

variety of undergraduate and graduate degree, diploma and certificate programs. A semi-independent universities council plans their general development and makes recommendations on operating and capital budgets. It is chaired by a government official but includes representatives of the public and the universities.

7.4.6 Ontario

During 1976-77 more than one-third of Canada's elementary and secondary students were enrolled in Ontario schools — over 2 million students taught by nearly 100,000 full-time teachers. Full-time non-university enrolment was 58,900 — less than half the 164,000 students in the province's universities. Full-time teachers of the former numbered 5,010; of the latter 12,650. The \$5.2 billion spent on education was 7.0% of the Gross Provincial Product. It amounted to \$635 per capita.

Ontario was the first province to divide responsibility for education between two departments. A ministry of education is concerned with the elementary and secondary levels; a ministry of colleges and universities deals with post-secondary matters. Each department has its own minister.

Since 1966 the number of school boards in Ontario has been reduced from 1,600 to 193. Three types of boards exist: boards of education (76), non-sectarian bodies responsible for elementary and secondary education in large areas such as counties, districts, cities; boards which operate one type of school only (108), such as public elementary schools and Roman Catholic separate schools; and boards operating schools on Crown lands (9).

Roman Catholic schools provide tax-supported educational services for kindergarten through grade 10. In some schools of separate boards, grades 11, 12 and 13 are also offered but these grades constitute a private school and are not under the jurisdiction of the board.

Attendance is compulsory from 6 to 16 years. Most schools provide an optional year of kindergarten for 5-year-olds, and in some urban areas, junior kindergarten for 4-year-olds. Ontario has a 13-grade system: elementary school lasts eight years, secondary five. However, as continuous progress has become popular, the conventional grade pattern has been modified. The detailed standardized course of study has been replaced by curriculum guidelines issued by the ministry. The curriculum has been divided into four three-year segments: primary, junior, intermediate and senior.

Secondary education operates on a credit system; 27 credits are required for a graduation diploma (grade 12); six additional credits in honour level work for an honour graduation diploma (grade 13). The latter is necessary for university admission. High schools also offer trade, technical and business programs that prepare students for either immediate employment or entry to a college of applied arts and technology (CAAT) or other post-secondary non-university institution.

In the mid-1960s institutes of technology and provincial vocational centres were incorporated into CAATs. A network of 22 on more than 50 campuses provides technical and trades programs for students who do not intend to go to university. Although CAATs were not designed to accommodate prospective transfer students, universities do admit some graduates into the second or third year of degree courses. CAATs are completely under the jurisdiction of the ministry of colleges and universities. The Ontario Council of Regents, a 15-member body appointed by the government, advises on new programs and other matters. Each college is a separate corporation with a 12-member board of governors. In addition to CAATs, post-secondary non-university training is available in four colleges of agricultural technology, a school of horticulture, a chiropractic college and an institute of medical technology.

Ontario's 22 universities offer undergraduate and graduate programs leading to degrees, diplomas and certificates in a wide range of fields.

7.4.7 Manitoba

In 1976-77 enrolment in Manitoba's elementary and secondary schools was 241,000 and teachers numbered 12,180. Non-university institutions had 3,400 full-time students and 330 teachers, while the corresponding figures for universities were 18,300 and 1,600.