

Quebec and Ontario an informal system of information on developments taken by UNESCO within their province. This system of liaison is too new to allow an appraisal of its efficacy.

On matters of education, provincial liaison is achieved through the office of the Council of Ministers in Education which is located in Toronto. The National Commission uses this Council as a channel of liaison, for reasons of protocol and convenience. It judges that the distribution effected by the Council is a trifle perfunctory and that material sent through the Council takes too long to reach the provinces. As the bulk of the material on education is for information only, this delay is unimportant. When the views of the provinces are to be sought, however, and where provincial input is required, the National Commission sends a copy of the material direct to its contacts in the provincial departments of education for action, as well as utilizing the usual channels of communication via the Council.

The National Commission believes that one of the most important aspects of its distribution system is that it allows for an immediate reaction to the material supplied from the provincial contact concerned and, if necessary, a feedback or request for additional information. Frequently time is of the essence in UNESCO projects, and the action or point of view of the concerned parties must be taken or expressed with the minimum of delay. This can best be achieved by direct communication between the National Commission and the individuals most directly involved.

The Commission does not believe that these same advantages could be achieved by using the services of a central body, as for example,