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## CHAPTER VI

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### REGIONAL OFFICES

#### *Conclusions and Recommendations*

The Regional Offices of Information Canada are useful when associated with book stores and Enquiry Centres. Beyond this the function of the Regional Offices should be to evaluate the effectiveness of all departmental information programs in the various regions.

- a) The number of Regional Offices should be limited to Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver.
- b) The regional evaluation of departmental information programs should be largely carried out by survey and wherever possible private surveying firms' services should be utilized.

We have already dealt with the question of Mobile Officers, and we hasten to point out here that the Mobile Officers are just one part of Information Canada's Regional Operations, which includes both book stores and enquiry centres as well. These latter aspects will be dealt with later.

Regional Operations include also research into the information needs of the public in the various regions, and evaluation of government information programs. The Committee agrees that this work should continue, with the regional offices co-ordinating the work of the departmental information services in their respective areas. The regional offices, however, should not be allowed to proliferate but should be based in the cities of Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver.