

exchanges involving academics and scholars. Two consultative committees, one on artistic matters, the other on academic relations, meet regularly to advise the Department on the substance of these programs. In the multilateral and sports field, there are the ongoing relationships which must be maintained with organizations like Unesco and the Council of Europe as well as a variety of sports and athletic agreements involving other countries. To execute these programs, most of which are developed in consultation with other organizations or administered for the Department by other agencies, the Department's Bureau of International Cultural Relations now has a budget of roughly \$7 million dollars a year.

An active cultural policy abroad requires people abroad to promote it. The nature of the support, of the infrastructure provided varies according to circumstances and the environment in which our policy is pursued. The main pillars of our cultural diplomacy are the three cultural centres in Paris, Brussels and London, and the newly opened Gallery in New York. In addition, Canadian diplomatic missions throughout the world, depending on their relevance to the cultural dimension of Canada's foreign policy, are staffed by personnel especially assigned to cultural relations, often assisted by staff with specialized expertise. To ensure co-ordination of programs at larger missions abroad, especially for major events, embassies and consular posts work in close co-ordination with the foreign bureaux of a variety of Canadian institutions and agencies. One example is the Co-ordination Committee of the Embassy in Paris which is expected to ensure the effective co-ordination of all Canadian programs and agencies in France. There exists of course a fundamental link between cultural services and information. Thus, the some 160 Canadian diplomatic missions around the world, whatever the environment, project an image of Canada in everything they do. They are judged not only by the foreign milieux in which they work but also by the personnel services, information and financial assistance which can be placed at the disposal of the Canadian cultural community from time to time to assist it in the pursuit of specific interests in foreign countries.

To ensure that its policies and programs are attuned to evolving national needs, the Department is in continuous consultation with other federal departments and agencies with cultural responsibilities, and particularly with the Department of Communications

whose responsibilities include co-ordinating a national cultural policy in close consultation with provincial governments and national cultural agencies. Furthermore, given the organic link between international and domestic cultural policies and the interdependence of their environments, the Department participates in the work of the federal-provincial Committee on cultural matters, known as the 4 + 1 committee, when questions having international implications are on the agenda. In the area of international academic relations, consultation is effected with the Council of Ministers of Education in liaison with the Department of the Secretary of State.

Given provincial interests and activity in international cultural relations, the Department co-operates and consults closely with provincial authorities in the execution of cultural agreements and in the conduct of its cultural programs abroad as well as in the improvement of consultative and co-ordinating arrangements with them and appropriate federal cultural agencies. To this end, a team from the Department, headed by Mr. Gilles Lefebvre, Director General of the Department's Bureau of International Cultural Relations, undertook a series of visits to provincial capitals during the Fall of 1980. The purpose of these visits was to improve existing consultative mechanisms, to develop new ones where appropriate, and to respond more closely to the concerns of the provinces.

The consultations undertaken by Mr. Lefebvre confirmed the fundamental importance of Canada's cultural relations to the country as a whole as well as to all provinces within the country. Many of those consulted spoke of the need for a much higher priority and significantly increased funding levels for international cultural relations in the future; a comprehensive external cultural policy; a team of qualified and highly-trained personnel; a network of facilities located in strategic places throughout the world; and more funding from the private sector, particularly corporations. Areas of concern included long-term planning, market development, broader selection procedures, information dissemination, advisory services, cost sharing, program evaluation and broader geographical representation throughout the world. A meeting in May 1981, bringing together the Department, the Provinces, other departments and cultural agencies will follow up on these consultations and so constitute a further step in a continuing dialogue.

All the resources marshalled in support of Canada's