

### National parks and historic sites – five-year development program

A major program for the development of national parks, national historic parks and sites and recreation and conservation byways and waterways has been announced by Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Judd Buchanan.

Subject to Parliamentary approval, Parks Canada will undertake a \$376-million capital development program during the next five years. Operating and maintenance expenditures during this period are expected to be \$500 million. During the previous five years, Parks Canada spent \$157 million on capital development and \$226 million on operations and maintenance.

Mr. Buchanan said that Parks Canada had recently undergone a period of expansion, which included increasing the number of national parks and national historic parks and sites, as well as taking over operation of historic canals in Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia.

#### Increasing demand

Last year visitation to national parks numbered more than 21 million persons – almost double that of ten years earlier – and there is a growing demand. While Parks Canada has been striving to meet this demand with increased facilities, expansion in many

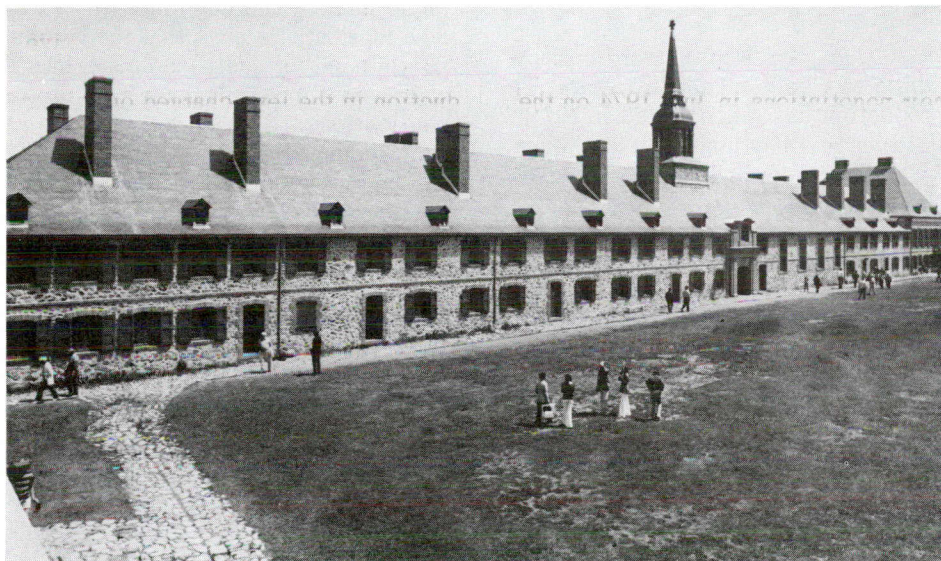
instances, has been at the expense of the older, established parks.

Under the new five-year program, Parks Canada will renovate or replace facilities in established parks and expand facilities in others – among which will be major programs at the Banff and Jasper National Parks in Alberta. In the newer parks, the required level of services necessary in their development stages will be provided.

The five-year program also calls for continuing the creation of new national parks – in particular the establishment of national marine parks on the east and west coasts.

The major developments at the Fortress of Louisbourg and Lower Fort Garry National Historic Parks will be completed and major developments will be continued at Artillery Park, Les Forges du St. Maurice, Dawson City, the Halifax historic parks and the Niagara complex. In addition, Parks Canada will undertake major projects at 28 other national historic parks and sites. Future development of new national historic parks and sites is also provided for.

To help defray the costs of this program, changes in fees, which will provide an estimated \$4 million yearly in additional revenue, will be implemented as soon as possible after April 1.



Canadian Government Travel Bureau photo

*The Fortress of Louisbourg, 23 miles south of Sydney, Nova Scotia, once a French stronghold in the New World, was captured by the British in 1758*

*and later destroyed.*

*Restoration will be completed under a new five-year development program of the Federal Government.*

### Canada/Germany cultural agreement

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, has announced the signature in Bonn of an Agreement on Cultural Co-operation between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The object of the agreement is to enhance co-operation in cultural relations between Canada and Germany as expressed in the exchange of letters of September 28, 1973 between the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada and the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Both parties have agreed to stimulate exchanges in all fields of academic and cultural life. They will encourage academic exchanges (scholarships, exchanges of research workers and teachers, reciprocal visits, recognition of degrees, etc.), the exchange of information between representatives of cultural, professional and social groups of both countries, and participation in international meetings.

### Canada at Expo '75, Okinawa

Canada will demonstrate concern for the future of the oceans in a multi-phase exhibit in the Science and Technology complex at Expo '75, the International Ocean Exposition in Okinawa, Japan from July 20, 1975 to January 18, 1976.

As the nation with the world's longest coastline, surrounded on three borders by different oceans and with almost half again of its land mass forming a continental shelf under the oceans, Canada hopes to show that a vital commitment towards protection of the life-giving forces of the sea need not conflict with an active program of oceanic research for food and natural resources.

Adhering to the Japanese Expo theme "The sea we would like to see", the Canadian exhibit will place emphasis on responsible management and conservation.

At the third session of the United Nations Conference on Law of the Sea that opened in Geneva on March 17, Canada is seeking support for the enactment of international laws to protect the open seas as well as extended