

Department of the Solicitor General. Before 1936, the Office of the Solicitor General was either a Cabinet post or a Ministerial post outside the Cabinet. From 1936 to 1945 the position did not exist, the duties of the Office being wholly absorbed by the Attorney General of Canada. The Solicitor General Act, 1945 re-established the Solicitor General as a Cabinet officer and provided that "the Solicitor General shall assist the Minister of Justice in the Counsel work of the Department of Justice, and shall be charged with such other duties as are at any time assigned to him by the Governor-in-Council". This legislation was repealed in 1966 when a new Department of the Solicitor General was created (RSC 1970, c.S-12); the Solicitor General of Canada became the Cabinet Minister with primary responsibility in the fields of correction and law enforcement. He is responsible for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the Canadian Penitentiary Service and also reports to Parliament for the National Parole Board, which is an independent agency.

Department of Supply and Services. The Department of Supply and Services was established on April 1, 1969 (RSC 1970, c.S-18) and incorporates certain services previously provided by other departments, in line with the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Government Organization (Glassco Commission) which had stressed the need for the federal government to foster efficiency and effect economies wherever possible. The Minister of Supply and Services is also the Receiver General for Canada and exercises all the duties, powers and functions assigned to that office by law.

The Department is organized into two major administrations, each headed by a Deputy Minister directly responsible to the Minister. The Supply Administration administers the Supply Programme, the objective of which is to acquire and provide, at minimum cost, goods and services required by federal government departments and agencies. It also maintains federal government equipment and provides printing facilities. The Supply Administration has 13 regional or district supply offices across Canada; at various locations within these areas it provides purchasing and warehousing services and other services such as field contract administration, equipment maintenance, security, emergency supply planning, assets management and printing. The Overseas Region consists of two supply offices, one in London, England and the other in Koblenz, Federal Republic of Germany and one contract administration office in Washington, DC. The Supply Administration is organized into Commercial Supply Service, Science and Engineering Procurement Service and Corporate Management Service.

The Services Administration, acting for the Receiver General, provides payment or cheque-issuing services on behalf of all federal departments, maintains the fiscal accounts of Canada and prepares the public accounts. It offers departments and agencies a broad range of management and advisory services in management consulting, auditing and computer services fields. It also provides administrative services for all departments in connection with pay, pensions and other employee benefit plans, together with financial management reports and statistical information related to its cheque-issuing function. Service functions are carried out through approximately 36 regional and district offices throughout Canada and abroad.

The Minister of Supply and Services reports to Parliament for the Canadian Commercial Corporation, Canadian Arsenals Limited, Crown Assets Disposal Corporation and the Royal Canadian Mint.

Department of Veterans Affairs. This Department, established in 1944 (RSC 1970, c.V-1), is concerned exclusively with the welfare of veterans and with the dependents of veterans and of those who died during active service or as a result of disability attributable to war service. The Department is empowered to provide treatment services (hospital, medical, dental and prosthetic), welfare services, education assistance, life insurance, and land settlement and home construction assistance. The Veterans' Bureau, which on March 31, 1971 (SC 1970-71, c.31) became the Bureau of Pensions Advocates, assists veterans in the preparation and presentation of pension claims. The same statute authorized the establishment of the Pension Review Board, an independent body that provides a new and improved adjudicating process of appeal for the veteran who is dissatisfied with a previous ruling of the Entitlement Board of the Canadian Pension Commission or a decision of two members of the Commission.

The Department has treatment institutions and facilities in eight major urban centres and three veterans homes across Canada and it maintains administrative offices in the large cities and in London, England. The offices in Canada are shared with the Canadian Pension Commission, the War Veterans Allowance Board and the Bureau of Pensions Advocates.

The Canadian Pension Commission, the War Veterans Allowance Board, the Bureau of Pensions Advocates, the Pension Review Board and the Army Benevolent Fund Board report to Parliament through the Minister of Veterans Affairs.

Director of Soldier Settlement and Director of the Veterans' Land Act. The Director of Soldier Settlement (SC 1919, c.71) is also the Director of the Veterans' Land Act (RSC 1970, c.V-4), and in each capacity is legally a corporation sole. For administrative purposes, however, the programs carried on under both Acts constitute integral parts of the services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Dominion Council of Health. Established under the Department of National Health and Welfare Act (RSC 1970, c.N-9), the Dominion Council of Health is an advisory body to the Minister of National Health and Welfare on matters relating to the health of Canadians.