
CHAPTER V

MOBILE INFORMATION OFFICERS

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Mobile Information Officer program appears to the Committee to have developed into a social welfare service. As an information service it is extremely expensive on a per capita basis and as an information evaluation service it leaves a great deal to be desired. As it has a potential for excessive growth it should be discontinued.

At present, the Mobile Information Officer schemes, begun in Manitoba and Nova Scotia, are pilot projects designed to test the feasibility of extending the services of the enquiry centres beyond their centres of operations in the cities. This involves investigating the need for such services, and Information Canada has conducted extensive enquiries in those regions to that end. The Mobile Officers' functions, as Information Canada sees them, are to:

1. Act as referral points in the less-informed areas.
2. Convey departmental program information into these areas.
3. Create additional outlets for departments by tapping community resources and local media.
4. Support departments with offices in these areas.
5. Keep departments informed about developments in areas of interest to them.