

**A12 food banks return to their original role of food recovery agencies, and that these agencies be encouraged to focus on the redistribution of surplus foods to hostels, breakfast, lunch and snack programs within schools, and agencies serving the poor. Further, organizations interested in alleviating hunger and other organizations such as public health departments should be encouraged, where expertise exists and there are willing volunteers, to provide programs encouraging good nutrition, thrifty shopping, and co-operative shopping and cooking.**

**A13 the Federal Government develop a national volunteer recognition program to recognize the role of the sector in providing community support to children. This program should incorporate an awards component for outstanding volunteers in each province and an information component for the dissemination of the key elements of effective programs. Further the Sub-Committee recommends that, in other appropriate volunteer programs, the contribution of volunteers in the social services sector be recognized.**

The Sub-Committee believes that initiatives such as these should be funded through the Child Care Special Initiatives Fund.

#### **4. Social Housing**

The government's objective with respect to social housing is to assist households which are unable to obtain affordable, suitable and adequate shelter in the private market. This aid is delivered through joint federal-provincial agreements with regard to the funding of social housing programs.

In 1986, a re-orientation of social housing programs was undertaken, and assistance became targeted exclusively to those most in need. The provinces have been given the primary role for program delivery, in exchange for increased funding equivalent to at least 25% of the total cost, and for adherence to federal objectives for the housing of low-income Canadians. According to the *1990 Annual Report* of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), the major programs include:

1. the Non-Profit Housing Program, which provides subsidized rental housing projects for needy households on a rent-to-income basis;
2. the Rent Supplement Program, which provides subsidy assistance for units owned by private landlords or co-operatives for social housing purposes, with rental reductions based on a rent-to-income scale;
3. the Urban Native Non-Profit Housing Program, through which subsidized rental housing is provided to needy Native households by assisting Native-sponsored non-profit housing organizations to operate rental housing projects;
4. the On-Reserve Non-Profit Housing Program, through which loans are made to Indians living on reserve to offset a portion of amortization and operating costs incurred for non-profit projects on reserves;
5. the Rural and Native Housing Program, whereby homeownership, lease-to-purchase and rental housing assistance are provided to rural and Native people in rural areas with populations under 2,500, with subsidies ultimately established on a payment-to-income scale;