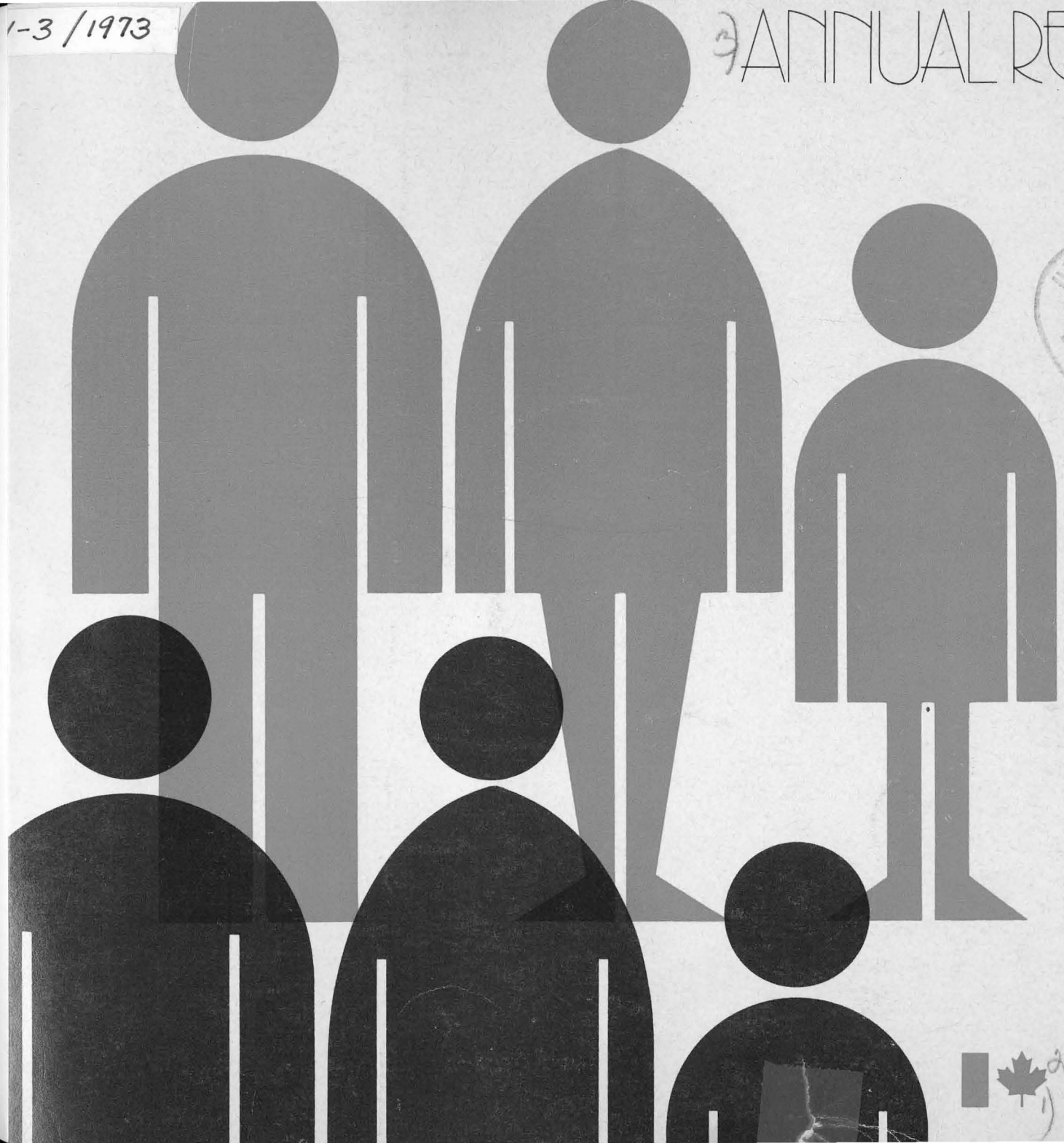


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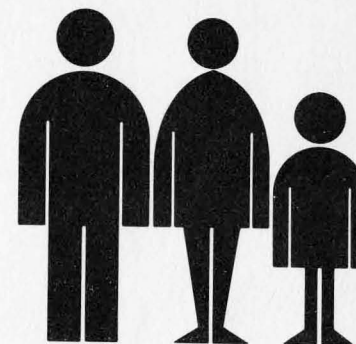
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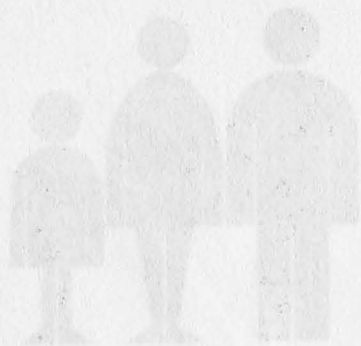


ANNUAL REPORT

for the fiscal year ending March 31st, 1973

The Department of National
Health and Welfare

OTTAWA



ANNUAL REPORT

for the fiscal year ending March 31st 1973

The Department of National
Health and Welfare

OTTAWA

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His Excellency the Right Honourable Roland Michener,
Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned has the honour to present to Your Excellency the Annual
Report of the Department of National Health and Welfare for the Fiscal Year
ended March 31, 1973.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Lalonde
Minister of National Health and Welfare

