

graduation (11 to 13 years of schooling depending on the province) or equivalent standing. In Quebec the new "collegial" program requires two years of CEGEP training before entering university. An applicant who lacks the usual academic qualifications may gain admittance to university after reaching a certain age by passing entrance examinations and being assessed as a "mature" student.

Courses of instruction ranging in duration from three to five years (in Quebec a minimum of five years from high school graduation) lead to a bachelor degree in arts, pure science and such professional fields as agriculture, engineering, business administration, pharmacy, nursing and education. Courses in law, theology, dentistry, medicine and some other fields are longer — usually requiring completion of part or all of a first-degree course in arts or science for admission. For those pursuing graduate studies and research, the second degree is normally the master's or licence (at least one year beyond the first degree) and the third is the doctorate (normally requiring at least two additional years beyond the second degree).

7.1.2.8 Continuing education

A relatively new phenomenon in Canadian education is the growth of continuing education, sometimes referred to as adult education. The provision of evening and summer extension and correspondence courses in a variety of subjects is now an important part of the education system. Diversified programs of study for adults through correspondence and extension courses are offered by school boards, provincial government schools, private trade schools and business colleges, business and professional associations, community colleges and related institutions, and universities. As a result, men and women who find it impractical or impossible to attend full-time or regular classes because of business and family responsibilities, illness or inaccessibility to schools are able to pursue accreditation at diverse educational levels or to advance their personal interests. Correspondence course study provides instruction to children and adults confined to home or hospital and to inmates of Canadian correctional institutions.

School boards, universities and community or regional colleges offer courses leading to formal accreditation as well as courses reflecting individual and community interests. Recent surveys of school boards and universities indicate that some 560,000 adults are enrolled in formal high school and university level courses on a part-time basis. In addition, more than 500,000 adults participate in a host of non-credit courses and related activities.

Another avenue that provides adults an opportunity to continue their education is home study. A recent survey of the provincial departments of education shows that more than 71,000 adults were enrolled in correspondence study courses. Several universities also offer degree or diploma credit courses through correspondence study.

7.1.3 Provincial and territorial education systems

The following paragraphs outline the administration and organization of education in all provinces and territories, emphasizing the important changes that have occurred in recent years.

Newfoundland. Until recently, the system of education in Newfoundland, originally established in 1874, was strictly denominational. As a result of the recommendations of a provincial Royal Commission on Education and Youth set up in 1964, consolidation of the school systems of the major Protestant denominations has taken place but the Roman Catholic, Pentecostal and Seventh Day Adventist denominations still operate their own schools. Further reorganization occurred in 1969 when schools operated by 300 denominational boards in the province were regrouped into 35 districts. The Pentecostal Assemblies and the Seventh Day Adventists each operate one "school district" which, in theory if not in practice, embraces the whole province. The largest single denomination in the province, the Roman Catholic, continues to operate its own system but the number of its boards was recently reduced from over 100 to 15.

Pre-grade 1 enrolment in Newfoundland is not compulsory but, with the construction of larger and more centralized elementary schools, increasing numbers of five-year-olds have been admitted for instruction in kindergarten classes and, by the fall of 1971, the kindergarten enrolment as a proportion of the five-year-old population had reached 95%. The number of children in nursery schools and kindergartens run by private individuals remains quite small.