

EDUCATION

In Canada, education is generally under the jurisdiction of the provinces, but education of Indians falls under the responsibility of the federal government.

The educational program is divided into two main parts: the operation of schools for Indian children, and the education of non-Indian children under provincial or private auspices; the cost of either should be assumed by the federal government.

In order to provide educational facilities for children who cannot attend school in their own communities, the Government has established a number of boarding schools.

On the majority of reserves, day schools are established to provide an education for children who can attend from their homes.

Facilities for boarding schools are operated under the auspices of various religious denominations, to care for orphaned children, children from broken homes or those who, because of isolation or the migratory way of life of their families, are unable to attend day schools.

Whether of these schools is necessary to serve the migratory population, particularly in the far north, in order to meet the annual problems presented by these areas, seasonal schools have been established at places where migratory families gather during the year. The Canada Service, the Indian Affairs and Northern Development Branch of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

A further type is designed to meet the needs of children confined to hospitals. Teachers are employed to give instruction to children in the hospitals operated under the jurisdiction of the Director of Indian and Northern Health Services of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Arrangements are also made for the education of Indian children in other hospitals and institutions. Such instruction is now restricted to Indians of school age and an effort is made to give training to both children of pre-school age and adults.

However possible, education of Indian children in residential schools with non-Indians is encouraged, and the Indian Affairs Branch has entered into agreements with provincial governments for joint education. These agreements may include provision of funds for capital expenditures for facilities required by the residential schools.

TEACHERS

In common with other public school systems, Indian schools are experiencing much difficulty in securing enough qualified teachers. Indian boys and girls are encouraged, through financial assistance, to enter the teaching profession to serve Indian people.

Teachers employed by the Indian Affairs Department are given priority scheduling that compares favorably with those in other provincial school systems. When engaged in the Indian day schools, these teachers receive financial and housing assistance.