

Saskatchewan) and three in British Columbia (British Columbia, Simon Fraser and Victoria). Also in each province, an advisory body has been established by the government to act as an intermediary between the minister responsible for higher education and the universities: the Universities Grants Commission in Manitoba, the Saskatchewan Universities Commission, and the Universities Council of British Columbia. In addition to their general advisory task and their role in planning and co-ordinating university education, they have the mandate to review the universities' budget requests, to advise their governments on the total level of funding and to distribute to the universities the funds appropriated by government.

In Alberta there is no intermediary body between government and the universities. Government planning for and co-ordination of higher education is the responsibility of the Department of Advanced Education and Manpower, which deals directly with the institutions regarding budgetary requirements and provincial grants.

The university sector consists of four institutions: The University of Alberta, which enrolls about 19,000 full-time students; Calgary with some 11,000 students, Lethbridge with about 1,500 students; and Athabasca, established in 1970 to offer distance-learning opportunities. To provide for co-ordination among these institutions, the

Alberta Universities Act has established a statutory body, the Universities Co-ordinating Council; consisting of representatives of the four universities, the Council has the authority to inquire into all matters requiring co-operative decisions or actions and to give advice to both the universities and government.

Government of institutions

Civil legislation regarding the establishment of new institutions, or changes in existing ones, is usually enacted by provincial legislatures, except for federal military colleges and a few institutions originally established by act of Parliament.

The two-tier, or bicameral, system of university/government is in effect at all but three universities in Canada. Once an institution is legally chartered its corporate powers are vested in a governing body, generally known as the board of governors. The board of most universities usually comprises representatives of government, industry, university administration, faculty, undergraduate and graduate student bodies, and alumni. Its function is to conserve the property and increase the means of the university, to oversee the university's financial operations and to maintain liaison with governments and the general public.

The effective responsibility of all academic matters is, as a rule, assigned to a senate. Most senates are composed mainly of representatives of