

In 1966, the federal government inaugurated a program of massive financial support to the provinces to provide badly needed facilities for training professional personnel in health services. The Health Resources Fund Act (RSC 1970, c.H-4), administered by the Department of National Health and Welfare, authorized the establishment of a fund to assist financially in the planning, acquisition, construction, renovation and equipping of health training facilities, defined to mean any school, hospital or other institution for the training of persons in the health professions or any occupations associated with the health professions, or for conducting research in the health field; residential accommodation was excluded. The Fund was established in the amount of \$500 million, to be applied to costs incurred between January 1, 1966 and December 31, 1980; of that amount, \$400 million is available to the provinces on a per capita basis, \$25 million is available to the four Atlantic Provinces for joint projects, and \$75 million remains to be allocated by the Governor in Council. Contributions are payable to the provinces in amounts of up to 50% of the cost of projects approved by the Minister's Advisory Committee as part of a five-year plan for the development of health training facilities in a province.

During the five years of operation of this program, 1966-67 to 1970-71, the federal government paid \$143.2 million to the provincial treasuries in respect of approved projects. Projects financed under this program included training facilities in universities or institutions connected with, or operated by, schools of medicine, schools of nursing, including new regional schools of nursing in Ontario, and schools for nursing assistants, as well as facilities for vocational types of training at the higher educational levels.

Through the Canada Council, the federal government in 1957 provided an amount of \$100 million, half of which was to be distributed among the universities for specified building and equipment purposes, similar to the distribution of grants. Interest from the remaining \$50 million was to be used to assist in the development of the arts, humanities and social sciences, mainly through scholarships (see Section 7.4.3).

Other contributions are more indirect and include scholarships, research grants and reports or services of value to the schools. Research grants are made by the National Research Council, the Defence Research Board, the Department of National Health and Welfare, the Department of Manpower and Immigration and other agencies. Some departments — Agriculture and National Health and Welfare, among others — provide materials and publications of value in the school programs; and the National Museums of Canada, the National Gallery, the National Film Board and the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation contribute directly or indirectly to various school programs.

More directly, the federal government is responsible for the education of Indians on reserves, prisoners in penitentiaries, members of the Armed Services and their dependants and in-service training for permanent personnel. It also assists in citizenship training and other out-of-school informal education activities.

External education assistance. The Canadian International Development Agency is responsible for the operation and administration of the technical assistance program offered by the Canadian government to developing countries. The International Development Research Centre, Canadian-financed but international in character, supports and assists research into the economic and social problems faced by developing countries. The activities of both organizations are given in Chapter 4.

7.3 Statistics of schools, colleges and universities

The first two tables concerning this Section give summary statistics of education at elementary, secondary and tertiary levels. Changes in enrolments at the three levels between 1967-68 and 1971-72 are shown in Table 7.1 and detailed data on numbers of schools, teachers and enrolment in the different types of institutions in each province and the territories are presented in Table 7.2.

7.3.1 Enrolments

7.3.1.1 Elementary and secondary enrolment

Elementary and secondary school enrolment combined increased 6% in the five-year period 1967-68 to 1971-72. Enrolment at the elementary level alone declined fractionally in the same period, a result expected from the low birth rates in the mid-1960s. However, at the secondary level enrolments were substantially higher by 26%, still reflecting the upsurge in the