

technical institutes had been opened. The next year the Technical and Vocational Education Act was passed. It was designed to encourage the provinces to extend and improve facilities. Thereafter, new comprehensive schools frequently incorporated vocational programs. Federal participation increased after 1966 with adoption of the Adult Occupational Training Act and assistance through the purchase of courses given in various types of provincial institutions. Under this act, a training-in-industry program was inaugurated in 1967 and a training-on-the-job program in 1971. Both were superseded by an industrial training program which came into effect in 1974.

Institutions and programs. Technical and trades training is offered in public and private institutions such as community colleges, institutes of technology, trade schools and business colleges. It may also take place on the job, in apprenticeship programs or training in industry.

Technical career programs are conducted in community colleges and related post-secondary non-university institutions. High school graduation is usually required for admission. In programs lasting up to four years, students are trained to practice a career directly upon graduation. Some community colleges also give vocational instruction but graduates of career programs are generally qualified for semi-professional work.

Trades level courses emphasize manipulative skills and performance of established procedures and techniques. Less than one year is normally needed to complete them. Grade 9 or 10 is usually required for entrance but prerequisites vary.

Public trade schools and vocational centres concentrate on vocational skills and are administered by a provincial department. They may be separate establishments or divisions of a community college. Only persons who have left the regular school system and are older than the compulsory age may attend. High school graduation is not usually required although, depending on the province and the trade, admission standards can range from grade 8 to grade 12. Included in this group are adult vocational centres and schools related to specific occupations such as police work, forestry and nursing.

A number of institutions offer academic upgrading courses designed to raise a trainee's general level of education in one or a series of subjects. Courses may be taken to qualify for admission to higher academic studies or vocational training. The federal government sponsors basic training for skill development in public trade schools and adult vocational centres. However, completion of levels corresponding to the final grades of secondary school does not give high school graduation status.

Rather than attend an educational institution, individuals may acquire trades training as they work. Training on the job is organized instruction offered in a production environment. Skills and knowledge relating to a specific trade or occupation are imparted in a methodical, step-by-step approach.

Training in industry is provided by business and industrial establishments to train new employees, retrain experienced workers or upgrade their qualifications. It may be publicly supported, in full or in part, or entirely financed by the company. Training can be on the job, by classroom instruction, or a combination of the two. Under cost-sharing agreements the federal government reimburses companies that provide training. The provincial government monitors the company programs and approves them for federal support.

Apprenticeship programs combine on-the-job training with classroom instruction. Persons contract with an employer to learn a skilled trade and eventually reach journeyman status. Apprentices may be registered with a provincial or territorial labour department in order to train in a designated apprenticeship trade. The department sets standards for qualifying as a journeyman: minimum age, educational levels for admission, minimum wages, duration of apprenticeship and the ratio of apprentices to journeymen. Non-registered apprentices enter into a private agreement with an employer, perhaps in association with a labour union. They are not subject to regulations established by the provincial department for that trade.

The federal Vocational Rehabilitation for Disabled Persons Act was passed to facilitate trades-training for the handicapped. The federal government reimburses the provinces for 50% of the costs incurred for programs that enable disabled people to support themselves fully or partially. The provinces provide training directly in their