

particular, to recognize those institutions that have achieved a high standard of excellence and to make grants to assist in maintaining or increasing this excellence. In many cases the grants are for specified purposes such as touring, additional rehearsal time for the preparation of new works and the like. Other professional or semi-professional groups may be assisted when they are of significance to the region they serve. The Council also seeks to encourage development of the arts across Canada as a whole by subsidizing tours to smaller centres. This latter aspect of the work uses a very large part of the funds and meets to some extent the needs of the public, from whom the funds derive.

The Council's third main line of attack is directed towards support services for the arts, and to special projects designed to reinforce the work of artists and their means of communication. The Council has also undertaken to help launch programs aimed at the development of young people interested in the arts as administrators, technicians, etc., in theatres and orchestras. Funds are directed to institutions that facilitate the exchange of information on a national scale and provide services and act as a binding force for artists and organizations scattered across Canada. The Council also assists in promoting Canadian cultural relations with other countries and has helped several groups to perform abroad. In addition, the Canada Council tries not to neglect the Canadian composer and playwright. However, the Council does not initiate projects, nor does it commission plays or musical compositions. These measures are designed to ensure that there will be no loss of artistic freedom as a result of government contribution to the financing of the arts.

The income from the endowment fund established by Parliament when it created the Council contributed to the rapid development of the arts in Canada, but it soon became inadequate to meet the growing demand. The Canada Council therefore asked the Federal Government for additional annual appropriations. In the 1970/71 fiscal year, the total income of the Council amounted to \$35.2 million, of which \$24.2 million was an outright grant from the Federal Government.

The provincial governments have also established agencies with public funds for the support and encouragement of the arts. Like the Canada Council, the provincial agencies give preference to professional groups and are specially concerned with getting theatres and other organizations to visit as many parts of the various provinces as possible. Ontario has its Council for the Arts and Quebec its Ministry of Cultural Affairs, with a theatre division. The three Western provinces had been giving assistance to their theatre groups long before the establishment of the Canada Council. Saskatchewan has its Saskatchewan Arts Board, Alberta its Recreational and Cultural Division of the Department of the Provincial Secretary, and Manitoba its Council of the Arts. British Columbia has its Centennial Cultural Fund Advisory Committee and the Atlantic Provinces also have agencies or divisions charged with the responsibility of fostering the arts. Substantial aid is also provided by municipal governments, particularly those of the larger cities. Government support is augmented by donations from business and industry and through the enthusiastic fund-raising activities of public-spirited private individuals.