

## ACADEMIC RELATIONS

Since the 1985 establishment of the Association for Canadian Studies in Holland, there has been steady growth in the field. The association has tripled its membership, and has representatives from each of the principal universities in The Netherlands; twelve courses with Canadian content are now taught at six Dutch universities, and two of those universities offer a Canadian studies multi-disciplinary course.

The Association actively assists in arranging lecture tours for Canadian academics as well as Canadian Studies Seminars. Additionally, there are now several research contracts between Canadian and Dutch universities as well as a regular exchange of professors between two of those universities.

During 1987, the Association initiated organization of an All-European Canadian Studies Conference with similar organizations in Canada and other European countries, to take place in The Hague in 1990. The conference is expected to focus on the future of Canada and Europe, which should be of particular interest as 1992 approaches. The target audience of the conference is current and potential opinion makers in Dutch and European society.

In 1988, as referred to above, the second largest university in The Netherlands established a well financed Canadian Studies Centre. The Centre has arranged exchanges of academic staff and offers a multi-disciplinary program of courses open to all general arts students. Additionally, the University of Groningen now recognizes Canadian Studies as a valid field of concentration for post-graduate students enrolled in Master's degree programs.

Closely allied to the Canadian Studies program has been a steady expansion in the availability of Canadian books, both those translated into Dutch and locally published, and those obtainable in the original French or English. One of the best known independent Dutch publishing houses regularly issues translations of Canadian literature, and has been able to obtain substantial press coverage while promoting the published material. A positive spin-off of these developments has been increased attention from the media, with two series being presented on the radio on Canadian literature.

The Canadian Secretary of State supported the publication in 1988 of a scholarly history of the Dutch in Canada, as part of the Generations Series published by McClelland and Stewart: "A Bittersweet Land, The Dutch Experience in Canada 1890-1980". More might be done to promote the use of this publication in schools of Canadian Studies in the Netherlands.

## OTHER EXCHANGES OF PERSONS

### (a) Civil Servants

Active contact was maintained with representatives of a Dutch policy advisory council, the Welenschappelijke Raad voor het Regeringsbeleid (WRR) on a study tour of Canada. This group was responsible for the development of a comprehensive policy framework for the integration of immigrants and refugees