

To determine the effects on the environment of major enterprises north of the 50th parallel in Ontario, Mr. Justice Patrick Hartt, July 13, 1977.

#### **Manitoba**

To review and study the organization of the executive government of the province and the various departments thereof, the Crown agencies and the boards and commissions that perform duties and functions under various acts of the legislature to ascertain whether any improvement in the administration of government can be achieved, Hon. Sidney J. Spivak, QC and Conrad S. Riley, November 16, 1977.

#### **British Columbia**

To inquire into methods of improving the scope and effectiveness of technical, vocational and trade training in British Columbia, Dean Goard, August 12, 1976

To inquire into the conduct of the public business relating to the proposed development and construction of the Grizzly Valley natural gas pipeline, Hon. Mr. Justice Walter Kirke Smith, January 11, 1977

To inquire into all aspects of the management and development of the British Columbia Railway, Hon. Mr. Justice Lloyd George McKenzie, February 7, 1977.

### **3.5 Local government**

Local government in Canada comprises all government entities created by the provinces and territories to provide services that can be more effectively discharged through local control. Broadly speaking, local government services are identified in terms of seven main functions: protection, transportation, environmental health, environmental development, recreation, community services and education. In addition local government may operate such facilities as public transit and the supply of electricity and gas. Education is normally administered separately from the other local functions.

Under the British North America Act local government was made a responsibility of the provincial legislatures, a responsibility extended to the territories when their governments were constituted in their present forms. The unit of local government, apart from the school board, is usually the municipality which is incorporated as a city, town, village, township or other designation. The powers and responsibilities of municipalities are delegated to them by statutes passed by their respective provincial or territorial legislatures.

An increasing number of special agencies or joint boards and commissions have been created to provide certain services for groups of municipalities. Local government revenue has been supplemented by provincial grants, either unconditional or for specific purposes. Certain functions traditionally assigned to local government have been assumed in whole or in part by the provinces. Besides encouraging the amalgamation of small units, the provinces have established new levels of local government to provide services which can be better discharged at a regional level. Second-tier local governments now cover the whole of British Columbia and are planned for all of Ontario, where several now exist, and for Quebec, where three have been established. In Manitoba the Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg and its constituent municipalities were amalgamated into a single city in January 1972.

The major revenue source available to local government is the taxation of real property, supplemented by taxation of personal property, businesses and amusements. Revenue is also derived from licences, permits, rents, concessions, franchises, fines and surplus funds from municipal enterprises.

The structure of local government in Canada varies widely. Table 3.6 gives the types of municipal organization in each province and territory.

### **3.6 External relations**

#### **3.6.1 Canada's international status**

The growth of Canada's international status is reflected in the development of the external affairs department since its establishment in 1909. Until the 20th century