



CHAPTER 81

An Act to provide assistance for needy mothers

[Assented to, the 14th of April, 1937]

HIS MAJESTY, with the advice and consent of the
Legislative Council and of the Legislative Assembly
of Quebec, enacts as follows :

1. This act may be cited as "*Needy Mothers' Assistance Act*". Short title.

Interpretative Provisions

2. In this act, the word:

- Interpreta-
tion :
- a.* "organization" means the body or the minister entrusted by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council with the carrying out of this act under section 12; "Organiza-
tion";
- b.* "mother" means a mother of at least two children who have not reached the age of sixteen years; "Mother";
- c.* "interned" means kept and cared for in a lunatic asylum according to law and at public expense. "Interned".

Conditions for obtaining an Allowance

- 3.** The benefit of a monthly allowance fixed by the organization may be accorded to any mother who: Requisite
conditions
for obtaining
of allowance.
- a.* is a widow or the wife of an interned husband;
- b.* is a British subject, since at least fifteen years;
- c.* has resided in this Province during the seven years immediately preceding the application for an allowance;

d. affords, to the satisfaction of the organization, reasonable guarantees of her competency to give her children the care of a good mother; and

e. has not the necessary means for the maintenance of her children under sixteen years of age.

Children and
granting of
allowance.

4. No allowance may be accorded to any mother who does not keep at least two children with her who have not reached the age of sixteen years.

Essentiality
of residence.

5. Any mother ceasing to reside in this Province shall forthwith lose the benefit of any allowance.

Allowance to
grandmother
in certain
case.

6. When a mother, who would have been in the conditions required for obtaining an allowance or who is receiving one, dies or is interned, the grandmother who keeps with her and maintains at least two of the children of such mother who are under sixteen years of age may benefit from the same allowance as the mother if she combines the conditions of paragraphs *b*, *c*, *d* and *e* of section 3, *mutadis mutandis*.

Provisions
applicable.

Section 5 shall apply to any grandmother receiving an allowance.

Powers of the Organization

Powers of or-
ganization to:
Receive,
etc., appli-
cations, etc.;

7. The organization shall have the following powers:

Fix, etc.,
amount of
allowance;

a. To receive applications for allowance; to collect the information needed and decide upon such applications in conformity with this act;

b. To fix the amount of each allowance, taking into account the provisions of articles 165 to 172 of the Civil Code and the regulations established by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, and to order the payment of the allowances granted;

Make re-
ports.

c. To make a report to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council of its administration of this act, at least once a year and as often during the year as the Lieutenant-Governor in Council may require.

Procedure for applications and investigations

To whom
application
may be
addressed.

8. The application for an allowance may be addressed to the organization or to any official appointed under section 4 of the Quebec Old Age Pensions Act.

9. The official who receives an application for an allowance shall make an investigation to verify the facts mentioned in the application, and shall then forward it to the organization with his report and recommendations. Making, etc., of investigations, etc.

Whenever the application is addressed to the organization, the latter shall transmit it to one of the officials mentioned in section 8, who shall make an investigation and return the application to the organization with his report and recommendations. Transmitting, etc., of application.

For the carrying out of any investigation the official shall possess the powers conferred upon a commissioner appointed under the Public Inquiry Commission Act (Revised Statutes, 1925, chapter 8). Powers of official investigating.

10. The organization may reconsider any decision and rescind or alter any order given by it. Changing, etc., of decision, etc.

Payment of Allowances and Expenses

11. The expenses necessitated by the carrying out of this act shall be paid out of the consolidated revenue fund. Expenses.

The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may, however, authorize the Provincial Treasurer to borrow, for a period not exceeding thirty years and at rates of interest not exceeding four per cent per annum, the amounts required for the payment of such extraordinary expenses. Loan authorized therefor.

The proceeds from such loans shall not be used otherwise than in the payment of the allowances and of the other expenses incurred for the carrying out of this act. Restricted use of loans.

While awaiting the proceed of such loans, the Provincial Treasurer may advance to the organization, out of the consolidated revenue fund, the sums required for the purposes contemplated by the first paragraph of this section and such advances must be reimbursed out of the proceeds of the loans. Advances out of con. rev. fund. Reimbursement.

Powers of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to make Regulations

12. The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may entrust the administration of this act: Administration of act.

a. to a body created by him for such purpose under such name as he may designate, or

b. to an already-existing body, under whatever name designated, or

c. to a member of the Executive Council charged with the administration of a Department.

Adopting, etc., of regulations; **13.** The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may adopt, amend or repeal such regulations as he may deem useful for the carrying out of this act, and especially he may:

Rules; *a.* adopt rules for the internal government of the body contemplated in paragraph *a* of section 12;

Fixing of bases for allowances; *b.* fix the bases for allowances according to the number of children, their ages, their needs and those of their mother or grandmother, as the case may be, and any other circumstance which he deems expedient to consider for determining the amounts to grant;

Minimum and maximum allowances; *c.* establish a minimum basis and a maximum limit for the allowances;

Transmitting of applications; *d.* prescribe the form and manner of transmitting an application for an allowance and the evidence to accompany it;

Procedure upon applications; *e.* determine the procedure for the examination, proof, hearing and deciding of applications for allowances;

Payments; *f.* fix the time and mode of payment of allowances;

Notification in case of certain deaths. *g.* provide for the notifying of the organization, in the case of the death of any person receiving an allowance or of any of such person's children.

Sundry Provisions

Certifying of endorsement of certain cheques. **14.** No cheque made in favour of any beneficiary of an allowance may be paid unless the endorsement thereof be certified by a minister of religion, a secretary-treasurer of a municipal council or of a school board, a commissioner of the Superior Court, a justice of the peace or a bank manager.

Non-seizability, etc., of allowances. **15.** Every allowance granted under this act shall be unassignable, non-seizable and exempt from provincial and municipal taxes.

Appointing, etc., of employees. **16.** The employees necessary for the carrying out and proper working of this act shall be appointed and

their salary fixed and paid in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Service Act (Revised Statutes, 1925, chapter 10) or of the Outside Service Act (Revised Statutes, 1925, chapter 10A), as the case may be.

17. The Minister of Labour shall have charge of Carrying out of act.
the carrying out of this act.

18. This act shall come into force on the day of its Coming into force.
sanction.
