

schools are located only in the larger centres, residential facilities are available for children from outside the community. Some vocational training, too, is given in urban areas. As is the practice in Yukon, the territorial council operates aid programs for students who wish to attend a post-secondary institution in another part of the country.

#### **6.4.12 Council of Ministers of Education (Canada)**

An interprovincial council of ministers of education was established to facilitate co-operative action at the policy level. The council grew out of a standing committee of ministers of education established in 1960. A memorandum was adopted in 1967 and amplified in 1974. The stated purpose of the council is to enable ministers of education to consult and act together on common interests. Provision is also made for consultation with other educational organizations. The council adheres to the principle that provincial ministries must remain autonomous; hence, no recommendation or decision is binding. Meetings are held at least twice a year. The council appoints an executive committee consisting of a chairman, vice-chairman and three other members, representing all regions of the country.

#### **6.4.13 Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission**

During the 1960s, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island each appointed special committees or commissions to make recommendations on university development and finance. In 1975 a Maritime provinces commission was created to advise the premiers, and through them the governments, on higher education in all three provinces. The commission dispenses operating and capital grants directly to universities and colleges in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. For Nova Scotia, grants are made by the education minister on the commission's recommendations.

### **6.5 Federal involvement in education**

#### **6.5.1 Educational services**

**Department of National Defence.** As well as the schooling of children of service personnel in government quarters, the defence department is directly responsible for the instruction and training of those who join the armed forces.

The Canadian Forces Training System (CFTS) with headquarters in Trenton, Ont. plans, conducts and controls all recruit, trades, specialist and officer classification training. Five bases and 30 schools across Canada are under CFTS jurisdiction. CFTS trains an annual intake of about 11,000 recruits and provides continuing instruction to regular forces and reserve personnel. About 200 classification and trades qualification courses, more than 575 in-service specialty courses and 700 other courses are available. Canadian forces trades training is now accredited in most provinces. The average annual number of graduates is about 40,000.

An agreement between the defence department and the University of Manitoba permits military personnel and their dependents to work toward a degree. Manitoba is the first university to award academic credit for training courses conducted at Canadian forces schools and for service experience.

A comprehensive system of educational courses and professional development programs prepares potential officers — the three-stage Officer Career Development Program. A combination of screening and self-selection, the program can cover participants throughout their years of service until retirement.

The department finances and controls three tuition-free colleges: the Royal Military College in Kingston, Ont., Royal Roads in Victoria, BC, and the Collège militaire royal de Saint-Jean in Saint-Jean, Que. Academic courses leading to degrees in arts, science or engineering are supplemented by military studies and practical training. Close to half of all graduates receive engineering degrees. Graduates are required to serve three to five years in the armed forces. The department also assists other educational institutions in carrying out certain specialized instruction and defence research. About 1,000 cadet corps are active in Canada.