

VOL. NO. - VOL. NO <b>3</b>	FILE NUMBER - DOSSIER NO <b>487/25-11-136</b>	<b>NOV 1967</b>
TO - A <b>1967</b> FROM - DE <b>DEC. 1966</b>	SUBJECT - SUJET <b>JOINT SCHOOL FATHER MOSS (SIOUX NARROWS) KENCRA DIST.</b>	

DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT  
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES INDIENNES ET DU NORD CANADIEN

REFERRED TO - DESTINATAIRE	PURPOSE - OBJET	DATE	INITIAL - INITIALES	P.A. DATE - DATE DE RANGEMENT	B.F. DATE - DATE DE RAPPEL	INITIAL - INITIALES	REGISTRY INSPECTION - EXAMEN DU SERVICE DES ARCHIVES
<i>E12</i>	<i>Put on 487/25-11-136</i>	<i>05/11</i>	<i>W/74</i>	<i>12/4/74</i>		<i>E21</i>	
<i>E12</i>	<i>Req.</i>	<i>7/10/74</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>11.10.74</i>		<i>E12</i>	
TRANSFERRED To P.A.R.C.							
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; transform: rotate(-10deg);">           PUBLIC ARCHIVES RECORDS CENTRE            DEPOT DES ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES            OTTAWA         </div>							
<i>ALL - 248</i>							
TRANSFERRED To P.A.R.C.							

JOURNAL ENREG  
 To P.A.R.C.

VCL.3

487/25-11-136

Ottawa 2, August 10, 1966.

THE MINISTER

This memorandum refers to Indian Affairs Branch agreement with the Sioux Narrows Catholic School Board operating the Sioux Narrows Separate School known as the Father Moss School, the subject of the editorial entitled "Ferron's fight" in the August 10 issue of the Globe and Mail.

The Branch entered into an agreement with the Board in 1962, contributing fifty per cent of the cost of a \$190,016 school of five classrooms. In 1964, the school was expanded by two classrooms at a cost of \$58,000 of which the Branch again paid fifty per cent. Our total capital investment in this school is \$124,008 for which the Branch has purchased accommodation for 115 Indian students in Grades I to X. For the school year 1965-66, the Branch paid a tuition fee of \$40 a month for 88 pupils in the elementary grades and \$70 a month for 25 pupils in the high school grades. There were 27 Indian pupils boarding in a hostel operated by the Board at a per capita charge of \$105 per month. Noon lunches were provided at the school for the day pupils at a cost of 41 cents per meal.

The Indian children attending the Father Moss School are drawn from the Sabaskong and Whitefish Bay Reserves where the Branch operates schools for children in Grades I to IV. There are now only three classrooms operating on these two reserves.

From an educational standpoint, the Father Moss School has operated very effectively and has contributed a great deal to the educational advancement of the Indian children in the area. The Board has been able to attract a competent teaching staff, sympathetic towards Indian children and the school program has been organized to provide as many services as possible for Indian children. The fees paid to the Board are based on operating costs presented in a financial statement by a firm of chartered accountants. We are not involved in any of the financial difficulties Father Ferron appears to have gotten himself into with the provincial Department of Education.

Original Signed by  
R. F. BATTLE

R. F. Battle,  
Assistant Deputy Minister,  
(Indian Affairs).

Audit  
Report

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Ottawa P.S. intercom  
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File/Dossier

487/25-11-136

Vol. No./N <sup>o</sup> du vol.	3	S.I.N./N.A.S.	PARC No./DAP n <sup>o</sup>	H11
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Requested By/Demandeur par	FONG
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Address/Adresse	
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Date	Signature	Tel. No./N <sup>o</sup> de tél.
1981-04-23		

INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

**PAYMENT VOUCHER**

**PAY TO: THE ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT  
 DISTRICT OF SIOUX NARROWS**

**ADDRESS: Return cheque to Miss S. Trappitt,  
 Room 665A,  
 2-0215**

**SPECIAL**

INVOICE NO.	DATE	SERVICE	AMOUNT
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9-2-67

Payment in full re contribution towards  
 septic tank, Father Moss School, approved  
 by Asst. Deputy Minister, Dec. 22, 1966.

