

Provincial health programmes are administered through provincial and local health departments and by health units serving counties or groups of municipalities. Most provinces operate laboratories and provide preventive and treatment programmes for venereal disease, tuberculosis, mental illness, cancer and other conditions.

The larger municipalities provide a range of basic health services including sanitation, communicable disease control, child, maternal and school health services, public health nursing, health education and vital statistics. They participate in the costs of hospital care and family medical services on an individual basis. Services are often administered through local health units or districts.

Voluntary agencies engage in educational work and fund collecting and in the provision of preventive, treatment and rehabilitation services. Those operating on a national basis are generally organized into provincial divisions with headquarters in the capital city of the province. National agencies include Canadian Mental Health Association, the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, the Canadian Tuberculosis Association, the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, the National Cancer Institute, the Canadian Mental Health Association, the Canadian Paraplegic Association, the British Columbia Society of Canada, the National Heart Foundation, the Canadian Council for Crippled Children and the Canadian Hearing Society. The Canadian Red Cross Society is actively concerned in a number of aspects of health work and operates a blood plasma bank. The Victorian Order of Nurses and the St. John Ambulance Association provide nursing and emergency services.

Services provided in each province are described in the following paragraphs.

Alberta - All residents of Alberta are provided with necessary in- and out-patient (I) hospital services under the federal-provincial hospital insurance programme. All children under 16 years of age receive free physicians' services while in hospital. (In most of the out-patient of the province medical care and diagnostic services are provided on a premium payment basis. Persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, mental illness, venereal disease or the acute effects of alcoholism are treated free of charge at provincial expense. All medically

(2) This is the only province up to this time which offers out-patient services. Other than emergency services for accident cases under the government-operated hospital insurance programme, these services are to include this service in the programme when it begins on January 1, 1959.