

appointed by the Governor-in-Council for terms of five years. The corporation reports to Parliament through the secretary of state.

Canadian Government Specifications Board (Specifications Board Canada). Created in 1934 under the authority of the National Research Council Act (RSC 1970, c.N-14) as the Government Purchasing Standards Committee, this interdepartmental agency's name was changed in 1948 to Canadian Government Specifications Board (CGSB).

In 1965, responsibility for the CGSB's operation was transferred by order-in-council to the defence production department, now part of supply and services. In 1978, membership of the Canadian Government Specifications Board was changed to include nominees from the supply and services department and three other federal government departments, three provinces, three municipalities, three national organizations and one member at large appointed by the minister.

The role of the CGSB is to provide voluntary standards for both public and private sectors for procurement, consumer requirements, legislation, technical practices, test procedures and to support international standardization in more than 100 fields. It has compiled more than 1,800 standards in both official languages. The technical process of developing and revising standards is performed by some 300 committees and about 3,000 members representing governments, producers, consumers, research and testing agencies, educational institutions, professional, technical and trade societies. The board works closely with the Standards Council of Canada and Metric Commission Canada in relation to national and international standardization and metric conversion. It is accredited by the council as a national standards writing organization.

Canadian Grain Commission. The Canada Grain Act (SC 1970-71, c.7) came into force in April 1971, repealing the Canada Grain Act, 1930 (RSC 1952, c.25) and creating this commission to replace the former Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada. It provides general supervision over the physical handling of grain in Canada by licensing elevators and elevator operators, by inspecting, grading and weighing grain received at and shipped from terminal elevators, and by other services associated with regulating the grain industry. It administers the Grain Futures Act, which provides for grain futures trading.

The commission consists of a chief commissioner and two commissioners. Its objects are, in the interests of grain producers, to establish and maintain standards of quality for Canadian grain, to ensure a dependable commodity for domestic and export markets and to regulate grain handling in Canada. It has authority to conduct investigations and hold hearings, and to undertake, sponsor and promote research in relation to grain and grain products. The commission reports to Parliament through the minister of agriculture.

Canadian Human Rights Commission. This commission was established on July 14, 1977 by the Canadian Human Rights Act (SC 1976-77, c.33) to deal with complaints regarding discriminatory practices and to develop and conduct information programs to foster public understanding of this act. The commission may designate an investigator to examine a complaint of discrimination and may appoint a conciliator to bring about a settlement. At any stage after a complaint is filed, the commission may appoint a human rights tribunal to inquire into it, and if necessary, to make an order.

The commission consists of two full-time members, the chief commissioner and the deputy chief commissioner, and from three to six other members who may be appointed by the Governor-in-Council as full-time members for a term of up to seven years, or as part-time members for up to three years.

The minister of justice designates one member of the commission to be privacy commissioner to receive, investigate and report on complaints from individuals who allege that they are not being accorded the rights they are entitled to in relation to personal information recorded in a federal information bank.

The head office of the commission is in the national capital region; there are regional offices in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg and Vancouver. The commission reports to Parliament through the minister of justice.

Canadian International Development Agency. The operation of Canada's international development programs is the responsibility of the Canadian International Development Agency. CIDA was originally established by order-in-council PC 1960-1476 and until 1968 was known as the External Aid Office. The agency is under the direction of a president and reports to Parliament through the secretary of state for external affairs.

Canadian International Development Board. The board is a high-ranking interdepartmental committee that assists the president of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in preparing recommendations on aid programs to the secretary of state for external affairs. It is made up of the under-secretary of state for external affairs, the deputy ministers of the departments of agriculture, finance and industry, trade and commerce, the governor of the Bank of Canada, the secretary of the treasury, the clerk of the Privy Council office and the president of the International Development Research Centre. It meets under the chairmanship of CIDA's president.