

by Departments, by Treasury Board or by Cabinet.”<sup>1</sup> Through the Committee’s inquiry existing activities of the Manpower Division were investigated in depth. Trends in planning new manpower programs were identified and challenged. This carried the Committee well beyond its usual review of Departmental Estimates.

In making the decision to examine Canada Manpower the Committee was in a sense taking its own advice. The Committee’s Report *Growth, Employment and Price Stability 1971* urged the federal government to take full account of the analysis of manpower policy relating to training then newly published in the *Eighth Annual Review* of the Economic Council of Canada (1971) and further “to investigate other aspects of how well this policy has performed.” The objective of manpower policy was viewed in general terms by the Committee in 1971. It was defined as “achieving a better fit between available people and available jobs and assisting and promoting human adjustments to change.”<sup>2</sup>

The problems arising from high unemployment and inflation have increased tremendously since 1971. The Department of Manpower and Immigration is the agency of government through which manpower policy initiatives to reduce the effects of unemployment can be translated into grass-roots action. This activity is the direct responsibility of the Manpower Division.

The administration of an active manpower policy was assigned to the new Department of Manpower and Immigration at its inception in 1966. In the ten years since, provincial governments have also become aware of the need to designate a specific ministry to co-ordinate activities related to manpower programs. Provincial ministers of manpower have developed an informal consultative relationship and have met together several times to discuss common problems, including their relationship with the federal Manpower Division. At many points during Committee discussions, witnesses spoke of the strong interaction between federal and provincial activities in the field of manpower policy. Several recommendations in this report are relevant to this relationship.

To keep this subject within manageable proportions, attention was concentrated on direct policy and operational questions. As the proceedings show, the operations of the Unemployment Insurance Commission (UIC) were referred to by a number of witnesses, many of whom recommended the reintegration with Canada Manpower which will be put into effect by the autumn of 1976. However the examination by this Committee was confined to the programs of the Manpower Division for which provision was made in the Main Estimates. The policy, operations and regulations of the UIC were therefore not at this time considered, except peripherally where cooperation with the Manpower Division has taken place, or where the regulations of the UIC affected

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<sup>1</sup> *Report of the Auditor General of Canada to the House of Commons for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1975.*, Chapter X, Section 12.

<sup>2</sup> *Growth, Employment and Price Stability, 1971*; page 67.