

## Questions

2. What amounts have been paid for subsidies and/or support programs during each of the years 1960-68 inclusive?

**Hon. Jean-Eudes Dubé (Minister of Veterans Affairs):** 1. The Department of Veterans

Affairs provides subsidies and/or support programs for veterans who reside in Canada.

2. The amounts paid for such programs during each of the years 1960-68 were as follows:

Fiscal year	Disability pensions	War veterans allowances, civilian war allowances and assistance fund	Other benefits and allowances	Treatment services	Veterans' Land Act loans	Total
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
1959-60.....	130,949	59,938	8,661	48,652	24,600	272,800
1960-61.....	131,858	61,382	8,436	49,796	36,972	288,444
1961-62.....	155,992	77,876	8,295	47,625	32,804	322,592
1962-63.....	154,090	84,611	7,431	44,003	39,040	329,175
1963-64.....	152,281	86,262	6,901	46,115	42,131	333,690
1964-65.....	165,353	96,222	8,674	47,402	37,257	354,908
1965-66.....	170,485	104,863	8,813	49,582	47,423	381,166
1966-67.....	180,252	108,699	8,168	54,251	79,900	431,270
1967-68.....	189,249	104,046	7,725	58,434	98,471	457,925

INDIAN REPRESENTATION ON SCHOOL BOARDS

Question No. 2,284—**Mr. Yewchuk:**

1. What is the policy of the federal government respecting Indian representation on local school boards in districts where Indian children are educated?

2. To what extent is this being enforced?

**Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development):** 1. The policy of the federal government is to encourage provincial governments to enact legislation which will permit Indian representation on local school boards. This has been done over the past few years through an exchange of letters between the Minister of this Department and the ministers of education in the provinces, and through discussions between officials of this Department and those of the departments of education. In pursuing this policy, the Department was acting on behalf of, and in the interest of, the Indian people. Today the Indian people are able to exert political pressure through their representatives in the provincial governments. The results of this intergovernment activity are: 1. In Ontario, new legislation permits the minister of education to appoint Indian representatives to school boards. 2. In New Brunswick, new legislation permits the minister of education to appoint Indian repre-

sentatives to school boards. 3. In Saskatchewan, new legislation gives the Indian people the status of electors who may stand for election as school trustees or who may vote for a representative on the school board. 4. In British Columbia, new legislation gives the Indian people the status of ratepayers who may now apply to have their names placed on the voter's list.

A bill is now before the Legislature in Manitoba which, when passed, will give the Indian people the status of electors.

The Alberta Legislature was prepared to present a bill to provide Indian representation on school boards at the current session but the Indian Association in Alberta asked the Alberta Government to postpone the bill until they had had more time to examine it.

2. The role of the federal government has been strictly advisory since education is the exclusive responsibility of the provinces who enact their own school legislation and enforce it. This Department will continue to encourage provincial governments to enact the legislation necessary to provide Indians with the opportunity of being elected to school boards. There has been a very active interest on the part of the Indian people in this matter and, in all provinces where legislation permits, there are Indian representatives on various school boards.

[Mr. Robinson.]