\$6,268.71

FILE NO. <b>129/25-11-136(E4)</b>	PURCHASE ORDER NO.
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VOUCHER NO.	SPECIAL COSTING CODE	RESPONSIBILITY CENTRE	ALLOTMENT	SUB ACTIVITY	SUB OBJECT	AMOUNT	CR	BATCH NO.
	879	131	350	2239	6299	6,268 71		

Requisitioned pursuant to Section 31 of the Financial Administration Act; and approved for payment subject to certification under Section 32 of the Financial Administration Act.

Certified pursuant to Section 32 of the Financial Administration Act. No item of this account has been previously certified.

DATE

AUTHORIZED OFFICER

9-2-67

DATE

AUTHORIZED OFFICER

• FOR TREASURY USE ONLY •

AUDITED	APPROVED	CHEQUE NO.
		FILE NO.

# MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION



TO  
A

Assistant Deputy Minister  
(Indian Affairs)

YOUR FILE No.  
Votre dossier

OUR FILE No.  
Notre dossier

129/25-11-136(E4)

DATE

February 8, 1967.

FROM  
De

Director, Education Services

FOLD

SUBJECT  
Sujet

Father Moss Joint School,  
Kenora Agency, Ontario

Attached for your signature are five copies of a Memorandum of Agreement covering a departmental contribution of \$6,268.71 towards the provision of a septic tank at the Father Moss School. This expenditure was approved by you in memorandum dated December 22nd, 1966.

  
R.F. Davey.

Attach.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT MADE THIS 8th DAY OF February 1967

BETWEEN:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN in right of Canada represented herein by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, hereinafter called "the Minister"

OF THE FIRST PART

AND

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF SIOUX NARROWS, in the Province of Ontario, hereinafter called "the Board"

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS the Roman Catholic Separate School Improvement District of Sioux Narrows (formerly known as the Sioux Narrows Board of Catholic School Trustees) in the Province of Ontario, has agreed in Memorandum of Agreement dated March 16th, 1964, to supply classroom accommodation necessary for the education of Indian children and to accept Indian children for enrolment in the Father Moss School.

AND WHEREAS the Board has carried out construction of a septic tank to meet the requirements of the Northwestern Health Unit, at a cost of \$9,297.41, and the Minister has agreed to pay 89/132 of the amount of this improvement, or \$6,268.71.

AND WHEREAS the Minister shall pay to the Board the sum of \$6,268.71 upon the execution of this agreement.

THIS MEMORANDUM is to be read with and attached to the Memorandum of Agreement dated March 16th, 1964.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have hereunto set their hand and seal and corporate seal respectively, the day and year first above written.

*M. McNaughton*  
.....  
Witness

*[Signature]*  
.....  
Assistant Deputy Minister (Indian Affairs)

*A. Mathias*  
.....  
Witness

*R. Mathias*  
.....  
Board Chairman

*[Signature]*  
.....  
Secretary-Treasurer.

Assistant Deputy Minister  
(Indian Affairs)

129/25-11-136(E4)

Director, Education Services

February 8, 1967.

Father Moss Joint School,  
Kenora Agency, Ontario

Attached for your signature are five copies of a Memorandum of Agreement covering a departmental contribution of \$6,268.71 towards the provision of a septic tank at the Father Moss School. This expenditure was approved by you in memorandum dated December 22nd, 1966.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
P. DEZIEL

R.F. Davey.

Attach.

TRAPPITT/



DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION  
 INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

**F. I. E. DOCKET SLIP**

*NOTE: This slip to be used for passing correspondence when the main file is charged out or is not required, and must not be removed but will be attached to the main file as soon as possible.*

SLIP NO.	FILE NO.
129 / 25-11-136	
SUBJECT OF FILE	

MAIN FILE ON CHARGE TO

*E-3 3-2-67*

REFERENCE				DISPOSAL			
REFERRED TO	BY	REMARKS	DATE	PA or BF	BY	DATE	FOR C.R. USE
<i>E10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>37458</i>	<i>7-2-67</i>				

**NOTE: If action cannot be taken without the file, please make statement to that effect and return paper to Central Registry.**

E10

# MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION



TO  
A  
Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa,  
Attn: Director, Education Division

YOUR FILE No.  
Votre dossier  
129/25-11-136 (E.10)

OUR FILE No.  
Notre dossier  
431/25-11-136 (E)

FROM  
De  
Superintendent of Schools, Toronto

DATE

2 February 67

SUBJECT  
Sujet  
Memorandum of Agreement - Septic Field - Father Moss School

We attach hereto five copies of Memorandum of Agreement, duly signed by representatives of the Sioux Narrows Separate School Board, for signature of Branch representatives.

