674/3-8

674/3-8 Vol: 1

VOL. NO. – VOL. NO	FILE NUMBER – DOSSIER NO
1	674/3-8
TO – À: 65 FROM – DE: 50	SUBJECT – SUJET: COMPLAINTS AND PETITIONS SASKATOON DISTRICT

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
	TRANSFERRED To P.A.R.C.						
	CLOSED VOLUME						
	See Vol. 2						
DLT 3-1-3	Reg	23-7-71	14	26-7-71		DLT 3-1-3	
	TRANSFERRED To P.A.R.C.						
	TRANSFERRED To P.A.R.C.						

CLOSED VOLUME
See Vol. 2

IAND 10-128 (12-68) 7530-21-023-9346

000002

RELATED FILES - DOSSIERS CONNEXES

FILE NUMBER – DOSSIER N°	SUBJECT – SUJET
1	
2	
3	
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INTRODUCTION

The REGISTRY is established to serve you but satisfactory service is largely dependent upon your prompt return of files. This file is charged to you and you are responsible for its return; unless you notify the Registry to transfer the charge to another person, the file will remain charged to you until it is returned. **If action cannot be taken within 48 hours B.F. File. Do not remove documents from the file, unless it is absolutely necessary for the proper conduct of any Division. If the paper is removed from file a sheet giving the nature of the paper withdrawn and stating where it is to be found should be placed on file in its stead.**

Particulars Re Use of File Cover

Column 1 – Shows the office or name of the person to whom the file is routed. (Office designation where the system is in use.)

2 – Shows the reasons for the routing, or the date and identification number of the letter on file requiring your attention. May be used for cancellation of B.F. by entering a referral minute to this effect.

3 – Shows the date on which the file is routed to the user.

4 – Provides for initials of the person routing or rerouting a file.

5 – Provides space for the user to enter the date of P.A. (put away) when action is completed.

6 – Provides space for the user to write the BF (bring forward) date, the date the user wishes the file to be brought back to him.

7 – Provides space for the user to initial the entry when a file is to be P.A.'d, B.F.'d.

8 – Provides space for the Registry to enter the date on which the file is returned to the Registry and inspected before being put away.

L'objet du SERVICE DES ARCHIVES est de servir, mais la qualité du service est liée au prompt retour des dossiers. Il incombe à la personne au nom de laquelle le présent dossier est inscrit, de la renvoyer au service des archives; a moins qu'elle n'avertisse le service d'inscrire le dossier au nom d'une autre personne, le dossier restera inscrit à son nom, tant qu'il sera en circulation. **Si l'on ne peut s'occuper du dossier dans les 48 heures, indiquer la date de rappel. Ne pas enlever de documents du dossier, à moins qu'une Division en ait absolument besoin pour mener à bien ses travaux. Remplacer tout document retiré du dossier par une feuille précisant la nature du document et indiquant le service qui le détient, jusqu'à ce qu'il soit de nouveau versé au dossier.**

Détails concernant l'usage de la chemise

Colonne 1 – indiquer le bureau ou le nom de la personne vers qui le dossier est acheminé. (La désignation du bureau qui a recours au système.)

2 – indiquer les raisons de l'acheminement ou la date et le numéro d'identification de la lettre au dossier dont le destinataire doit s'occuper. Peut servir à annuler une date de rappel, si l'on inscrit une note à cette fin.

3 – indiquer la date d'acheminement du dossier vers l'usage.

4 – réservée aux initiales de la personne acheminant ou réacheminant le dossier.

5 – réservée à l'inscription de la date de rangement par l'usager, lorsqu'il a fini du dossier.

6 – réservée à l'inscription de la date de rappel, à laquelle l'usager souhaite ravoir le dossier.

7 – réservée aux initiales de l'usager, lorsque le dossier fait l'objet d'un rangement, d'un rappel.

8 – réservée au service des archives pour y inscrire la date ou le dossier lui est renvoyé et ou il est examiné avant d'être rangé.

File No. 674/3-8 VOL. 1 CLOSED

CHARGE CARD

FLAGS

TO	DATE			BY	TO	DATE			BY	REQ'D BY	PER	DATE
DLT 3-1-3	23	7	71	14								

TRANSFERRED TO P.A.R.C.

CLOSED

INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

000004

IA-12

File

No.

CHARGE CARD

FLAGS

TO	DATE	BY	TO	DATE	BY	REQ'D BY	PER	DATE

INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

000005

IA-12

674/3-8

Vol. 1

Basement

OLT 3-1-3

Pr. 3.

DLS 3-1

Bloodvein-Dauphin River District

Bootenlead I.R. #14 - status of land,
station grounds - W. N. Railway.

111/3-8

MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION

TO
A

Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa

s.19(1)

YOUR FILE No.
Votre dossier

OUR FILE No.
Notre dossier
111/3-8(SP)

FROM
De

Regional Supervisor of Indian Agencies, Saskatchewan

DATE
July 14, 1965.

FOLD

SUBJECT
Sujet

Complaint from [redacted]
[redacted] - Muskeg Lake Band

This is further to our letter of June 24th, 1965, concerning [redacted]'s complaint about the behaviour of [redacted]

Mr. Woodsworth, Superintendent of the Shellbrook Indian Agency, has investigated this matter, and we attach his report of June 28th, 1965.

J.G. McGilp.

Attach.

CGSB—6GP22a PP&S Cat. No. 3591

0 4 2 4 0 3

MEMORANDUM

s.19(1)

CLASSIFICATION

TO
A

Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan.

YOUR FILE No.
Votre dossier

OUR FILE No. 111/3-8
Notre dossier

FROM
De

Superintendent, Shellbrook Indian Agency.

DATE June 28, 1965.

FOLD

SUBJECT
Sujet

Complaint from [redacted]
[redacted] Muskeg Lake Band.

I have been unable to determine if there is a basis for [redacted]'s complaints and complaints usually are feuds mostly involving words.

I have no doubt of extensive drinking problems in the reserve. Several weeks ago [redacted] was subject of a R.C.M.P. investigation for child neglect because she left her children for two days alone without food or care while she was drunk.

[redacted] may be taking revenge at [redacted] because of action of interested band members in bringing child neglect situation to our attention and that of R.C.M.P. At the time the R.C.M.P. expressed great concern over neglect case and said he was reporting facts to his superiors and our Department.

H. N. Woodsworth,
Superintendent.

HNW:gl

CGSB—6GP22a PP&S Cat. No. 3591

111/3-8

MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION

TO
A

Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa

s.19(1)

YOUR FILE No.
Votre dossier

OUR FILE No. 111/3-8 (RS1)
Notre dossier

FROM
De

Regional Supervisor, Sask.

DATE June 24, 1965

FOLD

SUBJECT
Sujet

Complaint from [redacted]
Muskeg Lake Reserve

Attached for your information is a copy of a complaint Superintendent Woodsworth received from [redacted] regarding [redacted] and [redacted] of the Muskeg Lake Band. By copy of this memorandum Supt. Woodsworth is being asked to look into this claim and advise if there is any basis for [redacted]'s complaint. You will be kept informed of further developments.

J. G. McGilp

Encl.

cc. Supt.,Shellbrook Agency

CGSB—6GP22a PP&S Cat. No. 3591

Text visible from previous page

s.19(1)

s.19(1)

June 14, 1965.

Dear Sir:

I got a complaint to make [redacted] and [redacted] come and rise hell at our place for no reason at all. They kick our door and broke it and window pain. At's the first time in my life [redacted]

The way it started this [redacted] left her children at our home and my husband didn't like it. He told [redacted] to take her kids out of their. So she turn around just like my husband wont let the kids go. She [redacted] and told him all the lies. At's the women is the one to blame for leaving kids one night last month. At's the women you got to check and [redacted]. We didn't get our relief yet from Saskatoon. [redacted] because he goes around with her. Drinking. You should come to Leask some time. The way they going around drinking every relief day. He always got a truck load with young boys drinking with them. And his wife their should be in the Beer Parlor. She nothing but a troubles maker. She hit me with a beer bottles on my head. And she cut me on the Head. At the time I call for R.C.M.P. and at the time they got my baby cold. And right to day where he is in the hospital. They were using all kinds of dirty words in front of the kids. They got the both doors wide open. He told us he [redacted] If you don't believe me, phone to R.C.M.P. in Blaine Lake. Some think has to be done. Last winter we suppose to get fire loads of wood. We only got three loads. And they got paid for five loads. And were not the only ones that short of wood. And they get away with it. We sooner help is own relation. What work to be done in the reserve. The first one's he gets is he's own brother's or he's dad. Even he told me that Dad was no good [redacted] and [redacted] are nothing but a bunch of killers. He didn't have to bring my relation up if he's mad with me. And another thing do you know we didn't go to any beer parlor. We can't. And [redacted] didn't use her relief the right way. The bought car, out of it because I know. If you won't to know more come over to Muskeg. Because I don't go around drinking with him at's why is mad with me. At's all he good for. Trying to take women around drinking.

