

In sparsely populated, outlying areas, thirty-six Provincial District Nurses provide a diversified medical and public health service. These District Nurses are required to have special qualifications in obstetrical work.

British Columbia.—The Provincial Health Services of British Columbia are organized as a Branch of the Provincial Secretary's Department. The Provincial Health Officer who is in charge of the administration of the technical details of the service has direct access to the Minister on all technical matters. The Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council functions as the Board of Health on all legislative matters dealing with the rules and regulations.

The Provincial Health Services are divided into two Bureaus—the Bureau of Administration and the Bureau of Local Health Services—and six Divisions.

The Bureau of Local Health Services is a part of the central office of the Provincial Board of Health and is under the direct supervision of the Assistant Provincial Health Officer. In addition to correlating the services of the various Divisions, it is responsible for technical supervision of all local health services. Such public health specialities as maternal and child welfare, communicable disease control, public health dentistry, public health nursing and some phases of industrial hygiene are all part of the responsibilities of this Bureau.

Different types of local health service have been developed in the Province of British Columbia. These include large City Health Departments, Health Units of which there are five in addition to those included in the Vancouver Metropolitan Area, public health nursing services and areas where part-time health officers and school medical inspectors are appointed from the practising physicians. A Health Unit consists of a full-time Medical Director who is a physician trained in public health, a number of public health nurses determined by the population served, one or two trained sanitarians, and a statistical clerk.

The entire Province has been divided into Health Unit areas on a geographical basis and it is planned to organize three or four new units per annum. Substantial grants-in-aid toward public health nursing and Health Unit services are paid by the Provincial Board of Health in addition to other services provided by the Board to the people. Special studies are being made of cancer and rheumatic fever with a view to developing programs to meet these problems. A nutrition consultant service has been established as part of the Bureau of Local Health Services. Close collaboration is maintained by the Nutrition Service with the Provincial Department of Education and Agriculture.

The Division of Public Health Engineering is responsible for all matters of environmental sanitation, including water supplies, sewage disposal, food and milk control, swimming pools, the supervision of the sanitation in lumber, mining, construction and cannery camps, certain phases of garbage disposal, shell-fish supervision, and housing.

The Division of Tuberculosis Control is responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis in the Province. This Division operates two tuberculosis hospitals—one at Tranquille and another adjacent to the Vancouver General Hospital at Vancouver. Three other hospital services are operated by the Division in conjunction with the Royal Jubilee Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital in Victoria and St. Joseph's Oriental Hospital in Vancouver.