

**Students.** Total full-time enrolment in post-secondary, non-university institutions in 1977-78 was 240,000, a 6% increase over 1976-77. About two-thirds of the students were in community college career programs. Another one-third were taking university transfer programs. About 2% were in hospital schools of nursing and the Nova Scotia Teachers' College. Half the students were female, but this reflects nursing enrolment. While women predominated in career programs, they were outnumbered by men in transfer programs. Quebec students accounted for 56% of the total. Enrolment in Ontario represented slightly more than one-fourth, followed by British Columbia (7%) and Alberta (6%).

**Nursing.** In 1964 Toronto's Ryerson Institute of Technology became the first non-hospital institution to provide nurses' training. Since then most diploma programs were transferred from hospital schools to community colleges. The former no longer exist in Quebec, Ontario or Saskatchewan. In the other western provinces there is still training in hospital schools but programs are also available in community colleges. Only in the Atlantic region is training carried out exclusively in hospital schools.

### 6.3.3 Technical and trades training

Technical and trades training varies between and within provinces. It 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.

**History.** Early in the 20th century, the rapid growth of industrialization gave added importance to acquiring technical skills. Since public schools or universities rarely gave such instruction, this was one of the first areas of education in which the federal government became actively involved. In co-operation with several provinces, an agricultural training program was set up in 1913. Three years earlier the Royal Commission on Industrial Training and Vocational Education had made recommendations, and a number of them were implemented in the Technical Education Act of 1919. Under the act, federal authorities offered to support provincial programs but few provinces were ready to participate. By World War II, however, enough programs had been instituted to warrant appointment of a national council of federal, provincial and public representatives to advise the labour minister on matters relating to vocational education. At that time most vocational institutions were administered by a variety of provincial government departments such as labour, agriculture, commerce and industry.

During the 1950s a shortage of technical manpower prompted federal officials to give the provinces more aid for vocational training. By 1960 about 30 technical institutes had been opened. In 1961 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 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 in 1974.

**Institutions and programs.** 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 practise 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 but in most provinces they now exist as divisions of a community college. Only persons who