

abroad, stages Shakespearean plays as well as works by Canadian and other authors. The festival also features concerts of orchestral, chamber, folk and jazz music.

Production facilities of Canada's two national English-language television networks, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the Canadian Television Network are located in Toronto. Each provides a full schedule of programs for network-owned and operated stations or for local affiliates. Global Television, a regional network, and TV Ontario, a provincial educational network, are also located in Toronto.

National network productions from Toronto studios are beamed to other major centres by Canada's ANIK satellites and are distributed regionally by microwave links. To co-ordinate them across Canada's six time zones, programs beamed from Toronto are taped and delayed for broadcast in the western provinces.

Among prominent cultural treasures in the province are such public institutions as the Royal Ontario Museum, the Art Gallery of Ontario and the Ontario Science Centre. The government also supports hundreds of cultural and recreational events in towns and cities right across the province.

#### *Sports and recreation*

Spectator sports are a big business

and a popular pastime in Ontario. In hockey, the professional Toronto Maple Leafs have shared national billing with their arch-rivals, the Montreal Canadiens, for years. Canadian football remains a strong favourite during summer and fall. Ontario supports three professional teams — the Toronto Argonauts, the Ottawa Rough Riders and the Hamilton Tiger Cats. The Toronto Blue Jays compete in the North American professional baseball league.

Amateur sports also are booming owing to an increased interest in fitness as well as to the excitement of competition. Since sports facilities are expensive, a large part of the funding for tracks, courts, pools, and arenas is provided by the federal and provincial governments.

For recreation, Ontario boasts more than 250,000 lakes that attract tourists by the thousands. The focus of much of this tourist activity is the system of 132 parks in the province. Among other popular features are Niagara Falls (Ontario's leading tourist attraction), Ontario Place (a summer entertainment park on the Toronto waterfront) and Ottawa's annual Tulip Festival.

#### *People and government*

As pointed out earlier, the 8.5 million Ontarians (some 36 per cent of the country's population) live in the southern part of the province,