From [redacted]

Ottawa 4, April 7, 1964.

1/19-2-10 (Adm.1)

P. A. [redacted] c.c. ~~109/2-8~~ 109/3-8.

Dr. H. B. Hawthorn,
Director,
Indian Research Project,
Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology,
The University of British Columbia,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Dr. Hawthorn,

I enclose herewith a copy of a report "Alcoholism and the Indian" which I thought might be of some interest and value to you.

As you will note, the report was prepared by Mr. F.R. Fraser, the Education Supervisor of the Bureau on Alcoholism of the Department of Social Welfare, Saskatchewan.

Yours sincerely,

J.D.D

J. D. Darling,
for Senior Administrative Officer.

JDD/sa

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

FALSE 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. 109/3-8

SUBJECT OF FILE

MAIN FILE ON CHARGE TO Adm 1 12/3/64

REFERENCE				DISPOSAL			
REFERRED TO	BY	REMARKS	DATE	PA or BF	BY	DATE	FOR C.R. USE
E	S		20/3/64	OA	[illegible]	7/4/64	

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

000015

IA 1-25

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

P.A.

TO : Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa

YOUR FILE No: 109/3-8 (W.5)

FROM : Regional Supervisor, Sask.

OUR FILE No: 109/3-8

SUBJECT: Conference on Alcoholism and the Indian

DATE: April 20, 1964

W5

As requested in your memorandum of April 15th, I am enclosing two additional copies of the report "Alcoholism and the Indian". (detached)

J. G. McGilp

Encl. 2

P.A.

CGSB Standard 6-GP-22; PP&S Cat. No. 3590

Regional Supervisor - Saskatchewan 109/3-8

P. A. → 109/3-8 (W.5)

Chief, Welfare Division April 15, 1964.

Conference on Alcoholism and the Indian

Thank you for the copy of the report of this conference sent under cover of your letter of March 17, 1964.

I have found the report interesting and informative and would be grateful if you would send me two additional copies.

Original signed by
R. D. RAGAN

W. Rudnicki.

DAG:ds

MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION

TO
A

Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa

YOUR FILE No.
Votre dossier 109/3-8

OUR FILE No.
Notre dossier 109/3-8
211/25-1
211/1-16

FROM
De

Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

DATE March 17, 1964

FOLD

SUBJECT
Sujet

This will refer to the Director's letter dated January 27th, and my report of February 18th.

I am enclosing two copies of a report entitled "Alcoholism and the Indian" prepared by the Education Supervisor of the Bureau on Alcoholism of the Department of Social Welfare in Regina. This is a report on the proceedings of a conference conducted under the auspices of I.N.H.S. in Fort Qu'Appelle November 8th, 1963. The conference was attended by Indian Affairs Branch and I.N.H.S. personnel, more than twenty Indians from various parts of the Region, and officials of the Department of Social Welfare.

Copies of this report are being distributed by us to each Superintendent in the Region, and to each Assistant. The Chief of each band will also receive a copy and Agency staffs are being asked to include parts of the report on the agenda of council meetings through 1964. It is hoped that councils and Agency staffs will discuss a part of the report each month and that this will lead to wider interest and attention being given to tackling alcohol problems on the reserve. Our aim is to stimulate the Chiefs and councils to exercise leadership and influence over the use of alcohol by members of their bands.

J. G. McGilp

J. G. McGilp

Encl. 2

See also
Sask Alcohol Education Council 211/25-1

000018

CGSB—6GP22a PP&S Cat. No. 3590

adm, 12/3/64

P.A. 1/3-8 (W.3)
C.O. 109/3-8

Ottawa 4, April 2, 1964.

Mr. H. David Archibald,
Executive Director,
Alcoholism and Drug Addiction
Research Foundation,
221 Elizabeth Street,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Archibald:

For some time, officers of this Branch have viewed with concern what appears to be a growing problem of excessive alcohol consumption on Indian reserves.

Mr. S.J. Bailey of this headquarters spoke briefly to Dr. Daley of your Foundation about this, and was advised that the latter's preliminary report of his recent research activities on Ontario reserves may be available soon. I would appreciate receiving this, for it will, I am sure, be helpful to us in planning and promoting a number of remedial measures on Indian reserves. Early receipt of Dr. Daley's report would be timely in this connection.

Although we expect that long-range socio-economic programs may have significant effects on the causative factors of excessive drinking, there may be a number of more immediate measures that might be taken. I am thinking, for example, of the possible effect that an educational campaign might have in schools and in Indian communities on the use and abuse of alcohol. I understand that your organization has had considerable experience in this field and I would be interested in knowing whether the services of your agency might be adapted to meet the needs of Indian people. If this possibility is a realistic one, it may be useful for representatives of our respective organizations to meet to review the means and potential costs of engaging your services on behalf of Indians.

. 2

I will look forward to receiving your comments on this tentative proposal and hope that there will be an opportunity to review the problems in more detail at a meeting.

Yours sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY
W. RUDNICKI

W. Rudnicki,
Chief, Welfare Division.

SJB:mp

DRAFT

[redacted]IAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

CANADA

DIRECTION DES AFFAIRES INDIENNES

MINISTÈRE DE LA CITOYENNETÉ ET DE L'IMMIGRATION

Ottawa 4, ~~March 31~~ April 2, 1964.

OUR FILE NO. 1/3-8 (W.3)
Notre dossier n°

Mr. H. David Archibald,
Executive Director,
Alcoholism and Drug Addiction
Research Foundation,
221 Elizabeth Street,
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Archibald:

For some time, officers of this Branch, ~~both here and in the field~~, have viewed with concern what appears to be a growing problem of excessive ~~drinking~~ alcohol consumption on Indian reserves. ~~throughout the country.~~

Mr. S.J. Bailey of this headquarters spoke briefly to Dr. Daley of your Foundation about this, and was advised that the latter's preliminary report of his recent research activities on Ontario reserves may be available soon. I would appreciate receiving this, for it will, I am sure, be helpful to us in planning and promoting a number of ~~what we hope will be a comprehensive community development program.~~ social programs. Early receipt of Dr. Daley's report would be timely in this connection.

Although we expect that long-range ~~community development~~ social programs may have significant effects on the causative factors of excessive drinking, ~~in due course,~~ there may be a number of more immediate measures that might be taken. I am thinking, for example, of the possible effect that an educational

This is, of course, a matter of concern that comes immediately within your area of competence. In view of this, I would appreciate hearing from you, or preferably, discussing the subject with you. It may be that we should plan a meeting of Executive Directors and other specialists from organizations similar to yours that are, I believe, established in most, if not all the Provinces.

campaign might have in schools and in Indian communities on the use and abuse of alcohol. ~~[illegible]~~

. 2

I understand that your organization has had considerable experience in this field and I would be interested in knowing whether the service of your organization might be adapted to meet the needs of Indian people. ~~[illegible]~~ 000021 possibility is a realistic one, ~~[illegible]~~ it may be useful for representatives

I would suggest that this matter needs to be reviewed and studied with care and a positive approach sought without further delay. Accordingly, any thoughts you have concerning this would be sincerely appreciated.

Yours truly,

W. Rudnicki,
Chief, Welfare Division.

of our respective organizations it would be worthwhile to review the [redacted] memo and potential costs of [redacted] engaging upon service on behalf of Indians.

[redacted]

I will look forward to receiving your comments on this tentative proposal and hope that there will be an opportunity to review the problem in more detail at a later meeting.

Yours sincerely -

ROUTE SLIP

PASS TO [redacted]

1. ~~W.~~ ✓
2. D. I. A.
3. ~~W3~~
4. W5 > information.

Date 16/3/64

Initials

C. & I. 48

CONFIDENTIAL

109/3-8 (W)

WM:sap

Ottawa, March 16, 1964.

