

The forests of Alberta contain a net merchantable volume of timber totalling 1.7 billion cubic metres, permitting an allowable annual cut of 28 million cubic metres. Because actual harvesting now totals only four million cubic metres annually, a potential increase in harvesting of several times current levels is possible while still maintaining the net volume of timber in the forests.

#### *Culture*

Alberta, a multicultural province, offers a large number of cultural activities. Diverse ethnic groups have brought their own traditions with them and are encouraged to maintain and develop their cultural heritage.

The province has an official policy of multiculturalism and all ethnic groups in Alberta can receive support for cultural activities. The Alberta government has generous programs to support the visual, performing and literary arts as well as museums and historic sites. The two major museums are the Glenbow Institute of Calgary and the Provincial Museum in Edmonton.

Alberta's cultural agencies and groups have also benefited in recent years from federal government support, through such agencies as the Canada Council.

#### *Education*

In Canada, education is a provincial responsibility. Basic education (Grades 1-12) in Alberta comes under the jurisdiction of the provincial Department of Education and is available free to all Alberta children. Adult retraining and higher education come under the Department of Advanced Education and Manpower. Modest fees are charged for some higher education and adult retraining courses.

The advanced education system in Alberta utilizes: public universities (the Universities of Alberta and Calgary are the principal ones); provincial technical institutes; community colleges; provincial vocational centres; trade schools under government supervision; and other specialized schools.

Universities offer degree programs to the bachelor, master's and doctorate levels, as well as professional studies in such areas as medicine, law and dentistry. Six public colleges offer general education and community service courses, as well as one-year certificates and two-year diploma programs leading to vocational careers. Several provide university transfer courses.