

7.3.4 Provincial assistance to the arts

During recent years provincial governments, as well as other levels of government and industry, have become more and more aware of the significance of the arts in the life of the community. All provinces except Prince Edward Island now give some form of financial assistance to artists (writers, poets, painters and sculptors), cultural organizations or community councils. New Brunswick now provides some assistance to choral groups and cultural organizations, and occasionally makes grants to writers. The assistance provided by the other provinces is described in the following paragraphs.

Newfoundland. The Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of Tourism contributes to the upkeep of cultural centres in the province and provides grants, awards and subsidies to individuals or groups native to or touring the province for performances. Grants and awards enable local theatrical groups to produce and perform in centres around the province. For 1974 the provincial government has budgeted \$50,000 for these grants and a further \$175,000 for subsidies to enable nationally known companies and groups to perform in the province at centres which normally would be unable to hire them. Subsidies also enable centres such as the Marine Museum in St. John's to purchase works for exhibition.

Nova Scotia. This province has no specific legislation authorizing financial assistance for cultural advancement but the Departments of Education and of Finance among others provide grants to a number of organizations. Payments are made under the Provincial Finance Act from departmental appropriations.

In the year ended March 31, 1973 grants totalling \$167,700 were paid out by the Department of Education, including \$90,000 to the Neptune Theatre Foundation, \$45,000 to the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra and \$15,000 to the Nova Scotia Museum of Fine Arts.

The Department of Finance contributed to: Hector Bi-Centennial Celebration Committee, \$25,000; Nova Scotia Festival of the Arts, \$7,000; Theatre Arts Festival International, \$17,912; Nova Scotia Museum of Fine Arts, \$15,000; and a total of \$13,500 to various other organizations. The Department of Tourism contributed to: Annapolis Valley Apple Blossom Festival, \$3,825; Antigonish Highland Society, \$2,000; Festival of the Tartans, \$2,500; Gaelic College of Celtic Folk Arts, \$10,000; Pictou Lobster Festival, \$2,500; and \$6,325 to other organizations.

The Fine Arts and Handcrafts section of the Adult Education Program of the Department of Education operated on a budget of \$142,000 and disbursed small grants for instructional purposes to various cultural organizations. The Nova Scotia Museum section of the Cultural Services Program of the Department of Education operated under a budget of \$944,000 and disbursed grants to local museums and historical societies. Other expenditures in the Department of Education included: Nova Scotia Provincial Libraries, \$1,360,200; Publication and Information, \$139,800; and Audio-Visual Services, \$216,600.

Quebec. The Department of Cultural Affairs was established on March 24, 1961 by an Act of the provincial legislature. The Department was charged with the administration of cultural organizations or institutions such as libraries, museums, archives and conservatories. It also is responsible for artistic, literary and scientific competitions and for the *Office de la langue française*, the Department of French Canadian Affairs outside the province, the Provincial Arts Council, the Historic Monuments Commission, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the *Place des Arts* and the *Grand Théâtre* of Quebec.

There are six main branches. The Management Branch supplies administrative services. The Literary Affairs Branch implements legislation on literary matters and books, including public libraries and library buildings, literary and scientific competitions, publishing insurance, the National Library of Quebec, and Orders in Council dealing with publishing and book distribution. During 1972-73 the Library Service of the Branch distributed \$1.7 million and a total of 110 libraries and the Literary Affairs and Books Service made grants to associations and publishers totalling \$154,900.

The Graphic Arts Branch administers the Quebec Museums Act, the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts Act, the "One per cent Act" and the Order in Council establishing the Committee responsible for implementing that Act, as well as the Order in Council setting up the Acquisitions Board of the Quebec Museum. This Branch also provides assistance to artists to allow them to show their works. During 1972-73 the Branch allotted \$379,750 to associations and creative artists in this field.