MEMORANDUM TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER

Drunkenness Amongst Indians

I would like to bring to your attention the attached reports on the problem of excessive alcohol consumption among Indians. You will note that the Director of Medical Services has been writing to us about this, reporting among other things that he had to withdraw his staff from one of the reserves in Saskatchewan as a protective move against drunken Indians. A certain predilection for alcohol on the part of Indians is reported in all regions. As there are no indications at present that this problem is decreasing, it may be necessary to consider special remedial measures.

Related to the problem of excessive drunkenness on reserves is the high admission rate of Indians to jails and reformatories. It seems clear that both phenomena are symptomatic to some extent of depressed socio-economic conditions on many reserves, few recreational or other creative outlets and unfamiliarity with more acceptable drinking patterns. Many of these more fundamental social and economic problems are expected to be alleviated by new programs that are being planned or that have already been submitted for approval. These include the proposed community development program and a welfare plan which will bring a wide range of provincial casework and rehabilitation services to Indians.

Although these longer-range plans are expected to bring about dramatic improvements in the living conditions of Indians, some problems such as excessive alcohol consumption, seem to warrant more immediate measures. You will recall that several weeks ago, this Department sent a letter to the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources requesting the temporary secondment of their corrections expert. It was intended

. 2

originally that this officer take on the job of making a general survey of correctional institutions across the country to determine the actual extent to which Indian adults and juveniles are being jailed for various infractions including drunkenness. This survey was also expected to show whether provincial rehabilitative and probationary services are being adequately applied to Indian needs.

If you agree, and assuming Northern Affairs releases this officer to us, it would also be desirable if he took on the following additional tasks.

(a) This officer could look at the educational services that are provided by Alcoholism Foundations in each province to determine whether their programs could be extended to reserves. Most Foundations of this type are equipped to carry out educational campaigns in schools and in communities on the use and abuse of alcohol.

(b) If these preliminary discussions with Alcoholism Foundations are fruitful, a conference could be called with representatives of this agency from each province to map out a program of alcohol education and prevention in Indian schools and on the reserves and work out the costs of such a campaign. Provision for such a national campaign on Indian reserves could then be made in the next estimates.

Original Signed by
R. F. BATTLE

R. F. Battle,
Director.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MINISTER

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

TO: DATE 25 March 19 64

- [ ] MINISTER
- [ ] DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION
- [x] DIRECTOR OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
- [ ] DIRECTOR OF CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP
- [ ] REGISTRAR OF CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP
- [ ] DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES
- [ ] DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL DIVISION
- [ ] LEGAL DIVISION
- [ ]

ACTION:

- [x] FOR ACTION
- [ ] FOR DIRECT REPLY
- [ ] FOR REPLY AND SIGNATURE ON D.M.'S BEHALF
- [ ] FOR PREPARATION OF REPLY
  1. [ ] FOR D.M.'S SIGNATURE
  2. [ ] FOR ASSISTANT TO D.M.'S SIGNATURE
  3. [ ] FOR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT'S SIGNATURE
- [ ] FOR REPORT OR COMMENTS
- [ ] FOR SIGNATURE
- [ ] FOR INFORMATION
- [ ] TO NOTE AND RETURN
- [ ] TO NOTE AND PASS TO

NOTED BY D. I. A.

REMARKS:

000026

C. & I. 4 (REV. 5-63)

12-3

INDIAN AFFAIRS
BRANCH

OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

CANADA

109/3-8

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

Ottawa, March 16, 1964.

MEMORANDUM TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER

Drunkenness Amongst Indians

I would like to bring to your attention the attached reports on the problem of excessive alcohol consumption among Indians. You will note that the Director of Medical Services has been writing to us about this, reporting among other things that he had to withdraw his staff from one of the reserves in Saskatchewan as a protective move against drunken Indians. A certain predilection for alcohol on the part of Indians is reported in all regions. As there are no indications at present that this problem is decreasing, it may be necessary to consider special remedial measures.

Related to the problem of excessive drunkenness on reserves is the high admission rate of Indians to jails and reformatories. It seems clear that both phenomena are symptomatic to some extent of depressed socio-economic conditions on many reserves, few recreational or other creative outlets and unfamiliarity with more acceptable drinking patterns. Many of these more fundamental social and economic problems are expected to be alleviated by new programs that are being planned or that have already been submitted for approval. These include the proposed community development program and a welfare plan which will bring a wide range of provincial casework and rehabilitation services to Indians.

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. 2

originally that this officer take on the job of making a general survey of correctional institutions across the country to determine the actual extent to which Indian adults and juveniles are being jailed for various infractions including drunkenness. This survey was also expected to show whether provincial rehabilitative and probationary services are being adequately applied to Indian needs.

If you agree, and assuming Northern Affairs releases this officer to us, it would also be desirable if he took on the following additional tasks.

(a) This officer could look at the educational services that are provided by Alcoholism Foundations in each province to determine whether their programs could be extended to reserves. Most Foundations of this type are equipped to carry out educational campaigns in schools and in communities on the use and abuse of alcohol.

(b) If these preliminary discussions with Alcoholism Foundations are fruitful, a conference could be called with representatives of this agency from each province to map out a program of alcohol education and prevention in Indian schools and on the reserves and work out the costs of such a campaign. Provision for such a national campaign on Indian reserves could then be made in the next estimates.

R. F. Battle,
Director.

Approved
R.F.
23/3/64

noted with approval
[illegible]
18/3/64

Minister to see. Nothing for decision at the moment but interesting and important background

MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION

TO
A

Chief, Welfare Division

YOUR FILE No.
Votre dossier

OUR FILE No.
Notre dossier

109/3-8 (Adm.1)

DATE

March 9, 1964.

FROM
De

Senior Administrative Officer

FOLD

SUBJECT
Sujet

Excessive Drinking Amongst Indians

I refer to the correspondence attached hereunder concerning the problem of excessive drinking amongst Indians.

You will note that the Director, Medical Services, began this particular chain of correspondence and that we have requested and obtained a report from the Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan. The problem is, of course, found in all regions and does not appear to be diminishing in any.

It seems to me that some procedures ought to be established for tackling the problem in a positive way. There have been several suggestions including those put forward by Mr. McGilp. I note that Mr. Bailey made some recommendations in a memorandum dated January 20 on file 160/18-1. I also note that you commented on the question of alcohol education in your memorandum of November 7, 1963, on file 211/1-16-0.

If we can find some suitable courses or alternative courses of action, I suggest these should be the subject ~~to~~ of a circular to the field as soon as possible. We may only be able to suggest stop-gap measures at this time but I do think we should take some action.

May I have your comments, please.

C. I. Fairholm.

CGSB—6GP22a PP&S Cat. No. 3590

Chief, Welfare Division

109/3-8 (Adm.1)

Senior Administrative Officer

March 5, 1964.

Excessive Drinking Amongst Indians

I refer to the correspondence attached hereunder concerning the problem of excessive drinking amongst Indians.

You will note that the Director, Medical Services, began this particular chain of correspondence and that we have requested and obtained a report from the Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan. The problem is, of course, found in all regions and does not appear to be diminishing in any.

It seems to me that some procedures ought to be established for tackling the problem in a positive way. There have been several suggestions including those put forward by Mr. McGilp. I note that Mr. Bailey made some recommendations in a memorandum dated January 20 on file 160/18-1. I also note that you commented on the question of alcohol education in your memorandum of November 7, 1963, on file 211/1-16-0.

If we can find some suitable course~~s~~ or alternative courses of action, I suggest these should be the subject ~~to~~ of a circular to the field as soon as possible. We may only be able to suggest stop-gap measures at this time but I do think we should take some action.

May I have your comments, please.

C. I. Fairholm.

JDD/mm

j.o.

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

FALSE 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. 109/3-8

SUBJECT OF FILE

MAIN FILE ON CHARGE TO T 3-20/2

REFERENCE				DISPOSAL			
REFERRED TO	BY	REMARKS	DATE	PA or BF	BY	DATE	FOR C.R. USE
Adm	17		21/2				

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

000031

IA 1-25

MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION

NOTED BY D. I. A.

TO A: Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa

Adm

YOUR FILE No. Votre dossier: 109/3-8

OUR FILE No. Notre dossier: 109/3-8
211/25-1
211/1-16

FROM De: Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

DATE: Feb. 18, 1964

FOLD

SUBJECT Sujet: Alcohol Education

This will refer to the Director's letter of January 27th, 1964 regarding the withdrawal of the Public Health Nurse from the James Smith Indian Reserve in the Duck Lake Agency. The Superintendent has been asked to submit a report on the events which led up to Dr. Moore's decision to withdraw his nurse.

