

other universities are provided to individuals seeking advanced training in social welfare. The program has a variety of provisions and consulting services which allow it to operate as a flexible instrument in developing welfare services and to encourage experimental activities in the delivery of social services. The allotment for the fiscal year ending March 1983 was \$3.3 million.

#### 6.5.4 Provincial expenditures

Overall spending by provincial welfare administrations independent of federal government funding is summarized in Table 6.13.

Expenditures for provincial tax credits and rebates for shelter have exceeded \$1.0 billion annually since 1978-79 and were over \$1.5 billion in 1982-83.

Expenditures on income supplements for senior citizens, the disabled, and families comprised the other major area of provincial social security initiatives. In most provinces, supplements for the aged are additional to the federal OAS benefits. Some provinces provide similar income guarantees for disabled persons and for low income families; these programs accounted for an estimated \$1 billion in provincial spending in 1982-83.

### 6.6 International welfare

Canada is involved in social development activities of the United Nations, particularly with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and in social programs of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Federal and provincial departments and agencies participate in the work of several international non-government organizations. Program information is exchanged on social affairs with UN agencies, the Council of Europe, OECD, the Overseas Development Institute and social affairs departments in other countries.

Canadian officials also participate in the International Social Security Association and the social security program of the International Labour Organization.

### 6.7 Voluntary contribution

Because of the tradition of local administration in Canada and the need for community involvement in social services, voluntary agencies continue to play a major role in the administration of social services. On the other hand, federal, provincial and municipal governments have increasingly recognized their own responsibilities for funding and developing social services.

In the early 1980s about 46,500 agencies were registered as charitable organizations in Canada. In the health and welfare areas they covered community support activities ranging from those which provide

direct care for individuals in need to the operation of broad community services.

Voluntary work represents a major contribution to the operation of health and welfare organizations. A survey conducted by Statistics Canada in February 1980 indicated that 15% of the adult population participates in voluntary work. Much of this effort is directed to the health and welfare field in services, transportation, administration and client support activities.

### 6.8 Analysis of expenditures

During the 16-year period 1965-82, total social security expenditures for all levels of government increased from \$4.7 billion to \$52.1 billion. External factors influencing this growth were a 3.5% increase in population and a two-thirds decline in the purchasing power of the Canadian dollar as a result of cumulative inflation. Discounting these factors the net value of benefits on a per capita basis for the country increased almost threefold. Coincidentally real income on a per capita basis more than doubled.

In the mid-1960s, about 38% of all social security expenditures came under three major federal programs: family allowances, old age pensions and unemployment insurance benefits. By 1982, the same benefits with liberalized rates accounted for only 25% of the total. The bulk of the remaining expenditures was accounted for by health programs, veterans allowances and disability pensions. The share of expenditures on these programs changed only marginally throughout this period. A growing proportion of total spending was accounted for by new and enriched programs which were introduced in the evolution of social policy in Canada.

These programs, described earlier in this chapter, included: the Canada and Quebec pension plans; the Canada Assistance Plan to support persons in need; the guaranteed income supplement (GIS) to augment benefits of many OAS recipients; the Medical Care Insurance Act in 1968 and matching provincial legislation by 1971; more comprehensive unemployment insurance with extended benefits in 1971; tax credits or rebates introduced during the 1970s, allowing claims to be made by persons filing tax returns, including the federal child tax credit and provincial pay-back benefits from provincial or municipal taxes.

### 6.9 Social concerns

A variety of social concerns, currently topical in Canadian society, include the following:

#### 6.9.1 Increasing older population

Demographic data from the 1981 Census show that the proportion of elderly in the population is growing rapidly, and that this will become an increasingly important factor in planning for and defraying the