

This agreement expired on March 31, 1977. It has been replaced by the Established Programs Financing (EPF) plan covering education, hospital insurance and medicare. Half the federal payment consists of a transfer of tax points to the provinces (13.5 points of personal income tax and one point of corporation-tax). The other half is a per capita cash grant. The tax portion, based on 1975-76, will grow with the tax base, while per capita grants will increase in relation to the Gross National Product. EPF will be in effect for at least five years with a three-year notice of termination.

### Colleges

7.3.2

Traditionally, higher education was the almost exclusive preserve of universities. Now, although universities still account for 62.2% of full-time students, post-secondary education is conducted in a variety of other institutions: regional colleges in British Columbia; public colleges in Alberta; institutes of applied arts and sciences in Saskatchewan; colleges of applied arts and technology in Ontario; collèges d'enseignement général et professionnel in Quebec; and institutes of technology, technical institutes and establishments providing training in the specialized fields of agriculture, fisheries, marine technologies and paramedical technologies.

In the past the term "college" applied to constituent parts of a university. However, it now generally refers to the community colleges which, with support from provincial and federal governments, have developed since 1960 as an alternative to university. A community college is any public or private non-degree-granting institution which provides post-secondary university transfer programs or semi-professional career programs, as well as other credit or non-credit educational programs oriented to community needs. In Quebec completion of a two-year college level program is required for university admission.

Hospital schools of nursing are not considered community colleges, but do comprise part of non-university enrolment. In any case, many provinces have transferred nursing training to community colleges.

**History.** Many of today's community colleges began as private church-related colleges, public technical schools or university affiliates. But not until the 1960s, often on the recommendation of special commissions, did the provinces attempt to organize post-secondary non-university education into a community college system, either by transforming older institutions or founding new ones. Colleges are based on the philosophy that educational opportunities should extend beyond existing schools and universities to include a broader segment of society. Criteria of admission are more flexible than those imposed by universities. Secondary school graduation is normally required but in some institutions mature student status allows otherwise ineligible applicants to enter. Qualifying programs are also offered to help them attain the appropriate academic level.

**Organization.** The recent development, structure and organization of post-secondary non-university education differ from province to province. Not all institutions were transformed into community colleges and amalgamated into a province-wide network. A number operate privately. However, the provinces are partially or totally responsible for co-ordinating, regulating and financing community colleges. Some provincial governments finance them completely, while others do so in part. Similarly, the colleges' local autonomy varies.

There are four main patterns of provincial government management: direct establishment and operation, largely confined to institutes of technology in the West and the Atlantic provinces; a triangular partnership between the government, colleges and school district boards, existing only in British Columbia; much delegation of provincial administrative responsibility to college boards, co-ordinated by a provincial commission or board, operating in Ontario and New Brunswick; a partnership between the department of education and college boards supplemented by non-governmental college associations, as in Quebec.

There were 189 institutions offering college-level programs in 1976-77: 30 in the Atlantic provinces; 76 in Quebec; 30 in Ontario; 31 in the Prairies; and 22 in BC.