

constructing, renovating, acquiring and equipping facilities for education and research in health. As at March 31, 1972, \$255 million had been approved for payment to the provinces, of which \$180 million had been expended. About four fifths of this sum was for training facilities and one fifth for research establishments.

6.1.1.4 Health services for specific groups

Through its Medical Services Branch, the Department of National Health and Welfare provides or arranges for several types of medical and health service for persons whose care is by custom or legislation a federal responsibility.

Indian health services. Indians, as residents of a province, are entitled to the benefits of medical care and hospital insurance. These insured benefits are supplemented by Medical Services, which assists Indian bands in arranging for transportation and in obtaining drugs and prostheses. Emphasis is placed on a comprehensive public health program which provides dental care for children, immunization, school health services, health education, and prenatal, postnatal and well-baby clinics. Through direct financial assistance to organizations of native peoples, support is given to Indian programs directed toward improving the quality of life by means of adult education, family planning, accident prevention, venereal disease control programs, and the suppression of alcoholism and drug abuse. Since Indians comprise just over 1% of the Canadian population and are distributed widely throughout Canada, a network of specially designed health facilities has been constructed in almost 200 communities that would otherwise lack health facilities. Approximately 60 of these are nursing stations, 91 are health centres, 46 are out-patient clinics, and nine are hospitals.

Increasing numbers of Indians are being trained and employed in the public health and medical care programs to facilitate understanding and health activities in local communities.

Northern health services. The Department provides health services to all residents of the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories. The services comprise all normal health department activities including a comprehensive public health program; special arrangements facilitate inter-station communication and the transportation of patients from isolated communities to medical centres. Several university groups have interests in delineated zones for the provision of medical personnel and students in rotation; their activities are supported financially through government contracts and medical care insurance. Departmental facilities include four hospitals, six clinics, 40 nursing stations, and 15 health stations. Both territories now have tax-supported hospital and medical care insurance programs.

Quarantine and regulatory service. Under the Quarantine Act, all vessels, aircraft, and other conveyances and their crews and passengers arriving in Canada from foreign countries are subject to inspection by quarantine officers to detect and correct conditions that could lead to the entry into Canada of such diseases as smallpox, cholera, plague, and yellow fever. Fully organized quarantine stations are located at all major seaports and airports. The Branch is responsible for enforcing standards of hygiene on federal property including ports and terminals, interprovincial means of transport, and Canadian ships and aircraft.

Immigration medical services. Under the Department of National Health and Welfare Act and the Immigration Act, the Medical Services Branch determines in Canada and other countries the health status of all applicants for immigration to Canada and some non-immigrants, and provides treatment for certain classes of persons after arrival in Canada, including immigrants who become ill en route to their destination or while seeking employment.

Public service health. The Medical Services Branch is responsible for a comprehensive occupational health program for federal employees throughout the country and abroad. This service includes health counselling, surveillance of the occupational and working environment, pre-employment, periodic and special examinations, first aid and emergency treatment, and a wide range of advisory services and special health programs.

Civil aviation medicine. The Department provides an advisory service to the Ministry of Transport concerning the health and safety of all those involved in Canadian civil aviation. Regional and headquarters aviation medical officers review all medical examinations, participate in aviation safety programs, and assist in air accident investigations. Close liaison with authorities responsible for foreign aviation medicine is maintained as standards are usually based upon international agreements.