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There was continued correspondence on this subject which ended with the letter I received from the Chief of the Welfare Division, dated November 7th, 1963, on his file 211/1-16-0 (W.3).

To be brief:

(a) We require a formal adult education programme and I believe this would be best undertaken by the organization already carrying out this work in Saskatchewan, namely the Alcohol Education Council, and I recommend that the Branch be prepared to make a grant to the provincial Department of Education for this purpose.

... 2

CGSB—6GP22a PP&S Cat. No. 3590

T3-20/2

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(c) Through interdepartmental meetings and Band Council meetings, Superintendents are constantly bringing to the attention of all concerned the importance of influencing Indians and teaching them proper use of alcohol. At a workshop held in Ft. Qu'Appelle recently by Indian & Northern Health Services this subject was placed on the agenda. At the Leadership Training Course to be conducted at Ft. Qu'Appelle in March, the subject will also be included in the curriculum. Several reserves are being visited by members of the Alcoholics Anonymous group and some good work is being done.

(d) The Indian communities in this region where liquor is a serious problem are -

Kamsack, Pelly and Norquay, in the Pelly Agency
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North Battleford and Glaslyn, in the Battleford Agency
Duck Lake and the James Smith Reserve, in the Duck Lake Agency
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Lestock, Punnichy and Wadena, in the Touchwood Agency
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This list is not complete. Wherever Indian reserves exist close to small towns there is a problem group. Many Indians living on reserves near these small towns do not use alcohol or when they do, use it with moderation, but there is a section of the Indian population who very frequently get into trouble in which alcohol is the main factor. Wide publicity could erupt at any time ~~in~~ from any of the places mentioned, all of which cradle potentially explosive situations.

(e) While Agency Superintendents must marshall whatever resources are available to them to carry out education programmes, I am sure that excessive drinking is merely a manifestation of economic depression and frustration. A long term solution

...3

really calls for an up-grading of our economic development and community development programmes. I suggest this will come about when our Agency staffs can devote more time to this aspect of our work. Even then the problem will not be completely eliminated but I believe it can be brought into line with the non-Indian communities in the province. As an indication that this problem exists among non-Indians also, I am enclosing an editorial comment from the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix of February 8th, 1964.

J. G. McGilp

J. G. McGilp

Encl.

For a Centre on Alcoholism

There [illegible],000 alcoholics in Saskatoon, and so there is considerable interest in Alderman Jim Wedge's proposal concerning alcoholism. In a notice of motion in City Council recently, Mr. Wedge asked that they vote on a request to the provincial government to set up a centre on the university's Saskatoon campus.

The treatment and research centre would be complemented by a psychiatric research centre, and a minimum of 25 beds for treating alcoholic patients. The university location is the logical one because the University Hospital and the medical college are there. Research on alcoholism, already established, could be expanded there, too.

Noting the inadequate facilities for treating alcoholics at the city's three hospitals, Mr. Wedge has made an impressive case for the centre he seeks. His motion merits careful consideration when it comes up in council later this month, and it is difficult to see any valid objection to the proposal.

Alcoholism is a grave social problem, a blight on the victims and their families. In recent years, an enlightened view of the alcoholic has developed. This attitude has been due to the activities of Alcoholics Anonymous, and to the recognition of alcoholism as a compulsive disease.

Editorial Note

Barmen working long hours in night clubs have complained that they cannot stand listening to Twist and Rock 'n' Roll all night long. Paul Pacini has supplied his bartenders with earphones through which they can listen to music of their choice. Their favorite composer: Mozart. Drinks are now coming out much smoother.—*Journal Montreux.*

Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa

109/3-8

109/3-8
211/25-1
211/1-16

Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

Feb. 18, 1964

Alcohol Education

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Encl.

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

FALSE 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. 1/18-6

SUBJECT OF FILE

MAIN FILE ON CHARGE TO Adm 22/1/64

REFERENCE				DISPOSAL			
REFERRED TO	BY	REMARKS	DATE	PA or BF	BY	DATE	FOR C.R. USE
Adm	S		10/2/64				

NOTE: If action cannot be taken without the file, please make statement to that effect and return paper to Central Registry. 000039

IA 1-25

1/18-6

DEPARTMENT OF
NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

CANADA

MINISTÈRE DE LA
SANTÉ NATIONALE ET DU BIEN-ÊTRE SOCIAL

Adm

Ottawa 4, Ontario
February 6, 1964.

Dear Mr. Battle:

Thank you for your reply to my letter regarding problems of drunkenness among Indians and its effect on medical staff.

We appreciate your offer to support us whenever possible. The most recent incident was an attack on a doctor at the Lady Willingdon Hospital by an Indian who, while drunk, had fractured his ankle and saw fit to disagree with the doctor's treatment and assaulted him. He was fined $50 and costs in Brantford Police Court.

For your information I am going to have my secretary extract from field nurses' monthly reports, comments that reach us from across the country on the subject of liquor abuse by Indians and its consequences to families on reserves.

Yours very truly,

P. E. Moore, M.D., D.P.H.
Director,
Medical Services.

Mr. R. F. Battle,
Director
Indian Affairs Branch,
Department of Citizenship &
Immigration,
Ottawa.

M101

000040

adm 22/1/64

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

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NOTE: If action cannot be taken without the file, please make statement to that effect and return paper to Central Registry. 000042

IA 1-25

1/18-6

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF
NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO
OUR FILE No.

Adm

Ottawa 4, Ontario
February 7, 1964.

Dear Mr. Battle:

Enclosed you will find the extracts from Nurses' Reports on drunkenness on the reserves, which I mentioned in my letter of February 6. These extracts have been collected during the period July 1962 and October 1963. I do not suggest that this is a complete list of references to drinking on the reserves, but it will serve to illustrate some of the problems occasioned by excessive drinking among Indians.

Yours very truly,

P. E. Moore, M.D., D.P.H.
Director,
Medical Services.

Mr. R. F. Battle,
Director,
Indian Affairs Branch,
Citizenship & Immigration,
Ottawa, Ontario

M101-enc

Further reports will be extracted & forwarded.

N.H. & W. 200

DRUNKENNESS

Lac La Ronge

"The two clinics held in La Ronge this month were very poorly attended. In both cases the parents were at home consuming large quantities of liquor while their children were running loose on the reserve. I can imagine any money that has been earned thus far, in most cases has been used for such purchases. I have been undecided as to whether home visits is the only thing to do but again most homes are in a similar drunken quandry." ... Departmental Nurse, Report July, 1962.

Fort a la Corne

" I am beginning to get the hang of finding parents - I start at the beer parlours first and more often than not, I do not have to go any farther." .... July Report 1962

Shellbrook Health Unit

" One day I feel they are making a step forward, the next you see the almost impossible. Drinking always seems to be involved". Departmental Nurse Report, July, 1962.

Pikangikum Nursing Station

" I would like to draw attention to the Pikangikum Nursing Station report for May 1962, where the nurse stated that on her monthly visit to Red Lake she happened to go there on a day when the Family Allowance cheques were received. She was not able to do any work amongst the Indians as all the adults were drunk. Is I.A.B. in Ottawa aware that this is a general happening throughout this Zone, and that the practice of giving money to the Indians results in drunkenness with the resultant neglect in every way of their children."

Fort a la Corne

" I am becoming rather tired of making home visits only to find the parents away and the children in most cases cared by a ten year old. One mother stopped me on the street in town to inform me that her son needed his last needle and that I was to feel free to give it even if she wasn't at home. Which, by the way has been all summer.... The Priest at Beardy's is hoping to keep the people out of the local Beverage rooms by putting a Pool Table and a T.V. set in the community hall on the reserve. This man has a great influence on the people and I am hoping to see some improvement."

Departmental Nurse Report, August 1962.

Shellbrook Health Unit, Sask.

" ... two families living in two rooms with a total of 14 children, and both mothers away at the same time on a bit of a "toot". ... This mess is no one's fault but the parents themselves as they have been given many opportunities."

