

Monthly Family Allowances in Alberta, 1974 and 1975 (dollars)

Age of child	1974	1975
0 - 6 years	15.00	16.40
7 - 11 years	19.00	20.80
12 - 15 years	25.00	27.30
16 - 17 years	28.00	30.60

Statistics on the operation of the Family Allowances program appear in Table 6.15. Statistics on the former Youth Allowances program paid on behalf of children 16 and 17 years of age appear in Table 6.16.

6.3.4.2 Provincial programs

Quebec has a provincial program embodied in the Quebec Family Allowances Plan of 1973. Under this Plan, certain criteria of eligibility differ somewhat from those of the federal program. In 1974 the province paid \$3 monthly for the first child in a family, \$4 for the second, \$5 for the third, and \$6 for each additional child; in 1975 these rates were \$3.31, \$4.42, \$5.52 and \$6.62 respectively.

Prince Edward Island passed a Family Allowances Act in 1973. Effective January 1, 1974 the province paid a \$10 monthly supplement on behalf of each child in the family beyond the fourth. For the year 1975, the same rate was in effect.

6.3.5 New Horizons Program

The New Horizons Program for retired Canadians was established by Order in Council and announced by the Minister of National Health and Welfare in July 1972. Primarily, the program was designed to alleviate the loneliness and sense of isolation which characterize the lives of many older people by offering them the opportunity to participate more actively in the life of the community. Grants are made available to groups of retired Canadians, consisting generally of no less than 10 members, for the purpose of planning and operating projects in which their talent and skills are to be utilized for their own betterment, that of other older persons, or of the community. Projects must be non-profit in nature and of no commercial benefit to others. New Horizons is not an employment program, that is, no money is allowed for salaries to the participants. Projects may be funded for up to 18 months. There is no fixed limit to the amount of a grant.

Projects funded to date include physical recreation; crafts and hobbies; historical, cultural and educational programs; social services; information services; and activity centres. As of February 12, 1975, 3,430 projects involving over 706,000 people have been awarded \$19,086,940. Table 6.17 presents the breakdown of projects funded in each province and territory by fiscal year.

6.3.6 Emergency Welfare Services

The function of the Emergency Welfare Services Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare is to develop and maintain community capability to provide the basic survival and emergency social services in any emergency in Canada. This consists primarily of five emergency services — lodging, feeding, clothing, registration and inquiry, and personal services.

A program has been developed and is being maintained so that, in a national emergency, the Division can co-ordinate the efforts of welfare departments at all levels of government as well as organizations, private social agencies, related professional groups, businesses and individual volunteers to allow for recovery from the given situation and to promote rehabilitation.

6.3.7 International welfare

Canada is actively involved in the social development activities of the United Nations. The Department of National Health and Welfare sits on the Executive Board of UNICEF and participates in the work of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations, and in those UN seminars and conferences dealing with social policy. The Department also works with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development on the development of social indicators, income transfer policy and the role of women in the economy.