

Amendment Act, 1974. The rates for 1975 are specified in the Social Development Amendment Act, 1975 (No. 1) and those for 1976 in the Social Development Amendment Act, 1975 (No. 2) c. 79. With indexation suspension, however, the rates actually paid were the same as those paid in 1975.

Monthly Family Allowances paid in Alberta, 1975, 1976:

Age of child	1975 and 1976
0- 6 years	\$16.40
7-11 years	20.80
12-15 years	27.30
16-17 years	30.60

#### 6.4.2 Canada Pension Plan

The Canada Pension Plan (CPP) is a compulsory, contributory, earnings-related pension plan that covers most employed members of the labour force between the ages of 18 and 70. The law was proclaimed in force on May 5, 1965, the collection of contributions started in January 1966, and the first benefits, retirement pensions, were paid in January 1967. With the exception of Quebec where the Quebec Pension Plan is in effect, the plan covers all of Canada. The Quebec and Canada pension plans have established administrative arrangements to deal with dual contributors so that pension credits under either plan are automatically taken into account for purposes of the other plan when a person moves from an area covered by one plan to that covered by the other (i.e. in or out of Quebec).

Contributions amounting to 1.8% of pensionable earnings falling within the range of \$800 to \$8,300 (1976) are made by employees, which are matched by the employer. Self-employed persons contribute 3.6% on the same range of earnings. The following types of benefits are payable.

**Retirement pensions** amount to 25% of a contributor's updated pensionable earnings averaged over the number of years contributions were required. Because the minimum period for averaging earnings is 120 months and applicants for pensions within the first 10 years could not contribute for 120 months, partial pensions were payable during this 10-year transitional period.

Although a retirement pension is payable on application as early as age 65, persons between the ages of 65 and 69 who are employed can postpone their applications and continue to contribute to the plan in order to increase their future benefits. Once benefits are being paid, however, contributions cannot be continued.

**Disability pensions** are paid on application to contributors who, having contributed for at least five whole or part calendar years in the last 10-year period, have been determined to be suffering from a severe and prolonged mental or physical disability. This pension, which begins four months after the month the person became disabled, consists of a fixed monthly amount (\$41.44 in 1976) and 75% of the contributor's retirement pension calculated as though the contributor had reached the age of 65 when the disability pension commenced.

Children of persons receiving disability pensions receive benefits at the same monthly rate and under the same conditions of eligibility as those that apply to orphans (see below).

**Survivors pensions** are paid on application to the surviving spouse and orphans of a person who has contributed to the plan for at least one third of the calendar years for which he or she could have contributed. The full survivor's benefit is payable to a disabled spouse, a spouse with dependent children, and a spouse 45 years of age or older. A partial survivor's pension is payable to a spouse between the ages of 35 and 45. The full survivor's pension for a spouse under the age of 65 includes a flat rate component (\$41.44 in 1976) and 37.5% of the contributor's actual retirement pension or imputed pension if the contributor was not in receipt of a pension at the time of death. When such a spouse reaches the age of 65, and