CONTENTS

HEALTH PROTECTION BRANCH

Food Inspection Directorate	1
Food Directorate	2
Drugs Directorate	3
Directorate of Dangerous Drugs	4
Environmental Health Directorate	5
Sex Serology Services	6
Laboratory Centre for Disease Control	7
Non-Medical Use of Drugs Directorate	8

LONG RANGE HEALTH PLANNING BRANCH

PHYSICAL NURSING OFFICE

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF HEALTH

HEALTH SERVICES BRANCH

Public and Personal Health	9
Public Services Health	10
Environment and Vegetation	11
Public Health Medical	12
Child Welfare Medical	13
Health Services	14
Emergency Health Services	15

HEALTH PROGRAMS BRANCH

Health Insurance and	16
Extended Services Directorate	17
Low Cost Care Directorate	18
Health Insurance Directorate	19
Health Insurance Directorate	20
Health Insurance Directorate	21
Health Insurance Directorate	22
Health Insurance Directorate	23
Health Insurance Directorate	24
Health Insurance Directorate	25

ALLOWANCES AND SERVICES BRANCH

Child Assistance Plan	26
Child Planning	27
Child Counselling Unit	28

INDIVIDUAL SECURITY BRANCH

Family Allowances	29
Child Allowances	30
Family Assistance	31
Family Allowances	32
Family Allowances	33
Family Allowances	34
Family Allowances	35
Family Allowances	36
Family Allowances	37
Family Allowances	38
Family Allowances	39
Family Allowances	40
Family Allowances	41
Family Allowances	42
Family Allowances	43
Family Allowances	44
Family Allowances	45
Family Allowances	46
Family Allowances	47
Family Allowances	48
Family Allowances	49
Family Allowances	50
Family Allowances	51
Family Allowances	52
Family Allowances	53
Family Allowances	54
Family Allowances	55
Family Allowances	56
Family Allowances	57
Family Allowances	58
Family Allowances	59
Family Allowances	60
Family Allowances	61
Family Allowances	62
Family Allowances	63
Family Allowances	64
Family Allowances	65
Family Allowances	66
Family Allowances	67
Family Allowances	68
Family Allowances	69
Family Allowances	70
Family Allowances	71
Family Allowances	72
Family Allowances	73
Family Allowances	74
Family Allowances	75
Family Allowances	76
Family Allowances	77
Family Allowances	78
Family Allowances	79
Family Allowances	80
Family Allowances	81
Family Allowances	82
Family Allowances	83
Family Allowances	84
Family Allowances	85
Family Allowances	86
Family Allowances	87
Family Allowances	88
Family Allowances	89
Family Allowances	90
Family Allowances	91
Family Allowances	92
Family Allowances	93
Family Allowances	94
Family Allowances	95
Family Allowances	96
Family Allowances	97
Family Allowances	98
Family Allowances	99
Family Allowances	100

Honourable Marc Lalonde

Minister of National Health and Welfare

Sir:

We have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the Department of National Health and Welfare for the fiscal year 1972-73.

Respectfully submitted,

Maurice LeClair, M.D.

Deputy Minister of National Health

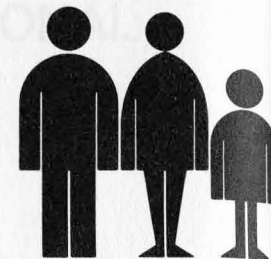
A.W. Johnson

Deputy Minister of National Welfare

CONTENTS

HEALTH PROTECTION BRANCH	1	INCOME SECURITY BRANCH	34
Field Operations Directorate	1	Family Allowances	34
Food Directorate	2	Youth Allowances	35
Drugs Directorate	4	Family Assistance	35
Bureau of Dangerous Drugs	6	Old Age Security	35
Environmental Health Directorate	9	CANADA PENSION PLAN	36
Epidemiology Services	11	INTERNATIONAL AND	
Laboratory Centre for Disease Control	13	EMERGENCY WELFARE BRANCH	38
Non-Medical Use of Drugs Directorate	15	International Welfare	38
LONG RANGE HEALTH PLANNING BRANCH	17	International Social Security	39
PRINCIPAL NURSING OFFICER	18	Emergency Welfare Services	39
INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES	18	RESEARCH PLANNING	
DOMINION COUNCIL OF HEALTH	19	AND EVALUATION BRANCH	40
MEDICAL SERVICES BRANCH	20	NATIONAL WELFARE GRANTS	42
Indian and Northern Health	20	NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WELFARE	43
Public Service Health	20	DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS BRANCH	44
Quarantine and Regulatory	22	FITNESS AND AMATEUR SPORT	45
Immigration Medical	22	Sport Canada	45
Civil Aviation Medicine	23	Recreation Canada	48
Prosthetic Services	24	Sport Participation Canada	48
Emergency Health Services	25	ADMINISTRATION BRANCH	49
HEALTH PROGRAMS BRANCH	26	Financial Administration	49
Hospital Insurance and		Personnel Administration	50
Diagnostic Services Directorate	26	Departmental Support Services	51
Medical Care Directorate	27	Management Review	51
Health Manpower Directorate	28	Management Consulting Services	51
Health Facilities Design Division	28	Objectives Oriented Management	51
Research Programs Directorate	29	Information Directorate	52
Health Systems Group	29		
Health Economics and Statistics Division	30		
SOCIAL ALLOWANCES AND SERVICES BRANCH..	32		
Canada Assistance Plan	32		
Family Planning	32		
The Divorce Counselling Unit	34		