We also attach a copy of memorandum from the District School Superintendent, Kenora, in which he outlines the procedure now followed with respect to this particular school board.

We trust that when the attached Memorandum of Agreement has been signed by Headquarters representatives, cheque will issue.

  
H.B. Rodane

Encl:  
mjm

c.c. District School Superintendent, Kenora

MP 1 11 26

E3  
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CENTRAL REGISTRY

FEB 7 2 59 PM '67

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Regional Superintendent of Schools,  
Toronto, Ontario.

431/25-11-136 (E)

431/25-11-136

District School Superintendent,  
Kenora, Ontario.

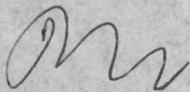
Jan. 25, 1967.

Memorandum of Agreement - Septic Field, Father Moss School

Enclosed please find five copies of Agreement indicated above.

These were forwarded by this office to Mr. Alex Beaudreau, at Department of Municipal Affairs, Room 5, 22 Cumberland Street, Port Arthur, Ontario.

He, in turn, forwarded them to the Separate School Board at Sioux Narrows for signature by the board chairman and the secretary-treasurer.



P. C. Clarkin.

/jj

Enc. 5



# MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION  
CONFIDENTIAL

TO  
A

Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa  
Attn: Director, Education Services

P.A. →

YOUR FILE No.  
Votre dossier

129/25-11-136 (E 10)

OUR FILE No.  
Notre dossier

431/25-11-136 (E)

DATE

18 January 67

FROM  
De

Superintendent of Schools, Toronto

FOLD

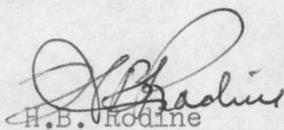
SUBJECT  
Sujet

Sioux Narrows Joint School

In reference to your memorandum of December 6th, I have made further specific inquiries and I attach herewith Mr. Clarkin's findings in the area of Sioux Narrows. Mr. Clarkin's report would tend to establish that the proposed amalgamation as envisaged by Reverend Father Ferron does not yet have total public acceptance.

In my opinion, any further amalgamation in this area must have the distinct co-operation of Catholic and Protestant parents, and also I believe it wise for us to wait until Manpower has clearly defined the direction in which it will go before the Branch would find itself involved in capital investment in an adult education or up-grading wing.

Be assured that this matter will not be dropped, but will be reviewed periodically to determine progress and trends.

  
H.B. Rodine

Encl:

CONFIDENTIAL -- To be opened only by Mr. H. B. Rodine

THE EDUCATION PICTURE AT  
SIOUX NARROWS, ONTARIO.

The account which follows can lay no claim to scientific validity because it reflects only value judgments of a segment of the adult population of Whitefish Bay Indian reserve; of members of the Public and Separate School Boards of Sioux Narrows; of Rev. Father Ferron, who is Catholic Missionary in the district.

I spent two days at Sioux Narrows, December 28 and 29, 1966, and did not choose to meet the School Boards as a body because I felt that a less formal setting might prove more effective for my purpose. I am personally acquainted with all the people I met. The result -- they spoke freely and, in some instances, with highly-charged emotion.

My first avenue of investigation was the finance situation as it exists in the Improvement District of Sioux Narrows. It was revealed that both commercial and home assessment for public school purposes was \$709,875.00 for the last fiscal year. The mill rate was struck at 29. For the separate school, the comparable figure was \$160,545.00, with a mill rate of 32.1. The separate school rate would, thus, barely pay the salary of one teacher. Of course, they recover a much higher amount by way of government grant to cover operational costs -- roughly 80 to 90 per cent as opposed to 50 to 60 per cent.

Discussion with members of the Public School Board showed that they were strongly opposed to any suggestions of taking over the facilities at Father Moss School. Their own school -- a three-room building with all classrooms filled -- is completely paid for. There are twenty-one Indian children in attendance and about seventy non-Indians. They have not taken any projection of school population as they feel that there will be no appreciable growth. Camp owners form the bulk of the adult group and that activity is past its peak with the advent of trailers. The free-spending tourist is now a rare specimen.

