

Education

In the educational field, the Department has endeavoured to improve Canada's contribution at the international level, maintaining its participation in the work of international educational organizations such as the Education Committee of the OECD, UNESCO and the Commonwealth agencies, and its attendance at various meetings held by these bodies. One of the more significant events was the UNESCO conference on adult education, held at Tokyo in July 1972, to which the Canadian delegation made a noteworthy contribution. Canadian experts also attended meetings of the OECD's Education Committee and of its Centre for Research and Innovation in Teaching.

Another important objective is the smooth functioning of student exchanges with certain countries, including Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland, and of university scholarship programs within the Commonwealth and NATO. In connection with these bilateral and multilateral programs, the Department granted approximately 300 research and study scholarships in 1972. These are administered for the most part by the Canada Council, the Canadian Education Association and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC).

Also noteworthy is the essential liaison service provided by the Department between foreign governments and Canadian missions abroad, on the one hand, and bodies such as the Council of Ministers of Education, the AUCC and the Canadian public, on the other. Greater effectiveness was sought by improving the quality of the information and literature distributed.

In order to promote a better knowledge of Canada and its culture abroad, the Department encourages and otherwise facilitates the stay of Canadian professors and teachers-in-training at foreign universities where they have the opportunity to lecture. Travel grants for this purpose were given in 1972 to more than twenty Canadian academics who had been invited to institutions of higher learning in other countries. Moreover, some twenty young Canadians went to France to teach English under this program, and a corresponding number of young Frenchmen came to Canada to teach French in the English-speaking provinces.

Exchanges of persons

In addition to dealing with international educational matters as such, the Department coordinates the development of an increasing number of youth exchanges between Canada and other countries, a program of growing significance and usefulness. Organized jointly with the Secretary of State, the Contact Canada program in 1972 allowed 360 young Canadians to spend three weeks in eight countries, including Belgium, Japan, Poland and France, which sent us a corresponding number of their young people. The Department also cooperated in the implementation of the Canada World Youth program, funded by the Secretary of State's Department, which allowed 240 young Canadians to spend five months in five countries. The Department also extended its eighth annual grant to the Hanover-Cologne German-Canadian Society to help finance the visit of German students to Canada during the summer. Initiated by the Department of Manpower and Immigration, this project corresponds to a German program under which some 400 Canadian students go to Germany each year.

UNESCO

The Department coordinates Canada's participation in the work of this specialized agency of the United Nations. Encompassing as they do the fields of education, natural sciences, social sciences and culture as well as information, UNESCO's activities are of interest to many departments and agencies in Canada, at the federal and provincial levels as well as in the private sector. The Department acts as intermediary between all these Canadian authorities and the UNESCO Secretariat, to make sure that the Organization fully benefits from Canadian knowledge and experience, and that the concerned Canadian organizations benefit in turn from its work. A Canadian attached to Laval University is now on UNESCO's Executive Board, which makes our contacts with this organization even more fruitful. The Department is also in continuing contact with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, and closely follows its work and progress. Its Director of Cultural Affairs is an *ex officio* member of the executive board of the Commission.