

Mountain and Winnipeg, Man.; Prince Albert and Regina, Sask.; Edmonton and Calgary, Alta.; Victoria, Agassiz, Vancouver and Mission City, BC. Community Correctional Centres are located in urban communities across Canada offering parolees contact with potential employers and access to communities as a rehabilitative measure. Some inmates sentenced to federal penitentiary terms in Newfoundland are held in the provincial centre at St. John's, Nfld., under provisions of Section 14, Penitentiary Act. Contracts whereby services are exchanged between the federal government and some provinces provide for inmate transfers with full-cost recovery.

Opportunities for upgrading and extending educational levels are provided in the institutions and through day parole or temporary absence passes to the outside community. Classes are full- and part-time. Correspondence courses are also offered at elementary, secondary and university levels. More than 100 trade courses geared to 15 different occupations are available in the major institutions. In 1975, approximately 3,000 trainees were awarded diplomas or apprenticeship credits. Most institutional chapels have multi-purpose programs where religious instruction is given and other programmed activities are available. Community participation in the programs is encouraged.

In the temporary absence program 48,642 permits were granted in 1975 to 29,087 individuals and 18,536 groups; 214 inmates failed to return. Temporary absence is granted for periods up to three days by heads of institutions, and 15 days by the Commissioner of Penitentiaries for humanitarian, rehabilitative, and medical reasons. Evening and weekend activities involving the outside community continued. Twenty-one citizen participation committees comprising 210 citizens operated in the institutions. More than 4,000 citizen volunteers were involved in inmate programs in the institutions and outside; these included ex-inmates. Community-based programs, such as Alcoholics Anonymous, drama, music instruction, public speaking, lectures, films, recreation, discussion groups led by private agencies, professionals, voluntary citizens, and community groups all have a part in the inmate's life. Trade schools within the institutions provide training in 25 occupations including woodwork, metal, textiles, printing, automotive repair, painting and finishing, masonry, stationary engineering, agriculture, food preparation and housekeeping.

Medical treatment for the mentally ill is given at three psychiatric centres: in Abbotsford, BC; Kingston, Ont.; and Ville de Laval, Que. A staff of specialists is available in each centre full- or part-time. Within each institution medical facilities provide hospital and out-patient treatment. Inmates requiring surgery are transported to nearby community or armed forces hospitals. Physicians, nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists, and dentists provide daily health facilities for all inmates.

2.9.3 The parole system

Parole is a conditional release of selected prison inmates at the optimum time, once they are lawfully eligible, to help them reintegrate into the community. The National Parole Board has jurisdiction for parole over any adult inmate committed to a federal prison who has been convicted of an offence under any federal statute. The board also has parole jurisdiction for inmates serving definite sentences in provincial institutions where the inmate is sentenced under a federal statute.

The board has no jurisdiction over a child under the Juvenile Delinquents Act or an inmate serving a sentence for a breach of a provincial statute, such as a liquor control act. Moreover, the board does not review a conviction or the length of a sentence; this is the function of the court. Additionally, parole is not granted as leniency nor as a pardon.

The parole system offers a means of rehabilitation while protecting society. Indeed, the board is as concerned with the protection of society as with the reformation of the offender and thus supervision is as much a part of the parole system as guidance. All parolees are under supervision subject to certain restrictions and conditions.