This Board has also the responsibility of busing twenty-two of their children to the high school in Kenora each day. Bus costs and tuition are costs that require careful budgeting.

The fear of being saddled with the debt of Father Moss School, added to the much lower contribution of the Provincial Government towards operational costs of public schools and the present set-up of the administrative body at that school are deterring factors.

It is almost an impossibility to estimate the demands that the Branch may make on this Board for the entrance of Indian children to their system. Many families are registered as Roman Catholic but they switch their allegiance almost willy-nilly. They elect to declare themselves as Catholic or Protestant depending upon their needs as the occasion requires.

The members of the Separate School Board whom I met estimated the worth of their holdings at Father Moss School at one-quarter of a million dollars. Several buildings under the name of the Diocesan Corporation have been built on their land. The Board has no share of ownership except the land on which they are built. From what I could gather, there exists no formal written agreement between the Board and the Corporation as to the use of this land and the disposition of the buildings or any revenue to be derived from them. Estimates varied from \$75,000.00 to \$100,000.00 regarding their worth. Utilities that serve these buildings are separate from Board-owned property although the accusation has been advanced of tapping-in on electrical and water supply. I did not think it advisable to pursue this aspect.

The school itself has about one hundred ten pupils. Of these, eighty-four are Indian children bused from Whitefish Bay and Sabaskong. A number of non-Indian parents have withdrawn their children because of this imbalance and the unsettled status of the school. Grades are I to VIII.

The quality of teaching has, during the last two school years, been rated as better-than-average by the Provincial Inspector of Schools. The standard among the high school pupils during 1965-66 was, as we know, below level and one of the factors involved in our abandoning the course for our Indian pupils. Six teachers are at present on staff. Word is that this will be reduced to four in September, 1967.

As regards growth of population -- the non-Indian group is stable for the reason advanced in the case of public school supporters. The Indian population will continue to grow at a rate of approximately two per cent. Whether the aims of integration will be realized with such a preponderance of Indian children

is a moot question. At any rate, the physical surroundings have much to offer that the reserve schools cannot equate.

I was rather curious about the existence of so many corporations -- Pawitik, Amik, Sabaskong. Father Ferron, with whom I had a lengthy visit, explained their need as instruments to involve the Indian people in the planning and operation of the complex as it exists and for future planning in the improvement of the reserves and the relocation of Indian families in a site close to the existing Father Moss School. His critics label them as gimmicks that enable him to borrow money and administer it without accounting to anyone. They contend that meetings are few and far between and that he dominates those that are held.

The Indian people to whom I spoke are much confused. I posed the question, "Do you think the school on the reserve should be closed?", to give our discussion a starting point. I could get no conclusive answer. The pros and cons regarding the joint school were explored. Again, Father Ferron had his supporters and his critics. One pointed out that he was willing to "give them the moon" and that "the Government" had lots of money and had to give it to them.

Getting back to my discussion with Father Ferron -- he spoke at some length of the possibilities for use of the facilities that exist for adult education. He envisages something similar to Quetico or Elliot Lake but with focus on skills that the Indian needs -- a center for building parts for pre-fabricated homes, a central machine-shop, a local guild of guides for fishing and hunting, a lumber mill owned and operated by Indians, co-ops in lumbering and fishing, a core of electricians and plumbers.

He was quite critical of the course under Program 5 being offered at this time to the people at Sioux Narrows. Lack of planning, lack of tangible goals, were his principal criticisms.

There are approximately one hundred seventy people in attendance. Of this, one hundred forty-two are Indians. There is potential for much good in this course, but from what I have seen and heard, I am inclined to agree with Father Ferron. The co-ordinator has told me that ninety-seven of those now in attendance will not be eligible for further courses after this year.

- 4 -

If this be so, the outlook for the future is rather dismal. An added complication is that Branch-sponsored courses will have little chance for success. These people are used to drawing generous allowances which we could not match. I am not aware of any suggestion having been offered for the Branch to take over the complex at Sioux Narrows. But if such be the case, I could not recommend that we enter into any such agreement. The following reasons come to mind:

- a) There would be duplication of services with existing facilities that are not being fully utilized.
- b) There would be a problem of liquidating debts to embark on a project that would be so costly that we would be spending money unwisely.
- c) The school population we could draw from is a nebulous one and too far removed from a big center where placement would be feasible.
- d) Few of our Indian population would adapt to urban living. Indeed, they are loath to leave the reserves.
- e) The problem of staffing would present great difficulty. The calibre of teacher in many of our day schools is evidence of this.

