

The federal Program There are four main parts to the federal Program:

Grants and assistance to national associations, agencies and particular segments of the population;

organizations established and supported by the Program to meet specialized and well-defined needs;

special events such as the Canada Games and promotional tours;

services provided by the Department of National Health and Welfare that are largely of a technical and informational nature.

(1) Grants

Federal funds are available to over 70 national sport-governing bodies and Program agencies operating in the field. Grants are also available to athletes of national calibre who wish to continue their education while pursuing an athletic career. Certain elements of the Canadian population, such as the native peoples, also receive assistance.

Grants to national associations now total over \$3.5 million a year, and are used to strengthen administrative structures, expand the quality and quantity of leadership and develop competitive programs.

Much of this money is used for assistance to athletes travelling to national championships and international events such as the Olympics, the Pan-American Games and the British Commonwealth Games. To strengthen Canada's sport structures, assistance is also available for travel to executive and annual meetings. Canada is such a vast country that a special effort must be made to ensure that meetings and competitions include representatives from all parts of it.

Special attention is now being given to coaching and technical development. The national sport-governing bodies are being encouraged to hire technical directors and develop special programs.

Program-operating agencies such as the Boys Clubs of Canada and the YMCA find these federal grants to be particularly useful in training competent leaders.

Young athletes who wish to continue competing while obtaining their education are encouraged to do so by the availability of athletic grants-in-aid. Awards from \$600 to \$2000 are made to athletes