

During the last decade, a considerable build-up has taken place in the provincial infrastructure available to promote cultural development. Many provinces have recently established ministries of culture, arts councils, sports governing bodies, recreational agencies and the like to develop their resources in this field. With this has come greater involvement among the provinces in the evolving framework for Canada's international cultural relations - an involvement which is bound to accelerate in the future. A few selective examples should suffice to suggest the range and diversity of this involvement.

Quebec maintains certain arrangements with France and Belgium covering a broad range of exchange activities and subcommittees of the "mixed commissions" have been established for these purposes. To administer the massive program of student exchanges which are a fundamental part of these arrangements, Quebec maintains a large Office Franco-Québécois pour la Jeunesse. Coordination of Quebec's cultural contact with other countries is provided by the Ministère des Affaires Intergouvernementales. New Brunswick and Quebec are participants in the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation - the international agency which promotes and develops technical and cultural activities among entirely or partially French-speaking countries. At the same time, New Brunswick has recently formed its own section of the International Association of French-Speaking Parliamentarians, which serves to promote co-operation between Parliamentarians who use the French language. Elsewhere, Nova Scotia has recently established cultural contact with Japan and Poland; Newfoundland is frequently involved in booking and touring arrangements with artists in other countries, particularly Great Britain, through its Arts and Culture Centre; Ontario recently conducted a major art exhibition in Paris and other European centres which was jointly sponsored by the Ontario Arts Council and the Ministry of Culture and Recreation; Alberta Culture recently presented the works of some of its visual artists in Great Britain, France, Belgium, United States and Japan as well as the works of some of its performing artists in Japan, Korea, the Middle East, the United States, Great Britain and Northern Europe; and finally the Ministry of Culture in Quebec recently conducted a major exhibition of Quebec artists in Leningrad, Moscow, Paris and Prague. To properly coordinate these activities - and many others like them - several provincial governments - such as Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and Saskatchewan - have recently established international offices or their equivalent within their cultural agencies. Not only are there numerous activities to administer through their own auspices, but also there are more and more activities to coordinate with the appropriate federal authorities, particularly the Department of External Affairs.

At the municipal level, most cultural contacts involving Canada and other countries take place through "twinning" arrangements. These arrangements are growing steadily in popularity and importance, and it is presently estimated that some 50 Canadian towns and cities are twinned with towns and cities located elsewhere in the world. Examples of such twinning arrangements include Toronto-Amsterdam; Ottawa-Georgetown, Guyana; Saint Catherines-Port-of-Spain; Brantford-Osijek, Yugoslavia; Calgary - Jaipur, Rajasthan, India; Dartmouth - Tema, Ghana; Dundas - Kega, Japan; Halifax - Accra, Ghana; Hamilton - Managalore, India; and Oakville - Popayan, Colombia. Although these twinning arrangements vary from place to place, most often they cover a wide range of cultural and related exchanges. Take the Toronto - Amsterdam program as an example. A number of schools are actively exchanging projects, ranging all the way from visual displays and films of their cities to studies of the historical development and cultural characteristics