Departmental Nurse's Report for August, 1962

Pelican Lake

... I did not visit around the homes because there is considerable drinking going on. It is a pity that at ten in the morning, most of the adults are inebriated. The Agent had difficulty with them, so I will not go visiting them alone."

s.19(1)

DRUNKENNESS - (2)

Saskatchewan Region

Monthly reports from nurses continue to reflect the abuse of alcohol in all areas. Some are even a bit apprehensive about the attitude of drunken women they enoounter in house visits. Usually it is the attention of inebriated males which is disconcerting but the resentment flaring up from female members of Indian households perhaps is an indication that these particular people have not been too happy, under the surface, with "interference" in their health habits.

August and September Reports 1962

Blackfoot Indian Hospital

[redacted] ... a drunken brawl took place at her house on the night of Sept. 7-8, 1962, apparently started by [redacted] who struck her husband when he suggested she go to bed, in the early hours of Saturday, Sept. 8. She also stabbed another member of the party, causing injuries requiring the attention of a doctor.

Both she and her hus band were seen at home, still drunk, at 7:30 a.m. when she should have been at work. At this time she was seen to be suffering from the effects of the carousal, and was in no condition to carry out her duties. She was treated in hospital for a cut on the face.

A INHS 8321, Sept.24,1962

Hazelton Health Centre

There is a great deal of beer drinking going on openly since the natives are taking it into the reserves now. One man shot himself (?) as an aftermath of a drinking episode. He is at present in Terrace hospital.

July Report, 1962

Tofino Health Centre

I have been informed by a councillor on one reserve that there is a large quantity of liquor purchased and consumed with the result that some of the men are unable to get out for fishing the next morning.

E. Barrett, R.N. July, 1962 Report

Port Simpson Health Centre

[redacted] age 23 (Drowning - fell off boat when drunk.

Nurse's Report for July '62

Kamloops Health Centre

[redacted] inebriated, dragged children [redacted] around town from one when I saw her to about 10 p.m. when I sent her home.

DRUNKENESS - (3)

Pikangikum Nursing Station

Drinking is one of the biggest problems in Red Lake. Many of the people spend a good deal of their time in the Kenora jail. Quite a number of the children are left on the street but fortunately are picked up by police and cared for by the Children'sHome.

Nurse's Report August 1962

Pikangikum Nursing Station

The monthly visit to Red Lake was not very successful because it coincided with payment of Family Allowance and consequently a large number of the Indians were drunk. I paid a visit to the school to give immunizations also visited most of the pre-schoolers. At least three women had black eyes resulting from fights when drinking.

Nurse's Report, May 1962

Chippewa Hill Health Centre

We have had six tragic deaths so far this year due to alcohol. Three hit by cars; one due to drowning from a fall into a well; one beaten to death; one stabbed and died on the operating room table.

Nurse's Report, September 1962

Shellbrook Health Centre, Sask.

.... Again, children are being neglected through drinking.

Nurse's Report, Sept. 1962

Punnichy Health Centre

The drinking problem on this Reserve is dreadful.

Nurse's Report, October 1962

Dawson City Health Centre

David Adams, drowned in ditch half filled with water, presumably intoxicated.

Nurse's Report, Sept. 1962

Pikangikum

Drunkenness appears to be increasing in Poplar Hill.

Nurse's Report, October 1962

Kamloops Health Centre

Assaulted by inebriated Indian women - from Kamloops Reserve in front of office. Incident reported to Agent. No great damage done physically.

Nurses' Report, September 1962.

s.19(1)

Sioux Lookout Health Centre

... We were holding a clinic. A man, his wife and children came in from Ferland for the day. The children were never brought to the clinic as the couple proceeded to get quite drunk. At about 10:30 p.m. the woman who was, apparently, quite unsteady on her feet by this time, slipped and fell, sustaining a wrist fracture. I gave her first aid at Armstrong station and sent her to Sioux Lookout Indian Hospital. Meantime, her husband became quite argumentative and wanted to know who was going to look after the children.

Departmental Nurse's Report, Sept.1962

Sardis Health Unit

[redacted] left home because her husband abused her. Two children [redacted] and [redacted] years leftwith grandmother. I am inclined to think they are not getting too good care as there is considerable drinking on the reserve.

Departmental Nurse's Report, Sept.1962

Sardis Health Unit

[redacted] live on [redacted] Chilliwack, B.C. This family seems to be having some marital trouble complicated by alcohol. The home is always a filthy mess; on one instance the children, it is known were left without an adult being present for quite a few hours(member of Indian Affairs reported this to Welfare, I believe). This month [redacted] said they were forced to leave home for a few days because [redacted] was drinking; she said the children do manage to get to school regularly.

Departmental Nurse's Report, Oct.1962

North Battleford, Sask.

... at the time the mother commenced labour, her husband attempted to find a man with a car to transport her to hospital, but it being Sunday morning, he said that the men with cars in working order on the reserve were all too drunk to be trusted to take her to hospital so she was delivered at home by native midwives. This is an estimate of the increase in drinking going on on this reserve. The situation is comparable on the others.

Departmental Nurse's Report, Nov.1962

Alexis Creek, B.C.

Teachers noticed lack of new clothes when children returned to school. Usually the majority have new clothes at the beginning of the session. This is attributed to the ihcrease in the drinking habits of the natives since the granting of liquor rights at the beginning of June, and consequently the children are suffering.

Departmental Nurse's Report, Oct. 1962

Pikangikum

Some living conditions deplorable, drinking is a serious problem - children are frequently left in the street while parents drink or are taken to jail.

Departmental Nurse's Report, October 1962

INDIAN WOMEN COME TO TRAGIC END ON SKID ROAD

VANCOUVER (CP) - The coroner's jury found that the death of a once-pretty, 26 year old Indian woman was "unnatural and homicidal." The coroner said it was a typical case history of the tragedy of Indian women who venture into Vancouver's ugly corner known as Skid Road.

Irene James Ruth, who left an Indian reserve at Alert Bay when she was 19, was found dead in a cheap rooming house Dec. 17 after fight with another woman there.

Evidence given the coroner's jury showed she left the reserve after first tasting liquor at 19. In the succeeding years she had given birth to an illegitimate child, had become an alcoholic and had a record of recurring serious illnesses.

'Tolerate Problem'

Coroner Glen McDonald, a lawyer, commenting on the drunken fight blamed for the woman's death, said. "The problem of these girls has been so neglected that it is now tolerated in our community." It was apparent that society "didn't really care" what happened to them.

He said that while civic officials talk of a cleanup of Vancouver's physical slums "nothing is done to clean up the human slum - a deeper and more terrible tragedy than tenement houses."

Coroner McDonald told the jury that in 1962 a total of 1,587 women were arrested for being intoxicated in a public place and of these 507 or 32 per cent were B.C. native Indian women who through neglect, abuse by men and general degeneration come to think only of liquor.

The jury recommended that a study be made of "the serious social problem" by a commission drawn from all the levels of government.

Week of Jan.7-12, 1963

Muskeg Lake, Sask.

... the children have high temperatures and terrible sounding coughs. They look real ill. The heavy drinking of a few parents is certainly showing in their families. It is pathetic.

Departmental Nurse's Report, Nov. 1962

Big Cove Health Centre, N.B.

Death - Noel Nilliea - age 43 condition believed by Dr. Dysart in Moncton, N.B. to have been caused by drinking of alcoholic beverages over long period of time. (Past 6 months patient had been drinking daily.

Departmental Nurse's Report, Dec. 1962

Prince Albert Zone Report

Break in at Fort a la Corne Nursing Station. Two local young hoodlums in an intoxicated condition broke the glass on rear door and gained entrance - strictly a case of vandalism and disheveling things generally for "kicks". Culprits apprehended and charges laid. Now in Prince Albert jail.

November 1962

Alert Bay Health Centre

.... relatives had delivered the baby. Mother refused to come to hospital ... Mother attended a drunken brawl given by her parents. One day later she died of delayed post partum hemorrhage.

Departmental Nurse's Report, Nov. 1962

Shellbrook Health Unit

..... We have had one death in Whitefish. Have had no details but believed frozen to death. If our very cold weather continues, there will be more as drinking on all Reserves has increased so much. ...

Departmental Nurse's Report, Dec. 1962

Yukon Zone

The Zone Superintendent and other members of a discussion group on "Alcoholism Among the Indians" have submitted a brief to the Commiss ion inquiring into a revision of Liquor Legislation in the Yukon. This 'brief" has recommended equal rights for Indians and Whites, but withdrawal of the fortified cheap wines from the Yukon and more rigid control of drinking establishments.

Zone Superintendent's Report, Dec. 1962

s.19(1)

DRUNKENNESS - (6)

The Pas, Manitoba

... Mrs. Hagar Stevenson was found frozen to death on the path across the river. She was in town since early afternoon, apparently drinking when last seen.