MEDICAL SERVICES BRANCH



INDIAN AND NORTHERN HEALTH

The Branch continued to provide or arrange for health services, for Canadian Indians and Eskimos in the Provinces and all residents of the Territories. The Branch carries out this program under four main activities.

- (a) Health Care and Treatment Services
- (b) Public Health Services.
- (c) Involvement of Indians in the Health Care System.
- (d) Provision of Physical Facilities.

Clinical Training of Nurses

During the year 53 Medical Services nurses completed the 4-month course for the Clinical Training of Nurses, an additional 26 nurses commenced training in January 1973.

Alcohol Abuse Control Studies

The studies being undertaken in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick continued, Quebec Region makes extensive use of the Office de la Prévention et du Traitement de l'Alcoolisme et des Autres Toxicomanies. (O.P.T.A.T.).

Dental Services

The new School of Dental Therapy, at Fort Smith, N.W.T. was occupied on December 1, 1972. Twenty students, (16 from the N.W.T. and 4 from Yukon) commenced, in temporary quarters, the two-year training program on September 18, 1972. An additional group of students will be admitted in September 1973, to make a total enrollment of thirty students, to the program.

Plans are underway to develop satellite clinics, manned by one instructor and four or five students, who will work in other clinical locations in the North. This will give the students some field experience and spread the delivery of service to other communities.

Native Health Workers

Some 320 native people were employed as Community Health Workers and Community Aides.

A task force was set up to examine current programs and projects, to develop a series of new Community Health Auxiliary roles integral to the local health care delivery system. The report of the Task Force included a recommendation that

there should be two Community Health Auxiliary roles:

- (a) *A Community Health Representative* whose main orientation is toward the community; and
- (b) *A Family Health Aide* whose main orientation is toward the individual and the home.

A Task Force Study of Air Travel Procedures was made during the year as the result of the death of a nurse and two Eskimo patients. Medical Services staff, contract personnel and patients fly in excess of 4,000,000 miles per year.

The objective of the investigation conducted by the Task Force is to recommend Medical Services Branch policy for the employment of scheduled, chartered and government or private aircraft for emergency and routine medical evacuation and for staff travel on duty.

Provision of Facilities

The Branch has continued to provide new, or to upgrade present facilities. Included in the program were the Percy Moore General Hospital at Hodgson, Manitoba (39 beds to replace the Fisher River Indian Hospital), and the Fort Simpson

Hospital (12 beds). Both hospitals are due for completion in the coming fiscal year. Seven new nursing stations and three health centres were completed and staffed during the year.

Nursing Activities

During the year senior nursing officers of the Branch participated in the following studies and courses:

- (a) Course on Concept of Management for members of nursing staff.
- (b) Study on The Evaluation of Training Programs for Medical Services' nurses.
- (c) Selection of nurses for clinical training.
- (d) Task Force Study on air travel procedures.
- (e) Task Force Study on Auxiliary Health Workers.
- (f) Expansion of the responsibilities of the role of Occupational Health nurses.
- (g) Courses on
 - (1) Community Emergency Health Planning, and
 - (2) Nurse Education in the field of Emergency Health.
- (h) Completed study of the status of Disaster Nursing in the curricula of schools of nursing across Canada.

Nursing staff positions total 927 of which 555 are in generalized community health, 368 in hospitals and the remaining 4 are located at Head Office.

PUBLIC SERVICE HEALTH

Development of the Public Service Health Program continued in several important areas:

- Formation of the nucleus of an industrial medical team with the transfer of two occupational health physicians to the program. With responsibilities in the monitoring and investigation of hazards in the working environment of public servants and the expansion of advisory and training services.
- The opening of 8 new Public Service Health Units during the year. Direct occupational health nursing services now cover approximately 130,000 employees. In addition, 11 Public Service Health centres under physician direction, were established in our overseas operation, providing services to employees and their dependents serving abroad.

—The health problems of public servants and their dependents who served abroad received special attention with the establishment of a Tropical Medical Clinic at National Defence Medical Centre in cooperation with the Department of National Defence and the organization of a Foreign Service Medical component.

- Emphasis has been placed on the behavioral aspects of health maintenance in the work force. There has been active promotion of programs dealing with alcohol abuse, the non-medical use of drugs, physical fitness and the health aspects of preparation for retirement. Public Service Health officers have been contributing to seminars and conferences in these fields and in the production of educational videotapes.
- In cooperation with the Department of National Defence, arrangements were completed to allow Senior Executive Officers of the Public Service to be admitted to the National Defence Medical Centre when hospitalization is required.