

if such representative is recommended by the provincial authority and approved by the Minister, and such investigator or representative, as the case may be, shall, in the course of such investigation, personally interview the recipient.

(7) All applications and accompanying documents received by any person other than the provincial authority shall be forwarded to the provincial authority and no person other than the provincial authority shall approve or reject any application or alter the rate of assistance.

### *Age*

6. (1) For the purpose of enabling the provincial authority to consider the eligibility of an applicant as regards age, the applicant shall forward to the provincial authority a certificate of birth or of baptism, or, if neither certificate is obtainable, shall forward any other documentary evidence that he may have or be able to obtain from which his age may be determined.

(2) If the provincial authority is satisfied that the applicant is unable to furnish satisfactory evidence as to his age as provided in subsection (1), the provincial authority shall endeavour to obtain information from other sources and, in the case of an applicant who alleges he was born in Canada, the provincial authority shall, if records for the period in question are available in the province where he alleges he was born, first request the registrar of vital statistics in that province to make a search for information as to his age.

(3) If the provincial authority is unable to obtain information as provided in subsections (1) and (2), it may request the Dominion Bureau of Statistics to make a search of the census records for information as to the age of the applicant, subject to the following conditions:

(a) any request for census information as to age shall be made in the form of an application prescribed by the Dominion Statistician which shall bear or be accompanied by the signed consent of the person concerning whom the information is sought, and shall provide such specific information as may be required for the purpose of making a search in the census records; and

(b) any information supplied by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics shall be confidential and shall not be used for any other purpose than that of establishing the age of the applicant as required under the Act, The Blind Persons Act, or The Old Age Security Act, as the case may be.

(4) (a) If, after thorough search and inquiry, the provincial authority is unable to obtain from the applicant, or elsewhere, satisfactory and sufficient documentary evidence as to his age it may, with the consent of the Director, submit the question of the age of the applicant, together with any documentary or other evidence that it may have obtained relevant thereto, to a tribunal, as herein provided, for a decision as to whether or not the applicant has attained the age of sixty-five years.

(b) Such tribunal shall consist of a member to be designated by the provincial authority, a member to be designated by the Director and a third member, who shall be the chairman, to be chosen by such other two members.

(c) The tribunal, in deciding upon whether the applicant has attained the age of sixty-five years, shall be entitled to take into account any facts, circumstances or evidence, documentary or other, including physical characteristics of the applicant, relevant to the determination of the issue.