

**British Columbia.** British Columbia's former 13-year system of education, culminating in senior matriculation, has been replaced with a 12-year system. The predominant pattern of school organization consists of elementary school (grades 1-6), junior high school (grades 7-9) and senior high school (grades 10-12). Five of the six programs offered in grades 11 and 12 are vocationally oriented — commercial, industrial, community services including home economics (not specifically labour-force-oriented), visual and performing arts, and vocational. There are a substantial number of pupils enrolled in special classes, such as those for educable retarded, blind or deaf children. In most school districts, the less severely handicapped receive special instruction in regular schools and the more severely handicapped are taught in special schools under government or private operation.

Ten community colleges and the British Columbia Institute of Technology have been established since 1965. The colleges, operated by consortiums of school boards, enable residents of a particular geographic area to take the junior years of university or a post-secondary terminal vocational course. Vancouver City College is operated by the Vancouver School Board, and the British Columbia Institute of Technology, which offers post-secondary career programs only, is operated by the provincial Department of Education. Trinity Western College is a church-related institution which provides the first two years of university. Columbia College, a private non-denominational institution in Vancouver, offers a terminal career course in fashion design and transfer programs recognized by the University of British Columbia.

In addition to the hospital schools of nursing, the British Columbia Institute of Technology, Selkirk College and Vancouver City College offer the nurses' (RN) program and Vancouver City College provides specific training in psychiatric nursing.

The largest degree-granting institution — the University of British Columbia — has faculties of architecture, law, medicine, applied science, education, arts and science and others. A major development for the 1970s, based on the report of the Commission on the Future of the Faculty of Education, was the revision of the academic program and administrative structure of this university's Faculty of Education. Among the 85 recommendations are such innovations as the adoption of a single five-year Bachelor of Education program, introduction of the "teaching associate" idea, a new Master of Pedagogy degree, and student participation in decision-making at the operational level. There are two smaller universities, Victoria and Simon Fraser, and a number of small colleges, most of them church-related.

### 7.3.2 School systems in the territories

**Yukon Territory.** The school system is administered by the Yukon Department of Education and operated through a superintendent and staff at Whitehorse, appointed by the territorial government and responsible to the Commissioner of the Territory.

**Northwest Territories.** The Northwest Territories school system, in the districts of Mackenzie, Franklin and Keewatin, is operated by the Department of Education of the territorial government. An education curriculum has been developed relevant to the cultural heritage of Inuit, Indian and Métis students, who make up the majority of pupils in the schools. The department, with the assistance of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, is initiating the collection of stories and legends of the Dogrib people and a Dogrib grammar and a dictionary are being produced.

### 7.3.3 Education of Indians and Inuit

**Indians.** The number of Indian students enrolled in pre-vocational courses, in universities and in teacher training increased substantially in the early 1970s. Indian history, traditions and languages are now included in curricula, and native culture is stressed through language, visual aids, tapes and printed matter as well as Indian dances and arts.

Federal financial assistance for Indian students attending non-federal schools varies from payment of tuition fees and provision of school buses, many of them