

will be available to the provinces over the next five years to help develop improved services and facilities in these fields. As in the development of the gamma globulin programme, the successful operation of these new health grants will require the continued support and co-operation of provincial health authorities and of public health workers.

There can be no question that the National Health Programme has had a strong impact on public health practice in Canada. It is difficult to review progress under specific headings since so many health services are inter-related and since progress in one sector is so quickly reflected in another. It might be of interest, however, for me to highlight very briefly a few of the more outstanding developments that are of particular concern to the public health worker:

(1) Strengthening Provincial Health Administrations:

All provinces have made use of the grant funds to develop their central health administrations by adding new divisions and strengthening existing services.

(2) Expanding Community Health Services:

The notable expansion of local public health services is best indicated by the fact that 8,600,000 Canadians live in areas of Canada now served by 107 health units given continuing assistance under this Programme.

(3) Training Health Workers:

Since the beginning of the National Health Programme, some 5,000 health workers have been given special training and more than 4,700 have been added to provincial and local health staffs.

(4) Improving School Health Services:

In every province, the National Health Programme has made possible significant improvements and extensions in school and pre-school health and medical services.

(5) Extending Public Health Services in Hospitals:

Hospitals are being encouraged to take a more active part in community health activities because of the support given for out-patient departments and other public health services.

(6) Augmenting Preventive Health Services:

Finally, there has been a very decided increase in preventive and diagnostic facilities and services. New clinics have been set up to fight cancer, arthritis and rheumatism, mental illness and crippling conditions in children, while free X-ray examinations and B.C.G. immunization are helping to bring tuberculosis under control.