

## Community Development

The Department defines community-development services as services intended to encourage and help people to participate in improving the social, economic and cultural conditions of their community life. These services are provided by individual community-development workers, who meet with community residents (initially, on an individual basis and later in small groups) to help them determine what local problem they need to solve, and can solve. Next, they must formulate and carry through an appropriate course of action. The object of the community-development process is, therefore, not so much to solve the specific problem chosen by the community as to use that problem as an opportunity for residents to learn, through experience, the skills involved in working together.

The development of leadership is encouraged through a variety of training programs sponsored jointly by the Federal Government, provincial governments and university extension departments in several provinces. The increasing demand for responsible leadership by Indian councils, voluntary organizations and other groups in Indian communities has resulted in a marked expansion in training courses for potential leaders and in workshops and short courses related to local needs.

The Department collaborates with public and private agencies in all aspects of community life. The efforts of volunteer groups are also encouraged, as well as Indian participation and initiative at the community level.

In most provinces, community-development services are now provided by Indian associations, under agreements with the Federal Government. Exceptions are: *Ontario*, where the provincial government supplies services under a similar agreement; *Quebec*, where community development is carried out by departmental staff; *the Northwest Territories*, where the territorial government embodies community-development techniques in a number of associated programs; *Alberta*, where consultations with bands are currently in process to determine the most suitable way to provide services.

The estimated total costs for agreements with Indian organizations in 1971-72 were \$1.8 million, made up as follows:

Nova Scotia	\$150,000
New Brunswick	165,000
Manitoba	500,000
Saskatchewan	500,000
Alberta	325,000
British Columbia	136,000
Yukon Territory	50,000