

implement projects for the prevention of alcohol abuse, and treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics.

Since 1969 the government has provided financial assistance to Indian and Inuit people to conduct the necessary research to support their claims to traditional interests in lands, and their rights under treaty or the Indian Act. The government has recognized that its lawful obligations to Indian people must be met, and has agreed to undertake negotiations with Indian and Inuit people. Claims may be based on traditional use and occupancy of land in areas where the Indian interest has not been extinguished by treaty or superseded by law, or they may be based on interpretation of treaties and legislation, or the administration of assets.

In 1974 the Department established the Office of Claims Negotiation to act for the government in respect to Indian and Inuit claims. The Office acts as the government's representative in negotiating claims settlements.

Progress has been made in negotiating settlements of claims based on traditional use and occupancy of land in northern Quebec and the Yukon Territory, and initial discussions with Indian representatives have begun on claims of this type in British Columbia. Similarly, a number of claims involving administrative transactions in the past have been the subject of negotiation. As a result, some claims have been settled, and others are expected to be.

At the end of 1974, 49 claims relating to land or various aspects of Indian Affairs' administration over the years had been submitted by Indian bands and organizations across the country and notice of a further 57 claims was given by native groups. Of the 49 claims submitted before the end of 1974, 17 were under analysis or review, 13 were being negotiated, 16 were found to have no basis for negotiation and three were settled.

A Branch is responsible for conducting policy planning and research projects of general importance to the Indian and Eskimo Affairs Program, and for the co-ordination of similar projects carried out in other branches. A small group within the Branch is responsible for legislative planning, for formulating broad socio-economic policies, and for consulting on major policy issues with the political organizations that represent Canadian Indians. The Research Division carries out a small research program directly related to major policy issues and contracts with other agencies to carry out related work. It provides research services to the Indian and Eskimo Affairs Program and to other agencies conducting studies on Indian rights and treaties. This Division also administers a program to finance rights and treaty research by Indian associations and will have provided \$7.5 million in contributions over a four-year period ending in 1976.

3.2.5.2 Inuit

Canada's 18,000 Inuit or Eskimo people, most of whom live in the Northwest Territories, Arctic Quebec and northern Labrador, are the concern of the federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, the government of the Northwest Territories and provincial governments.

Housing for Inuit people is provided under the Northern Rental Housing Program. Since the program began in 1966, 1,505 three-bedroom houses have been built; 81 of these were constructed in 1974-75.

Counselling units are maintained in Ottawa and Winnipeg for Inuit students attending various high school, technical school, college and university programs in southern Canada. A program was instituted this year to enable parents to come south to visit their children.

A limited relocation project for Inuit who wish full-time wage employment is available at Lynn Lake, Man. Inuit from the Keewatin District are able to secure employment with the mine at Lynn Lake and the Department has rental housing available for them. The Department of National Defence offers employment at its station at Alert to civilian Inuit. A Student Centre for Inuit was established in Ottawa during 1974 and an Inuit Orientation Centre is planned for 1975. Inuit are involved in a Departmental On-the-Job Training program to place them in middle management positions related to resource development and the environment. A special unit has been established in the North by the Public Service Commission to improve employment and career possibilities for northern native people.

The Inuit Tapirisat of Canada (Eskimo Brotherhood) was founded in 1971 with financial assistance from the Department of the Secretary of State. Affiliated with Inuit Tapirisat are the Committee of Original Peoples Entitlement (COPE), serving native people in the Mackenzie Delta and the Western Arctic, the Labrador Inuit Association (LIA), serving Inuit residents of