

artisans from Europe to carve embellishments on church interiors. Inuit carving from northern Quebec is a form of sculpture which is extremely popular.

In the performing arts, both traditional and modern forms are flourishing. Playwrights such as Marcel Dubé, Françoise Loranger, Gratien Gélinas and Michel Tremblay remind their audiences of Quebec's unique history. The vitality of theatre in the province is stimulated further by Canada's National Theatre School in Montreal, which offers parallel courses for French-speaking and English-speaking actors and a co-lingual production course. Students of the school are drawn from all over Canada.

Quebec's film industry has had critical success. Canada's first known film was made in Quebec City in 1897, when British engineers erected the monument to Generals Montcalm and Wolfe. The federal government's National Film Board (NFB) provided opportunities for young Quebec filmmakers to experiment and gain experience in cinematography. The careers of Quebec film directors Claude Jutra, Michel Brault and Gilles Carle started with the NFB.

### *Sports, recreation and tourism*

Quebeckers lay special claim to hockey as their favourite sport. Since the 1930s, attention has focused on the Montreal *Canadiens*. Hockey heroes like Maurice "Rocket" Richard and Guy Lafleur have attracted throngs of idolizing fans through their determined style of play.

The Montreal Alouettes football team and the Montreal Expos baseball team also have massive followings.

Winter sports — snowshoeing, ice-fishing, downhill and cross-country skiing — flourish in the province.

Tourism is important to the provincial economy. As the French-speaking centre of North America, Montreal's attraction for tourists from across the continent is unrivaled. In the midst of this modern city, Old Montreal with its fine seventeenth- to nineteenth-century architecture is a living reminder of the past. Off narrow streets, visitors discover Montreal's best restaurants and craft shops. It is no accident that a sophisticated tourism and hotel school opened in