

FORECASTING, EVALUATING AND MONITORING MANPOWER
POLICY AND ITS APPLICATION

Towards the end of the Committee's hearings one meeting was entirely devoted to an examination of the range of assessment and planning activities carried out by the Strategic Planning and Research Division which services both the Manpower and the Immigration activities of the Department. The witnesses on that occasion were Mr. D. R. Campbell, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Planning and Research, and Mr. P. B. Fay, Director General, Strategic Planning and Evaluation Group. This testimony assisted the Committee to determine how effectively the policies and programs of Canada Manpower are planned and executed.

The work of the Strategic Planning and Research Division is directed toward two main objectives which were described in the *Annual Report* for 1973-74:

- The development of mechanisms for occupational forecasting and manpower planning . . .
- The collection, collation, and distribution of labour market information, and the detailed analysis and the interpretation of the impact of Departmental programs.

In terms of the total Manpower budget this Division's activities on behalf of the Manpower Division cost less than one per cent of the total expenditures for the Manpower program. In 1973-74 it utilized only 155 man-years out of the total of 8,199 man-years for the Manpower program, or 1.89 per cent. (5:30)¹ The work of this Division provides the statistical framework for the formation of Manpower programs and the crucial evaluation required to assess whether the objectives set out for them have been met.

The organization of the Strategic Planning and Research Division gives some indication of how it covers various duties assigned to it: Research Project Groups, Economic Analysis and Forecast Branch, Strategic Planning and Evaluation Group, Occupational and Career Analysis and Development Branch. Mr. Campbell told the Committee that his Department probably made the greatest proportional commitment to the evaluation of its programs of any federal department, that few have had more experience in the field of evaluation.

¹See also page 17 of this Report.