Submitted by P. C. Clarkin,  
District School Superintendent.  
January 11, 1967.

9/25

REGISTERED

Mr. H.B. Rodine,  
Regional Superintendent of Schools,  
Toronto, Ontario.

431/25-11-136(E)

129/25-11-136(E4)

Director, Education Services

February 14, 1967.

Father Moss School--Septic Tank

With reference to your memorandum of February 2nd, enclosed are three completed copies of Memorandum of Agreement together with a cheque for \$6,268.71 representing payment in full of the Branch's contribution towards septic tank facilities at the Father Moss School.

COPIES SIGNED BY  
R. TRAPPITT

R.F. Davey.

Enc

TRAPPITT/

CA

Mr. H. B. Rodine,  
Regional School Superintendent,  
Indian Affairs Branch,  
Medical-Dental Building, 2nd Floor,  
1849 Yonge Street,  
TORONTO 7, Ontario.

P. A. →

129/25-11-136 (E.10)

December 6, 1966.

Director, Education Services

Sioux Narrows Joint School

We are advised today by Father Ferron that there is some local interest in the regional school in the Sioux Narrows area which would take in Nestor Falls. How far they have gone with the negotiations, we are not sure. There is, as you know, some unrest and some dissatisfaction over the disbandment of the separate school board and it would seem that it has generated some discontent over the joint school arrangement both on the part of the Indians and the non-Indians. Apparently, there is some talk of building a new regional school to the south of Sioux Narrows and using the separate school as a training center. All of this information is, of course, second-hand and I think it would be advisable for you to either check with the Department of Education or with the local school superintendent to get a first-hand picture of the situation and to find out how we can resolve the current problems to the satisfaction of the Indians and non-Indians. Needless to say, the Branch is quite prepared to cooperate with the Department and the regional board in the creation of better schooling providing they are prepared to recognize our equity in the separate school.

I should appreciate a brief report on your findings.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
L. G. P. WALLER

R. F. Davey.

WALLER/rb

c.c. Mr. P. C. Clarkin,  
District School Superintendent,  
Kenora, Ontario.

129/25-11-136(E4)  
431/25-11-136(E)

Ottawa 4, December 30, 1966.

Mr. H.B. Rodine,  
Regional Superintendent of Schools,  
Toronto, Ontario.

Re: Father Moss Joint School,  
Sioux Narrows, Ontario

With reference to your memorandum of November 24th, 1966, approval has been obtained for the department to make a capital contribution of \$6,268.71 towards the provision of a septic tank at the above school. In this connection we are enclosing a Memorandum of Agreement and you will note that it has been drafted in favour of the Roman Catholic Separate School Improvement District of Sioux Narrows, which, according to your memorandum of December 9th, is the officiating party now.

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
S. R. TRAPPITT

R.F. Davey.

Attach.

TRAPPITT/

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT MADE THIS

DAY OF

196

BETWEEN:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN in right of Canada represented herein by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, hereinafter called "the Minister"

OF THE FIRST PART

AND

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT OF SIOUX NARROWS, in the Province of Ontario, hereinafter called "the Board"

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS the Roman Catholic Separate School Improvement District of Sioux Narrows (formerly known as the Sioux Narrows Board of Catholic School Trustees) in the Province of Ontario, has agreed in Memorandum of Agreement dated March 16th, 1964, to supply classroom accommodation necessary for the education of Indian children and to accept Indian children for enrolment in the Father Ness School.

AND WHEREAS the Board has carried out construction of a septic tank to meet the requirements of the Northwestern Health Unit, at a cost of \$9,297.41, and the Minister has agreed to pay 89/132 of the amount of this improvement, or \$6,268.71.

AND WHEREAS the Minister shall pay to the Board the sum of \$6,268.71 upon the execution of this agreement.

THIS MEMORANDUM is to be read with and attached to the Memorandum of Agreement dated March 16th, 1964.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have hereunto set their hand and seal and corporate seal respectively, the day and year first above written.

.....  
Witness

.....  
Assistant Deputy Minister (Indian Affairs)

.....  
Witness

.....  
Board