, a foyer and a boutique, as well as an area for the Royal Canadian Air Force Hall of Tribute.

The Canadian Museum of Civilization conducts research in Canadian studies and collects, preserves and displays objects which reflect Canada's cultural heritage. Activities extend across the country through field research programs and publications. Staff includes archaeologists, ethnologists, anthropologists, historians, folklorists, musicologists, curators and specialists in various other museum disciplines.

In the summer of 1988, the Canadian Museum of Civilization, housed in the Victoria Memorial Museum Building, closed its doors to the public in order to begin the lengthy process of moving its collections to its new location. The new Canadian Museum of Civilization which opened in June 1989, is located in Hull, Que., facing the Parliament Buildings across the Ottawa River. Its displays include exhibitions designed to be experienced rather than simply seen. The museum offers an informative and entertaining perspective on 10,000 years of human history in Canada. Life-size reconstructions of historic sites and situations and interactive activities bring visitors into dramatic contact with Canada's colourful past and cultural heritage.

The Grand Hall, as one vivid example, provides a complete West Coast Indian village in the museum, with traditional totem poles and longhouses in a rain-forest environment. The exhibition illustrates the daily life and rich culture of the people of the Pacific region. The Children's Museum allows youngsters to follow the trail of archaeologists and anthropologists in special galleries, animated with activities designed to help them to discover Canada's past.

The History Hall brings visitors through a series of historic settings, each illustrating an aspect of the past and allowing a unique view of Canadian settlements from Newfoundland to British Columbia.

The first-in-the-world double cinema, capable of projecting both Imax and Omnimax format film, is a main feature of the new Canadian Museum of Civilization.

The Canadian War Museum, associated with the Canadian Museum of Civilization, highlights the military heritage of Canada. The collections range from cap badges and tanks to the finest assemblage of war art in the world. This museum

studies the many aspects of human conflict from a military history perspective. Three floors of exhibit galleries convey four centuries of armed struggle by Canadians from the first European contact to World War II. Annual special exhibits focus on various chapters of Canada's military past from the role of women in war to the wartime work of artists such as Alex Colville. In addition, travelling exhibitions, a historical publications series and educational programs disseminate research and collections to an international audience.

The National Museum of Natural Sciences, located in the heart of the National Capital Region, presents six permanent exhibit halls: "The Earth", "Life Through the Ages", "Birds of Canada", "Mammals in Canada", "Animals in Nature" and "Plant Life". Each of these galleries introduces the visitor to both microscopic and larger-than-life details of our natural world, using varied communications techniques such as computers, video, stills, touch displays, workshops, exhibits, concerts and real specimens. More than 185 volunteers provide interpretive visits for students, teachers and special groups. Travelling exhibits, lectures, films, books and free publications bring the National Museum of Natural Sciences to its visitors in Ottawa and throughout the country.

The five scientific divisions: botany, invertebrate zoology, vertebrate zoology, mineral sciences, paleobiology and the zooarchaeological identification centre maintain the museum's collections, which are among the best in the world. Fieldwork and laboratory research are actively supported by the museum, both through its staff and through associated scientists from outside organizations. Throughout the years, the museum has produced hundreds of scientific publications, making research results available internationally.

The National Museum of Science and Technology has had more than 10 million visitors since it opened in 1967. It presents scientific discoveries and technological advances in a hands-on manner that allows visitors to participate in and get close to the exhibits, objects and machines on display. In the physics hall, for example, they can perform experiments and test their physical abilities and dexterity.

The halls are dedicated to ground transportation, communications and space, astronomy, time pieces, computer technology, agriculture and graphic arts.

The public programs and educational activities of the museum include daily demonstrations, guided interpretive programs on about 25 subjects,