

Also under the act as of April 1, 1977, the federal government is making additional equal per capita cash contributions yearly to the provinces to contribute toward the costs of certain extended health care services.

Health resources fund. The Health Resources Fund Act of 1966 provided \$500 million over 15 years (1966-80) for financial assistance in planning, acquisition, construction, renovation, and equipping health training and research facilities. Up to 50% of eligible costs of approved projects are supported by federal contributions. Of this total, \$400 million is allocated to provinces on a per capita basis, \$25 million is further allocated to the Atlantic provinces for joint projects, and \$75 million for health training and research projects of national significance.

Professional training program. This program provides about \$2.3 million a year to the provinces for training health and hospital personnel. Two types of training are funded by the federal government: bursaries for one academic year or longer, and short courses for up to three months. Assistance may also be given to the holding of, and attendance at, provincial and national conferences with emphasis on health manpower planning and development.

Health services for specific groups. Through medical services branch, the national health and welfare department provides or arranges health services for persons whose care is by custom or legislation a federal responsibility.

Indians and Inuit, as residents of a province or territory, are entitled to benefits of medical care and hospital insurance. These insured benefits are supplemented by the branch, which helps in arranging transportation and obtaining drugs and prostheses. A comprehensive public health program provides dental care for children, immunization, school health services, health education, and prenatal, postnatal and well-baby clinics. A native alcohol abuse program funds locally-run programs. Since Indians and Inuit comprise only 1.0% of the population and are distributed widely throughout Canada, a network of specially designed health facilities operates in almost 200 communities. Increasing numbers of Indians and Inuit are being trained and employed in public health and medical care programs to facilitate understanding and health activities in the communities.

With the exception of insured hospital and medical care programs, administered by the governments of the Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories, the national health and welfare department has for many years managed health services for all residents of the two northern territories. These comprise a comprehensive public health program, special arrangements to facilitate interstation communication, and the transportation of patients from isolated communities to referral medical centres. Several university groups provide, on a rotation basis for specified zones, medical personnel and students. Their activities are financed through government contracts and medical care insurance.

As of January 1978, departmental facilities included six hospitals, three health stations and nine health centres in the Yukon Territory and four hospitals, 39 nursing stations, six health stations and eight health centres in the Northwest Territories.

Under the Quarantine Act, all vessels, aircraft, and other conveyances and their crews and passengers arriving in Canada from foreign countries are subject to inspection to detect and correct conditions that could introduce such diseases as smallpox, cholera, plague and yellow fever. Quarantine stations are located at major seaports and airports. The branch enforces standards of hygiene on federal property including ports and terminals, interprovincial means of transport, and Canadian ships and aircraft.

Medical services branch determines the health status of all persons referred by the employment and immigration commission for Canadian immigration purposes. It also provides or arranges health care services for certain persons after arrival in Canada, including immigrants who become ill en route or while seeking employment. The branch is responsible for a comprehensive occupational health program for federal employees in Canada and abroad. This includes health counselling, surveillance of the occupational and working environment, pre-employment, periodic and special examinations, first aid and emergency treatment, advisory services and special health programs. Increased attention is given to pre-retirement and stress.