

provisions included in the Child Welfare Act, which is the consolidation of all child welfare legislation for the Province. Prince Edward Island is now the only Province in which there is no such legislation.

Each of the Acts stipulates that the applicant must be a resident of the respective province and was such when considered eligible for an allowance. In addition, each province except Alberta, requires applicants to have resided in the province for a certain period. In Manitoba, however, provision is made for a shorter period, or for no residence immediately prior to application, providing eligibility for assistance has not been acquired elsewhere. In Alberta the only requirement is that the husband had established his home in the Province at the time of his death, committal or desertion. All the statutes, except those of Saskatchewan and Alberta, require the applicant to be a British subject or the widow or wife of a British subject, and in Quebec she must have been a British subject for fifteen years or by birth. In Nova Scotia, the applicant herself must be a British subject. In Manitoba, the child or children to benefit from the allowance must have been born in Canada or the father (if he is dead, the mother) must be a British subject (if both are dead, the later to die must have been a British subject). A mother may, on showing reasonable grounds, obtain an Order of the Court presuming the death of the child's father for purposes of the Act. In British Columbia, a woman may be eligible if born a British subject, even if she has later lost her citizenship. In most provinces, limits are fixed on the assets that may be possessed by a beneficiary. There is no fixed limit in Alberta and Saskatchewan but the woman must be unable to support her children. In 1944, a Mothers' Allowance Act was passed in the Province of New Brunswick; no statistics will be available for the Province, however, for another year. In this Province a child or its mother seeking benefit must be a British subject. No allowance is payable for a child who is not attending school as required by the School Attendance Act.

An applicant must be a widow or, except in Nova Scotia, a wife whose husband is mentally incapacitated or a permanent disability or, except in Alberta,* New Brunswick and Quebec, the wife of a physically disabled man. In New Brunswick the Act also makes a mother eligible whose husband is a patient in a sanatorium for tuberculosis or has deserted her at least two years prior to her application. A foster-mother caring for children whose parents are dead or disabled is also eligible. In Quebec, an allowance may be granted to a mother who is the wife of a totally disabled man, whether in an institution or not, or to a wife or widow of a British subject, as well as to a British subject by birth. An allowance is also provided for a deserted mother. In Alberta, British Columbia, Ontario and Saskatchewan, 'deserted' wives who meet the conditions of the Acts are paid allowances and in British Columbia and Saskatchewan the wives of inmates of penal institutions are eligible. The period that must elapse after desertion varies from two years in British Columbia to seven in Saskatchewan. In British Columbia allowances are granted to mothers who have been divorced or legally separated for two years. A foster-mother who fulfils all the requirements is eligible to receive the allowance in all provinces, except Nova Scotia and Alberta; but in Nova Scotia allowances may be paid in respect of a legally adopted child. In Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia allowances are paid in some cases for children born out of wedlock. In Saskatchewan, allowances are payable for children whose mother is dead and whose father is unable to support them on account of mental or physical disability or because of confinement to prison.

* This section of the Alberta Act relating to physically disabled husbands has not been proclaimed.