

Control of marking articles of precious metal is maintained under the Precious Metals Marking Act. The regulations came into force in July 1973.

#### 16.4 Provincial assistance to manufacturing

**Newfoundland.** The manufacturing sector of Newfoundland's economy accounts for 8% of the gross domestic product at factor cost. The total value of manufacturing shipments totals more than \$1 billion annually. Export manufacturing activities are concentrated in the areas of fish processing, newsprint and non-metallic mineral production.

Traditionally, the manufacturing industry has been directed toward the primary processing of raw materials for export, with almost one half of these exports originating in the seafood industries. Secondary and tertiary industrial efforts have made a rapid and significant impact on the province's manufacturing sector and cover a wide range of goods and services.

The development phase of offshore oil and gas offers significant manufacturing investment opportunities including steel fabrication facilities; marine technology and hardware; and telecommunications and marine navigation technology.

The province is also interested in attracting energy-intensive processing and manufacturing enterprises and can offer competitive power to industrial clients. Manufacturing is supported by a number of industrial parks and conveniently located incubator malls which can facilitate small to medium-sized manufacturing and high technology business.

A number of development programs are available which offer assistance and encourage establishment and expansion of manufacturing, processing and servicing activities.

**Prince Edward Island.** The primary objective of the Prince Edward Island Development Agency is to identify and develop economic opportunities through programs that stimulate economic development and long-term employment. Through the agency, various assistance programs are offered to manufacturers, processors and related service industries. The equity investor's incentive provides cash rebates of 20% to 30% to investors purchasing up to 49% of voting shares of start-up companies. Term loans for buildings, equipment, improvements, and start-up costs are available to new companies for up to 75% or in the case of expansion, up to 100%, with terms up to 20 years. Through the industrial mall

program the agency rents industrial units, ranging in size from approximately 37 m<sup>2</sup> to 3066 m<sup>2</sup>, in the industrial parks in the Charlottetown and Summerside areas. Outside of these areas, the rental incentive program provides annual rental subsidies to manufacturing and processing industries. Serviced land is also for sale for constructing industrial facilities in the West Royalty Industrial Park (a suburb of Charlottetown) or in the Summerside Area Industrial Park.

The agency also encourages development and expansion of markets for the Island's natural and manufactured products. In doing so, it provides both technical personnel and financial assistance to producers, processors and manufacturers with an interest in the development of new or the marketing of existing products. It also co-ordinates the planning and implementation of marketing projects sponsored by the province.

**Nova Scotia.** The Department of Small Business Development operates six small business service centres in each region of the province that provide "one-stop shopping" for the Nova Scotia business person interested in financial assistance or guidance. Two of the programs offered, of interest to the industry and manufacturing sector, are: the rural industry program which offers a maximum grant up to \$7,500 on maximum capital expenditures of \$30,000 per project — businesses eligible include manufacturing, processing and services; and the women entrepreneurs' program which offers a maximum grant of \$1,500 and is available to a female business owner, or key employee of a female owned business, excluding professional services, non-profit operations or temporary operations. A grant may be approved for the cost of market research, trade show participation, technology transfer visits, or financial/bookkeeping courses. The cost of child care while attending the above is an eligible expense.

Two agencies which may offer assistance are the Nova Scotia Business Capital Corporation and the Small Business Development Corporation. The Nova Scotia Business Capital Corporation's mandate is to encourage business development in the province, including a tourism or tourism-related business, thereby promoting business growth and employment opportunities by making available financial and other forms of assistance to the business community. The general eligibility criteria for the programs of the Business Capital Corporation include: 50 or more employees; annual sales volume of \$3 million, or greater; and a request for financial assistance in excess of \$250,000 in the instance of loan assistance.