

**FEDERAL OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING
POLICY: A NEO-INSTITUTIONALIST
ANALYSIS**

By

primary and secondary education, and training and re-training ought to be part of "the core of national economic policy."³

The federal government, too, sees the link between skills development and national

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the costs will be unchanged but the institutional-

Thelen and Steiner agree that the major

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Neo-pluralist writers, such as Charles Lindblom, have acknowledged some of the problems with the original versions of pluralism.

Development as a structure that has been "reorganized endless times" with little consequence for aboriginal policy.

~~The above sentences are not to be used.~~

~~_____~~

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to agriculture as an example of an area where both levels of government are active but where collaboration rather than competition seems to be the norm. Also, even the most far-

How Federalism Shapes our Understanding of Politics

McRoberts, like many scholars, has pointed

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They do so by shaping certain social pressures before they exert their influence on policy. For example, federalism intensifies the influence of territorial interests. Conversely, non-territorial interests get downgraded by federalism. Class,

words of former Prime Minister, Lester Pearson:³⁹

...the training and re-training of adults for participation in the labour force are well within the scope of federal

jurisdiction. ~~It is the federal government~~

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education."⁴² Thus, even before industrialization firmly took hold in the country, the federal government saw the importance of human capital formation to the economy.

The grants from the federal government should be used for the salaries of teachers; for the establishment, extension and maintenance of classes, courses, schools, or other institutions for vocational training; and for the purchase of

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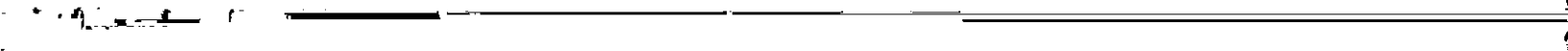
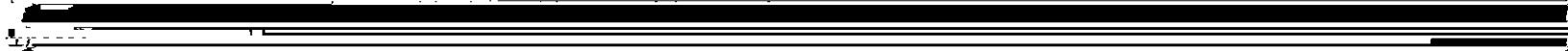
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Table 1

**Federal Government Institutional and Industrial Training Expenditures,
(millions of dollars)**

YEAR	INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING	INDUSTRIAL TRAINING	TOTAL
1987-88	866.9	78.3	945.2
6-87	905.1	93.1	998.2

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solution to federal-provincial disputes was not

McBride. the federal government had indicated

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The federal offer to the provinces came in May, 1996: the federal government would make available to the provinces about \$1.5 billion to

provinces and two territories comprising about 43.5 per cent of the population. Ontario will

receive about the same amount of money as the

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- ensure service to the public in either official language, where there is significant demand.

All LMDAs contain annual numerical targets for clients served and savings generated to the EI account. These targets are intended to encourage the provinces to promote self-reliance among EI clients.

who, after re-training, is hired on contract at \$8 per hour is not differentiated from an unemployed worker whose earnings double in a permanent position obtained as a result of program intervention.

He also wonders about the usefulness of the

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significant extent, it could probably expect a strong negative reaction from the provinces, at least the larger ones. In this case, it would have only itself to blame.

CONCLUSION

This paper set out to ascertain the factors that predisposed the federal government to withdraw from the occupational training field in

occupational training policy from the *Technical Education Act* of 1919 to the *Employment Insurance Act* of 1996.

With respect to the two issues set out above, the following conclusions can be drawn:

First, a key institutional factor that predisposed the federal government to take the step it took in 1996 is the ambiguity of the

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16. Peter Hall, *Governing the Economy, The Politics of State Intervention in Britain and France*, Cambridge, Polity Press, 1986, p. 19.

31. *Ibid.*

32. *Ibid.* p. 23.

33. Michael M. Atkinson, "Public Policy and the New Institutionalism" n 31

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44. Royal Commission on Industrial Training and Technical Education, *Report of the Commissioners*, p. 30.

54. J. Stefan Dupré, *Federalism and Policy Development*, p. 17.

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70. Craig McFadyen, "Transforming the Active Labour Market Policy Network," p. 78.
71. Rodney Haddow, "Federalism and Training Policy in Canada," p. 353.
72. T. Klassen. "The Federal-Provincial Labour

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