

conditions. They also provide mediation and conciliation services as required. In addition, special programs exist to help women and young adults find employment.

Among western countries, Canada's job-creation record is one of the best. However, in recent years this has been accompanied by a phenomenal growth in the labour participation rate, which has surpassed that of almost any other country. The participation rate is expected to level off soon and Canada's unemployment rate will decline proportionately.

Regional development

While Canada has one of the world's highest standards of living, not all regions of the country have enjoyed the same degree of prosperity. The Federal Government's Department of Regional Economic Expansion (DREE) combats regional disparities by encouraging slow-growth regions to realize their potential for contributing to the economic and 77