Departmental Nurse's Report, Dec. 1962

Walpole Island, Ont.

... Dr. Kenrick, coroner for Lambton County promounded Mr. Sabine Williams dead. The possible cause of death being violence during a quarrel with [redacted] resulting from a drinking spree.

Reported by Miss MacRae, N.I.C.
file 150-1-A40

Okanagan Agency, B.C.

.... A meeting was held on Feb. 25, 1963 to discuss with the Chief and the Chief and Council and forty Band members the problem of excessive drinking in the area. Excessive drinking not only on the Reserve but extended into the community ...

Kamloops Health Centre, Miss Mooney
March 11, 1963

Sardis Unit, B.C. (Skwah Reserve(

[redacted] - There is an alcoholic problem in this home -- the parents and two older boys mainly. The parents joined the A.A.'s once but could not make a go of it, so ended up in jail for ten to fifteen days each. When [redacted] came out of jail they started drinking and were on a spree which lasted for many days. Everyone on the reserve spoke of the [redacted] situation and asked if anything was being done to help the children.

[redacted] - [redacted] and [redacted] now live off Skwah Reserve and are taking care of four of [redacted] siblings who were apprehended by the Provincial Social Welfare. The family seem to be quite happy off the reserve and away from the drinking problem of their former neighbours.

[redacted] spoke of the liquor problem becoming worse -- mentioned home brew as well as liquor being brought in.

s.19(1)

DRUNKENNESS (7)

Katzie Reserve

".... some of the school children not attending school too regularly -- the family causing the greatest concern being the [redacted] family - alcoholic parents, poor housing, large family."

Seabird Island

"Alcohol is becoming a problem, or people are at least becoming aware that it is a problem on Seabird Island Reserve. Father Powers has started a small spiritual group who have sworn to stop drinking completely in order to be members. .... The Alcoholism Foundation has been invited to have a meeting at Seabird Island early next month.

Representatives from the Alcoholism Foundation of B.C. were guests at one meeting, showing two films, and held a question and answer session. The average attendance was 25 adults and a few teenagers. Pamphlets dealing with individual problems were made available to anyone wishing to take them. The group attending seemed quite interested and many others expressed interest.

(Mrs.) M. E. Dow, R.N.
March 1963

Pukatawagan, Man.

... "Friday morning many of our Indians decided to go back on their trapline while there was still some snow so as to ease their means of getting there. ... On Saturday night, in spite of the chief and nurse's calls many were unable and others refused to come because they weredrunk. The next morning they still did not feel much better and preferred their beds. There were only 380 X-Rays taken when the technicians left by train in the morning.

Sister Matilda, R.N.
Nursing Station, Pukatawagan
Apl. 30, 1963

Alert Bay, B.C.

... Seven drowned on the way home from Alert Bay. Left 4 children with no parents and broke up two other families. Mother from one missing and father from another. Rumours have it that part of their relief money was spent on liquor and the weather was very bad that day. .....

R. A. Hurley
April 1963.

s.19(1)

DRUNKENNESS - (8)

Aklavik Nursing Station

... Emergency charter with the Medical Student coming over for a boy who had been mistaken for a rat and shot, fortunately not too seriously, and another young man who had been badly beaten up in one of the many drinking parties which have been going on lately. There is too much money around town from rat hunting which is being spent on liquor, and giving plenty of work for the Police and Nurse. ...

Departmental Nurse's Report May 1963.

Saskatchewan Region

.... Abuse of alcohol is reported over and over again from field units. Indians themselves are attacking it in some places. There is an Indian A.A. group in Regina and another has been formed on a Pelly Agency reserve at Kamsack, supported by a non-Indian group.

Dr. T. J. Orford's Report May-June 1963

Kamloops Health Centre

.... Clinic at Shulus, 9 people came including one drunk [redacted]. [redacted] left home yesterday. Looked all day for the children finally saw them with [redacted] born [redacted] wandering around the streets while [redacted] was in beer parlour. Drove the three home.

.... Home visits to Shulus re Heaf clinic Monday - 13 adult male and female intoxicated. Left for Kamloops in disgust.

.... [redacted] wife complained that [redacted] was drinking a lot, that he had a chance to take but had not taken any job. He is failing to support his family adequately.

Departmental Nurse's Report, May 1963.

Alert Bay Health Unit

Steven Wamis passed away. Caught pneumonia after celebrating [redacted] by a two day drinking spree. He has been warned many times that he shouldn't drink with a bad heart such as he had. Indian Affairs had just ordered leather craft tools so that he could earn a little money for buying clothes, etc. He left a young wife and three children.
.... the problems we face through drinking in our area. Village Island had a drunken brawl the night before we arrived. Results - black eyes, severe cuts which hadn't been attended to. The majority of them being teenagers, 12 years and up. At New Vancouver two of the sets of parents had gone out and left all their pre-school children alone while they went to town to drink up their family allowance.

Departmental Nurse's Report, May 1963.

s.19(1)

Meadow Lake, Sask.

... Went to Joseph Bighead's with intention of giving them Dipth. shots but every one too drunk and too disinterested to give them.

Treaty at Joseph Bighead reserve 131 x-rayed, all but children were drunk on Lemon extract - very sad state of affairs.

Treaty at Meadow Lake- 147 x-rayed. Those drunk were still more sensible than those at Joseph Bighead.

It would be hoped that the better standard of living, salarywise, encountered by these people going to work in the beet fields would have some helpful lasting effect on them in that they might try working to improve their own homes and improve their living conditions and increase their earned wages rather than welfare and a life of leisure in their filth and apathy. However, I am of the opinion that this is too much to ask at present. Anything earned beyond basic living expenses will no doubt be spent on boose making possible wilder parties, even more neglected children and general health conditions.

Field Nurse's Report May 1963.

Big Cove, Kent Co., N.B.

Health Committee and Nurse assisted [redacted] and Children's Aid for placing neglected children of two families due to neglect and parents fighting and drinking and leaving children uncared for.

Nurse's Report, June 1963.

Little Grand Rapids, Man.

Indians off fire fighting. They are all delighted as they told the warden, this means lots of money for beans and yeast. We have had one drowning this month, a two-year old. The chief told me that when he was called to the house he found both parents drunk, but the story he told the R.C.M.P. was different. Verdict, accidental death.

Nurse's Report, July, 1963

Little Grand Rapids, Man.

Fire fighting more or less at a standstill, the money is going on beans and yeast, as usual and on any given day three-quarters of the Reserve will be drunk. The R.C.M.P. have not been in this month, so even that measure of control is absent. Until some way is found to control drinking up here, these people will make no progress. Fifty-one year old woman having 11th child went into labour prematurely, reportedly while drunk. Died a few hours after the birth of the child, which is alive and well.

Nurse's Report, September 1963

Brandon Health Centre

.... Car accidents and beatings as a result of alcohol seem to be on the increase. There has also been an increase in the number of neglected children, probably for the same reason.

Nurse's Report, October 1963.

Globe & Mail, Jan 17/64

Indian Council Asks Manitoba For Help With Liquor Problem

Churchill, Man. (CP) — The 52-member Churchill Indian and Metis Council has sent a letter to Premier Duff Roblin asking for help in solving problems, mostly associated with drinking.

The Council was formed a year ago in this seaport town on Hudson Bay, 610 miles north of Winnipeg.

The letter follows:

"We are writing you because we do not know what to do. There are many Cree, Chipewyan and Eskimo people who drink up here.

"The jail gets so packed with people that they sometimes cannot lay down. The men and women are in the same room and the toilet is out in the open.

"**When our people** go to court there are no interpreters and they do not know what they should do or say, even if they did understand English.

"The only time we are treated like white men is when we are fined. Some of our people cannot pay their big fines and are sent to jail. It would be good if our people could all be sent out during the winter months because some of the jails in the south are warm, have clean beds, three meals a day and TV.

"The only other time we get favors from the white man is during election time. This is usually in the form of food, booze or money.

"**The RCMP wait** outside the beer parlors and pick up our people who are drunk. Many times they are handled roughly and most of our people feel they are treated rotten. There are lots of things going on in Churchill worse than drinking but nobody does anything about it.

"Our people were happy before the white man came. Our people drink because others drink around them day after day, year after year and they do not know what to do or where to go."

The Indian and Metis Council is made up of people of native origin and emerged after a provincial community development officer moved here.

