Alistair MacLeod,





The two most active capitals, for obvious reasons, are London and Paris. In central London, Canada House has been a home away from home for Canadians since 1925. From this base, High Commission staff now work to help Canadian arts and creative industries throughout Britain.

The Cultural Affairs Section promotes arts activities and events, gives aid to venues and artists presenting Canadian work in the U.K., and offers logistical support, advice, marketing, promotion and in-kind assistance. It publishes ArtsNews, a bi-monthly review of Canadian cultural events in Britain.

The only Canadian Cultural Centre abroad is in Paris. Established in 1970, the Centre:

- enables Canadian artistic creation to find an audience in France;
- supports the work of Canadian creators;
- helps promote Canadian culture in France;
- facilitates relations between Canadian and French artists;
- encourages Canadian-French partnerships; and
- serves as a meeting place and hub of Canadian culture.

It also houses services of Telefilm Canada and the National Film Board. Its bi-monthly program lists events of interest.

## **Canadian studies in Europe**

The arts are only part of the story of Canadian culture in Europe. Equally important are Canadian studies programs at European universities. These are under the aegis of DFAIT's International Academic Relations Division. "Canadianists" in Europe can also count on the assistance of the International Council for Canadian Studies, an Ottawa-based federation of 20 national and multinational organizations linking 7000 academics in more than 30 countries.

In Britain, over 90 percent of universities offer some teaching or research on Canada. Subjects include literature, architecture, sociology, history, politics and social programs. The Foundation for Canadian Studies in the U.K. is a partner of the High Commission in supporting the programs. The British

Association for Canadian Studies is a learned society that publishes an academic journal and newsletter, and organizes an annual conference.

In France, a Chair in Canadian Studies was established at the Université de Paris III in June 2000. There are 18 Canadian studies centres in the country, plus the Association française d'études canadiennes, which was founded in 1976. The Association publishes a newsletter and quarterly journal, and facilitates exchanges among over 400 academics engaged in Canadian studies in France.

Operating in Germany, Austria and Switzerland is the Association for Canadian Studies in German-Speaking Countries. Among its activities: an annual conference, scientific publications, bibliographies, lectures and graduate research scholarships. Other EU members with strong Canadian studies programs are Italy, Spain and the Nordic countries; and interest is growing in the former communist states. In October, for example, Romania will host the second International Conference of Central European Canadianists.



Luc Plamondon (seated in front, dark glasses).

## Frankfurt Book Fair, October 10-15, 2001

This fall, over 120 Canadian publishers and agents are expected to attend the world's largest book fair, held annually in Frankfurt. They will rub shoulders with other professionals who produce and sell books or electronic media, as well as writers, librarians, agents and journalists. The Association for the Export of Canadian Books is co-ordinating a booth in the English-language section. Co-ordinating a stand in the French-language section is the Association nationale des éditeurs de livres.