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THE CANADA COUNCIL

The Canada Council is an independent agency created in 1957 by the Government of Canada to "foster and promote the study and enjoyment of, and the production of, works in the arts, humanities and social sciences". It carries out this task mainly through a comprehensive program of fellowships and grants. The Council shares the responsibility for Canada's cultural relations with other countries, and administers, as a separate agency, the Canadian Commission for UNESCO.

The Council sets its own policies and makes its own decisions within the terms of the Canada Council Act. It reports to Parliament through the Secretary of State and also appears before such parliamentary committees as the Public Accounts Committee and the Standing Committee on Broadcasting, Film and Assistance to the Arts.

The Council consists of 21 members appointed by the Governor-in-Council. The chairman and the vice-chairman serve for terms of not more than five years, and other members for terms of three years. The day-to-day administrative work of the Council is carried out by a permanent staff in Ottawa, headed by a director and an associate director, who are appointed by the Governor-in-Council.

In matters of policy and in the implementation of its programs, the Council is assisted by two bodies of specialists, an advisory academic panel and an advisory arts panel.

The Council's income is derived from three sources: an annual grant by the Federal Government, the endowment fund established by Parliament when it created the Council, and private funds willed or donated to the Council. In addition, the Council receives funds from the Department of External Affairs to administer some of Canada's cultural exchanges with other countries.

The greater part of the Council's budget is devoted to assistance to the humanities and social sciences. The Council supports research training with several thousand doctoral fellowships and special M.A. fellowships. For research work it provides leave and research fellowships and research grants. To stimulate research communication, it provides assistance to scholarly meetings and exchanges, and contributes to the costs of publication of learned journals and scholarly manuscripts.