109/3-8 (Adm.1)

JD/em

Ottawa 4, January 27, 1964.

Dr. P. E. Moore, D.P.H.,
Director, Medical Services Directorate,
Department of National Health and Welfare,
Booth Building,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Dr. Moore:

I have your letter of January 15 concerning the subjection of your staff on some reserves to abuse by Indians under the influence of liquor.

I am most disturbed by reports of this kind and certainly agree that action must be taken to meet the problem where it exists. For our part, we shall undertake to pin-point the areas where there is serious misuse of liquor and see what can be done to improve the situation.

Apart from the inquiries we shall be making of our field staff, I would appreciate being kept informed of any trouble areas that may continue to come to your attention.

Yours sincerely,

R. F. Battle,
Director.

109/3-8(Adm.1)
JD/em

Ottawa 4, January 27, 1964.

Mr. J. G. McGilp,
Regional Supervisor of Indian Agencies,
Saskatchewan Regional Headquarters,
Federal Building,
Corner 1st Ave. & 22nd Street,
SASKATOON, Saskatchewan.

Dear Mr. McGilp:

I attach herewith photocopies of a letter received at this headquarters from Dr. P. E. Moore, Director, Medical Services Directorate, concerning the subjection of his staff on some reserves to abuse by Indians under the influence of liquor.

This is a most serious problem and one which we should try to help overcome in any way we can. I think we should begin by pin-pointing those reserves where there is serious misuse of liquor and try and enlist the support of band councils and band members generally. It may be necessary also to bring together Health Services staff, our staff, the R.C.M. Police, and the Band Council to try and work out solutions. Health Services staff in these meetings can make it clear to the residents of the reserve that continued abuse of those providing services may have serious consequences. Any decision to withdraw resident medical services would be a matter for the Medical Services Directorate.

There have been various efforts made to improve the situation wherever the liquor problem has been of serious proportions. I also know that some success has been achieved, particularly where band councils have taken an active part in promoting educative measures. Nevertheless, the problem continues to persist in many areas and will require concerted effort to overcome.

I would appreciate receiving from you a list of those Indian communities in your region where liquor is a serious problem;

... 2

a summary of any recent efforts made to overcome the problem in these communities; information regarding the type of liaison maintained (if any) between Agency Superintendents, Medical Services personnel, and band councils; and your recommendations as to what might be done further to meet the liquor problem.

I would also appreciate receiving a separate report regarding the difficulties experienced by the Medical Services nurse at Fort a la Corne and would ask that the Agency Superintendent discuss the situation with the Band Council to see if anything can be done to improve matters there.

Yours sincerely,

R. F. Battle,
Director.

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

FALSE 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. 109/3-8

SUBJECT OF FILE

MAIN FILE ON CHARGE TO W2 17-1

REFERENCE				DISPOSAL			
REFERRED TO	BY	REMARKS	DATE	PA or BF	BY	DATE	FOR C.R. USE
Adm	25	023011	20-1-64				

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

000059

IA 1-25

109/3-8

DEPARTMENT OF
NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

CANADA

MINISTÈRE DE LA
SANTÉ NATIONALE ET DU BIEN-ÊTRE SOCIAL

850-2-4 (M10)

Adm

Ottawa 4, Ontario
January 15, 1964

Director,
Indian Affairs Branch,
Citizenship & Immigration,
Ottawa, Ontario

Would better get response from the Council
DIA

Dear Sir:

Drunkenness on Indian Reserves has reached a point where some drastic action has to be taken. I am not going to attempt to keep nurses residing on reserves where they are subjected to abuse and, as was recently reported to your office, to physical violence by drunken Indians.

The latest episode that was brought to my attention occurred at Fort a la Corne, Sask. where an attempt was made to steal the nurse's personal car and the departmental car as well.

One of the culprits, although there was probably more than one involved has been charged with an attempt to steal a car. This same person, last July broke into the Nursing Station while the nurse was away and had the temerity to ring the R.C.M.P. and tell them what he had done, using the Nursing Station telephone, but no charge was laid against him. The report stated that the amount of unchecked violence and drinking on the reserve has reached a point where no decent person can live in peace. We have a male nurse there but he states he will not stay any longer because of the abuse his wife is subjected to from the Indians.

In this instance this Band paid $25,000 of their Band Funds into the Nursing Station and they

WR 17-1

seem to think that for this reason they own, body and soul, the people that live in it.

I am withdrawing our staff from this Nursing Station and we will cover it from Prince Albert with a visiting nurse once or twice a week.

As far as the building is concerned it could be made available to the Band for an Old Folks' Home if they were prepared to take it over and staff it, and would make a room available for a clinic when the doctor or nurse visits the Reserve.

I think the time has arrived when Indian Superintendents should inform Band councils where this type of thing is going on, that it will certainly result in withdrawal of at least resident medical services.

We will appreciate any co-operation or assistance that your staff can give in meeting this difficult problem which seems to be becoming more widespread.

Yours very truly,

P. E. Moore, M.D., D.P.H.
Director,
Medical Services.

M101

MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION

TO
A

Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa

Adm 1

YOUR FILE No.
Votre dossier
109/3-8

OUR FILE No.
Notre dossier
109/3-8

FROM
De

Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

DATE
March 3, 1964

FOLD

SUBJECT
Sujet

This will refer to the Director's letter of January 27th.

On February 18th I submitted an interim reply on the misuse of alcohol among Indians in the region. I am now enclosing a report from the Superintendent of the Duck Lake Agency which refers to the questions asked by our Director as a result of the letter received at Headquarters from Dr. Moore, the Director of Medical Services.

I have little to add to the very complete report submitted by Superintendent Kohls. The James Smith Band are unlikely to suffer in any way now that the Public Health Nurse has been withdrawn from the reserve and stationed in Prince Albert. Just as Indian Affairs personnel have been progressively withdrawn from reserves in the region and carry out their duties in offices located in non-Indian centres near the reserves, I.N.H.S. have been pursuing the same policy for some time. It is, of course, regrettable that the reason for taking the nurse from the reserve at this time is the misconduct of certain members of the James Smith Band.

J. G. McGilp

J. G. McGilp

Encl.

cc. Supt., Duck Lake Agency

CGSB—6GP22a PP&S Cat. No. 3590

Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan 109/3-8

s.19(1) Superintendent, Duck Lake Indian Agency 109/3-8-4

Liquor - James Smith Band Feb. 26, 1964.

This will acknowledge your memorandum of February 18, 1964 together with the Department's letter of January 27th dealing with the withdrawal of the Public Health Nurse from the James Smith Reserve.

It is rather difficult to report on the events leading up to the withdrawal of the nurse as there were several factors involved. The following factors would seem to be significant and probably contributed most to the situation.

1. As you know, the James Smith Band contributed $25,000 to the construction cost of the nursing station on the reserve. I do not know under what circumstances this contribution was made, however, the majority of Indians seem to think that they should not have been asked to contribute to such a station. This, of course, may seem irrelevant but it goes back to the misconception the Indians hold that they are entitled to free medical services. Because they made a substantial contribution in the building, the feeling seems to exist they owned it outright and could dictate ways and means it should be utilized. In other words, they felt they should have access to the building 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

2. On two separate occasions recently, allegedly attempted to steal both the Indian & Northern Health Services vehicle and private vehicle. Although this was the action of only one irresponsible teenager, it seemed to carry with it band implications and the band were mistakenly accused of condoning such action.

..... 2.

s.19(1)

was suspended from the Day School on the reserve early this fall and when he promised to reform he was given another opportunity to attend school. After being admitted to school a second time he became a problem to the Principal within two weeks and, consequently, had to be suspended again. He is years of age.

3. Another factor which contributed to the attitude of the Indians towards the nurse was likely own making. He displayed a very forthright and domineering attitude with the Indians which they objected to. These tactics may be satisfactory with some Indian Bands, but I am sure you are aware it will never do with the James Smith group. The same remarks could be applicable to when Indians called at the nursing station, however, I am not too certain this attitude prevailed when they were first acquainted to this reserve. I would rather suspect both did their level best at the beginning to develop good, sound relations with the Indians, however, when they met with nothing but abuse their attitude probably changed.

