

of publicly-operated "post-secondary non-university" institutions began to develop.

Several types of degree-granting institutions exist in Canada:

Universities — institutions which have, as a minimum, degree programs in arts and sciences, and which usually award graduate degrees.

Liberal arts colleges — smaller institutions with degree programs, usually offering undergraduate degrees in arts only.

Theological colleges — independent institutions granting degrees in religion and theology only.

Other specialized institutions — offering degree programs in a single field such as engineering, art or education.

Admission to universities and other degree-granting institutions is granted directly from high school graduation except in the province of Quebec, where university entrance qualification is obtained after completion of a two-year program at a *college d'enseignement général et professionnel* (CEGEP). With provincial examinations mostly discontinued in recent years, the school record has become the primary tool for evaluating applicants. There are no university entrance examinations as such in Canada, but where provinces administer province-wide high school graduation examinations, the results of these exams, given appropriate subject selection and marks, constitute the basis for acceptance by a university.

Most universities provide for the admission of "mature students", including those who do not meet the normal entrance requirements.

The bachelor's degree from a Canadian university is usually awarded after three or four years of study, depending on the high school graduation level at time of admission. Honours bachelors' degrees, which are more specialized than the general "pass" degrees, may require an additional year of study. Admission to some professional faculties such as law, engineering, medicine, dentistry, and business administration, is usually conditional upon completion of part or all of the requirements for a bachelor's degree. The programs for these fields of study, therefore, take five or six years after high school graduation.

Master's degree programs are of one or two years' duration, usually following an honours bachelor's degree or equivalent. Entrance to a doctoral program normally requires a master's degree in the same field.

University development

The first institutions of higher education in Canada followed European traditions. The *Seminaire de Québec*, which later became the base on