
education on a world-wide basis, Canada is called on to play a major role as a member of various international educational organizations. In this connection, the Department of External Affairs co-operates with the Council with regard to the selection of official delegates to represent the country at international education conferences, the selection of topics for discussion at such conferences and the preparation of working papers and reports for Canada. The Department of External Affairs also normally channels official communications from such international organizations as UNESCO, the International Bureau of Education, the International Institute for Educational Planning, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Centre for Educational Research and Innovation, and the Commonwealth Education Liaison Committee, through the Council to the provincial departments of education.

The Council co-operates with various professional educational organizations in promoting the development of education in Canada.

Local units of
administration

As towns and cities developed, the original boards remained as units but provision was made in the acts for urban school-boards with more members and generally with a responsibility for both elementary and secondary schools, though in some districts separate boards are still to be found. In recent years, there has been a trend in rural and adjoining town areas to amalgamate boards into larger units of administration. In most provinces, school-board consolidation has been effected, resulting in a great reduction in the number of boards. Some examples are: New Brunswick 33 (formerly 400); Newfoundland 35 (formerly 300); and Ontario 185 (formerly 4,000). Similar kinds of consolidation have taken place across the nation generally. This reorganization has led to great improvements at the school-district and classroom levels.

Teaching staff

Candidates in all provinces for elementary teacher certificates must have a minimum of high-school graduation and at least one year of professional training in a faculty of education or a teachers' college. The training usually consists of professional and academic courses and some time spent in practice teaching. Secondary-school teachers are generally university graduates who have taken an additional year in a college of education or who have graduated with a year in education. The trend is for the provincial departments of education to give the universities the responsibility for training elementary as well as secondary-school teachers. Teachers' colleges now exist apart from universities in only four provinces. Universities participate in the training of elementary-school teachers in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario and Quebec, but in