

dustry in Metropolitan Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, and other areas, His Hon. Judge Harry Waisberg, March 28, 1973

To inquire into the affairs of the Township of Kingston concerning the implementation of the proposal to expand the existing water and sewage facilities of the said Township, His Hon. Edward M. Shortt, May 16, 1973

To inquire into the Metropolitan Toronto School Board and the Boards of Education that have jurisdiction in the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, Barry Lowes, June 13, 1973

To make recommendations on the appropriate number of electoral districts in the Province, Mr. Justice Campbell Grant, December 19, 1973.

### **Manitoba**

To examine the boundaries and municipal structure of the city of Brandon, Dr. Andrew Lloyd Dulmage, December 23, 1970

Inquiry re Churchill Forest Industries (Manitoba) Ltd., Hon. Mr. Justice C. Rhodes Smith, January 29, 1971.

### **Saskatchewan**

To make recommendations respecting the readjustment of the constituency boundaries of the Province of Saskatchewan, Hon. Mr. Justice P.H. Maguire, July 18, 1972

To examine the administrative structure of the University of Saskatchewan and to report suggested changes in the present university system, Hon. Mr. Justice Emmett M. Hall, May 3, 1973.

### **Alberta**

To investigate the circumstances of the detention of Frank Joseph Edward Davy in a public hospital, Justice J.V.H. Milvain, February 20, 1973

To inquire into the degree of government responsibility involved in the establishment and operation of the Town of Grande Cache, N.R. Crump, February 22, 1973.

### **British Columbia**

Gastown disturbance August 7, 1971, His Hon. Judge T.A. Dohm, September 7, 1971

Employer-employee relations in the public service of the province, R.D. Higgins, October 19, 1972

Campbell River and District General Hospital construction tendering, Dr. H.L. Purdy, December 12, 1972

Post-secondary education in the Kootenays, Dr. I. McTaggart-Cowan, April 25, 1973

Control of use of pesticides and herbicides, and plant pest control mechanisms, Dr. Courtland J.G. Mackenzie, May 18, 1973

The family and children's law commission, Hon. Mr. Justice T.R. Berger, December 3, 1973.

## **3.5 Local government**

Local government in Canada comprises all government entities created by the provinces and territories to provide services that can be more effectively discharged through control at the local level. Broadly speaking, local government services are identified in terms of nine main functions: protection, transportation, environmental health, public health, welfare, environmental development, recreation, community services and education. In addition local government, through the medium of government enterprises, may operate such facilities as public transit and the supply of electricity and gas. Education is normally administered separately from the other local functions.

Many local government organizations antedate Confederation but under the British North America Act local government was made a responsibility of the provincial legislatures, a responsibility subsequently extended to the territories when their governments were constituted in the present forms. The unit of local government, apart from the school board, is usually the municipality which is incorporated as a city, town, village, township or other designation depending on the province. The powers and responsibilities of municipalities are those delegated to them by statutes passed by their respective provincial or territorial legislatures. Some of these statutes apply to all municipalities within a province, some to a certain type or group, and many to one municipality only.

Rapid and continuing urbanization during the past two decades and the demand for services in rural areas comparable to those available in urban areas have placed great strains on local government. These strains have been aggravated by the inelasticity of the major local revenue source — the taxation of real property. At the same time the small populations of most municipalities have hindered attempts to provide services that require economies of scale for efficient operation.