

Expenditures under the National Welfare Grants Program for the year ended March 31, 1977 totalled \$3,763,000. A sum of \$2,017,000 was expended on demonstration projects; \$656,000 on research projects; \$409,000 on manpower utilization and development, including demonstration, curriculum review in schools of social work and fellowships; \$429,000 on general national welfare agency projects; \$252,000 on special welfare projects including provincially administered bursary and staff development programs.

#### **6.5.2 New Horizons program**

The New Horizons program for retired Canadians was announced by the health and welfare minister in July 1972. In January 1975 the Cabinet agreed to recommend that it be given continuing program status and that yearly contributions in grants be increased by \$4 million, bringing the total annual amount for all costs to \$14 million.

The program was designed to alleviate the loneliness and sense of isolation which characterize the lives of many older people by offering them opportunity to participate more actively in the life of the community. Grants are made available to groups of retired Canadians, consisting generally of no less than 10 members, to plan and operate projects in which their talent and skills are used for their own betterment, that of other older persons, or of the community. Projects must be non-profit. New Horizons is not an employment program in that participants receive no salary. Projects may be funded for up to 18 months. There is no fixed limit to the amount of a grant.

Projects funded include physical recreation; crafts and hobbies; historical, cultural and educational programs; social services; information services; and activity centres. As of December 7, 1977 a total of 8,443 projects had been awarded \$51 million.

#### **6.5.3 Family planning**

A family planning division of national health and welfare was formed in January 1972 to provide a centre of responsibility for the federal family planning program. Its objective is to ensure, in co-operation with the provinces and territories, accessibility and availability of family planning services to all Canadians who want them. This is achieved by informing Canadians about the purpose and methods of family planning, promoting training of health and welfare professionals and other staff involved in family planning services, and aiding family planning programs operating under public or voluntary auspices through federal grants-in-aid and joint federal-provincial programs.

The division's major program activities include consultation, information, training and grants. Consultation is provided to a broad range of government and non-government organizations. Information on family planning, sex education and family life education is distributed free. Canadian material on these subjects is currently being developed. To the extent feasible, division consultants assist in training health, welfare and educational staff and others working in the area of family planning.

Since the inception of the family planning grants program in April 1972, a total of \$7.6 million has been provided for support of innovative family planning services, demonstration, training and research projects and for university fellowships. Grant recipients have included provincial and municipal government departments, national and local voluntary family planning agencies, native community organizations and universities.

Government spending estimates for 1977-78 projected grants allocation of \$2.1 million for a total of \$9.7 million.

#### **6.5.4 Emergency Welfare Services**

The function of the emergency welfare services division of the health and welfare department is to develop and maintain community capability to provide basic survival and emergency social services in any emergency. The program includes emergency planning for special care facilities.

A program has been developed so that, in a national emergency, the division can co-ordinate the efforts of welfare departments at all levels of government, organizations, private social agencies, professional groups and volunteers to assist in recovery from a given situation and promote rehabilitation.