

responsible parent of that child — his mother if she has de facto custody of the child or maintains him — the tutor or the legal guardian of the child may apply for citizenship on the child's behalf. Application is made to the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship, Ottawa. Provision is also made in the Citizenship Act to grant a certificate of citizenship to a minor child in special circumstances.

**Loss of Canadian citizenship.** Certain circumstances result in loss of citizenship. A Canadian loses his citizenship if when outside Canada and not under disability he acquires by a voluntary and formal act other than marriage the nationality or citizenship of a country other than Canada. This does not apply if the country is at war with Canada at the time of acquisition but in such a case the Minister may order that he cease to be a Canadian citizen. The purpose of this is to hold the person, if deemed necessary, to his obligations as a Canadian. A natural-born Canadian citizen who is a dual national by birth or through naturalization, and any Canadian citizen on marriage, may after attaining the age of 21 cease to be a Canadian citizen by making a declaration of renunciation thereof. A Canadian citizen who under the law of another country is a national or citizen of such country and who serves in the armed forces of such country when it is at war with Canada loses his Canadian citizenship. This does not apply if the Canadian citizen became a national or citizen of such country when it was at war with Canada.

Prior to the 1967 amendments of the Citizenship Act, a person, other than a natural-born Canadian, who since becoming a Canadian had resided outside Canada for ten consecutive years automatically ceased to be a Canadian; this provision for automatic loss has been removed from the Citizenship Act. In addition, before the 1967 amendments, loss of Canadian citizenship by revocation was limited under certain provisions of the Act only to non-natural-born Canadians. This discriminatory distinction between non-natural-born and natural-born Canadians has been removed from the Citizenship Act and the following substituted: Canadian citizenship may be revoked by the Governor in Council if, on a report from the Minister, he is satisfied that any Canadian citizen has, when not under a disability, acquired voluntarily, when in Canada, the citizenship of a foreign country (other than by marriage); taken or made an oath, affirmation or other declaration of allegiance to a foreign country; made a declaration renouncing his Canadian citizenship; or obtained Canadian citizenship by false representation or fraud or by concealment of material circumstances. Where in the opinion of the Minister a doubt exists as to whether a person has ceased to be a Canadian citizen, the Minister may refer the question to the commission referred to in the Citizenship Act for a ruling and the decision of the commission or the court, as the case may be, shall be final.

**Citizenship statistics.** Citizenship certificates are "issued" for various reasons to persons who are already Canadian citizens; certificates are "granted" to those who become Canadian citizens by the grant of such certificates. In 1971, 99,188 certificates were issued and 63,668 were granted. Of the latter, 21,038 went to British subjects and 42,630 to aliens.

The decennial census of Canada requires that each person state the country to which he owed allegiance and had citizenship rights as of June 1 of the census year. According to the 1971 Census, only 6% of the Canadian population on June 1, 1971 reported a country of citizenship other than Canada.

## 4.2.5 Native peoples

### 4.2.5.1 Indians

The federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development is responsible for the 257,619 Indians registered with the Department under the Indian Act. The role of the federal government in administering Indian affairs is changing as the native people become involved in managing their own affairs, as Indian representatives and government confer before major policy decisions are taken, and as band councils plan activities and distribute funds available under the Indian Affairs program.

**Community development.** The Department's Community Affairs Branch assists with the physical development of Indian communities, which involves planning, housing, water, sanitation, electrification and construction and maintenance of roads on reserves. Indian participation in these activities as well as in services such as school maintenance, fire and police protection and local government is increasing as the concept of band management is extended.