I think we are quite right in surmising that a great deal of the difficulty with the Indians of the James Smith Band results from their intemperate use of alcohol. This situation has been discussed with the Band Council on numerous occasions and although the Council are also concerned, they do not have any recommendations that could be implemented to improve matters. At a recent meeting the Chief asked whether an R.C.M.P. Detachment could be situated right on the reserve. I informed him that since law enforcement on reserves was the responsibility of the R.C.M.P., we would have to refer their request to them for consideration. I intend discussing this matter with the Melfort Detachment at the first opportunity but, I doubt whether they will consider the establishment of a Detachment justified.

I recently discussed with you the possibility of utilizing the abandonned nursing station as a store to be operated

..... 3.

either privately or through a cooperative effort. The operation of such a store would be contingent on the establishment of a post office at the same location. This would have the effect of all relief cheques, family allowances, etc. being mailed to the reserve post office and would possibly reduce to some extent the amount of money spent on beverages. This proposal is presently only in the discussion stage and we shall explore the matter further to see if it would even be feasible.

R. B. Kohls
R. B. Kohls.

RBK/da

s.19(1)

Ottawa 4, February 24, 1964. 109/3-8 (T3)

Kinistino, Saskatchewan.

Dear :

A report has been received from the Indian Superintendent regarding your inquiry of January 17 in which you requested that consideration be given to install a telephone at the North End of the Reserve and to provide cribbing to repair your well.

The installation of a telephone at the North End of the Reserve is being considered at the present time by the Band Council. The telephone which was previously installed on the Reserve was disconnected by the Telephone Company because some individual users failed to pay their long distance calls. The Company refused to reconnect the phone until these arrears are paid up. Payment of the outstanding arrears is being considered by the Council.

The need for repairs to your well has been reported to the Superintendent who will be investigating this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Jules D'Astous,
Chief, Economic Development Division.

c.c. Supt Duck Lake

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

FALSE DOCKET SLIP

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

SLIP NO.

FILE NO. 109/3-8

SUBJECT OF FILE

MAIN FILE ON CHARGE TO W2-14/2

REFERENCE				DISPOSAL			
REFERRED TO	BY	REMARKS	DATE	PA or BF	BY	DATE	FOR C.R. USE
T3	17		20/2	PA	T.3	24-2-64	

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

000069

IA 1-25

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa

YOUR FILE No: 109/3-8 (T3)

FROM : Superintendent, Duck Lake Indian Agency

OUR FILE No: 109/3-8-4

SUBJECT: Complaint, [redacted]

DATE: Feb. 18, 1964.

T3

This refers to your memorandum of January 30, 1964 with which you forwarded a letter of complaint received from [redacted], James Smith Band.

A number of years ago the James Smith Band had a telephone installed on the northern portion of the reserve, in the home of [redacted] The Band paid the monthly rental on this telephone from Band Funds, however, the long distance calls were the responsibility of [redacted]. This was necessary in order that some control could be maintained over the use of this phone. Provision was never made in the budget to provide funds for the payment of long distance calls, and this can be readily understood.

Regardless of the control exercised, a considerable number of long distance calls were made, usually without the knowledge of [redacted] As a matter of fact, I understand one call was made to Lethbridge, Alberta, which was over three hours' duration. [redacted] naturally refused to pay these calls and, consequently, the Telephone Company disconnected the phone. The Telephone Company has since been approached about reconnectinn of the phone, however, they refuse to do so until the long distance arrears are paid up.

Since the Indian Health Services Nurse was recently withdrawn from this reserve, there has been an increased desire to

..... 2.

s.19(1)

have another phone installed on the north end of the reserve. The Band Council have discussed this proposal at the last meeting and, I anticipate they will sign a resolution in the near future agreeing to pay for the long distance arrears so that telephone service can again be reinstated. If this is done, some better method will have to be employed to prevent abuse of use of the phone. I might mention I personally agree they should have a phone in the area as that portion of the reserve is quite isolated and a phone would be desirable in the event of sickness and other emergencies. The possibility of providing a pay phone has been explored, however, the Telephone Company will not give any consideration to this until all arrears are paid.

A number of wells have been provided for this reserve through the Community Employment Program in the last couple of years, however, the location of these wells is decided by the James Smith Band Council. The Council decided that new wells were required in other areas more than in the area where [redacted] lives. I am led to believe her present well is beyond repair, however, this will be investigated and, if it is deemed advisable to repair the well, we shall try to obtain the necessary material.

R. B. Kohls.

RBK/da
cc.: Regional Supervisor, Sask.

s.19(1)

109/3-8 (T3)

Ottawa 4, January 30, 1964.

Kinistino, Sask.

Dear :

This acknowledges your letter of January 17th, requesting that consideration be given to install a telephone at the north end of the Reserve and to provide you with cribbing to make well repairs.

It has been necessary to refer this matter to the Indian Superintendent and as soon as we have his report we will write you again.

Yours sincerely,

Jules D'Astous,
Chief, Economic Development Division.

GAD/bc

s.19(1)

Superintendent, Duck Lake Agency

109/3-8 (T3)

Chief, Economic Development Division

January 30, 1964.

Complaint,

Enclosed is a copy of a self-explanatory letter received from of Kinistino, Saskatchewan and a copy of our reply to her.

We would appreciate a report on the points raised by and any recommendation you might wish to make.

Jules D'Astous.

A.D.

c.c. Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan.

GAD/bc

s.19(1).

NOTED BY D.I.A.

Box [redacted] Kinistino Sask

Dear Sir:- ~~Adm~~ Jan 17th 1964

109/3-8

It's just of asking questions as we are having troubles on the Reseve. Did you know we have had no phone down our North End of this Reseve, we had one of our own on [redacted] house when he was a chief but now we have none only our Minister, also the nursing station but we are not allowed to go and phone, and I thought this was our own free Country, it belongs to us just the same as it is at our own Reseve but still these hired men can do such a duty work on us Indians, just because we are different in colour, black & brown but this dosen't make no difference this is our real own country, as I went to this W.A annual meeting yesterday at rectory I seen three signs on the doors. no phoning it was wrote three times three doors and I believe we have our funds somewhere that they could pay for the long distance calls, as they have been there for years [redacted] was our Indian preacher so as [redacted] didn't pay for those [illegible]

000074

s.19(1)

distance calls. the money is there I know for our funds. because I know our Reserve is one of the best lands in the whole province of Saskatchewan surely there is money for our needs. we really need a phone at our End as we live some 20 - 22 miles away from town where our Doctor's are some are in Melfort some 30 or more miles, Can you do something with this Comment please. as we are calling your assistance for the phone, we never have no really assistance in Duck Lake Agency no use writing or asking, for instance I've called for cribing for a well for the last five years. never got no assistance. we really need water a well I have a [redacted] daughter, she likes hauling water for the house, odd little jobs at the house. actually we dig our well about six years ago and our Cribing is rotten, we used old lumber at that time, so I hope you people can look over to this matter as we are really in need of a phone and a well for us hoping to hear from you real soon about my complain Thanking you very much. Yours truly [redacted]

To the Acting Minister of
Indian Affairs.

Ottawa, Ont.

c.c. Superintendent, Duck Lake Agency c.c. 109/22-4
c.c. Regional Supervisor - Saskatchewan. c.c. 109/3-8
c.c. 109/29-2

s.19(1)

109/10-3 (W.2)

Ottawa 4, January 14, 1964.

James Smith Indian Reserve,
Fort-a-la-Corne, Saskatchewan.

Dear :

Your letter of January 2nd has been referred to me.

It is assumed your reference to leasing concerns the circular letter which was recently sent to all band members by Mr. J. E. Milward notifying them of the meeting to consider the future leasing program. I am pleased to note your interest and that you have taken a definite stand on the matter. The circumstances regarding the rental of your land under Lease No. is being taken up with Mr. R. B. Kohls your Indian Agency Superintendent.

The question of whether you are eligible for relief will depend upon the amount of payment you receive from your crop share and the circumstances under which the indebtedness you mentioned, was incurred. I have asked Mr. Kohls to review the details and let me have a report. However, as you have apparently been receiving assistance the necessity of incurring a substantial debt at the local store appears questionable. Persons who receive substantial payments are not generally eligible for relief the following month, or for a much longer period, depending upon the circumstances. I shall write to you again after I receive Mr. Kohls' report if a further explanation seems necessary.

Requests for housing assistance are generally reviewed by Indian Agency Superintendents in consultation with the Band Chiefs and Councillors. Priority is given to those whose need is the greatest. The amount of funds available for housing is limited but I would suggest that you submit your requests again this year in order that it may be considered with other requests received.

Yours sincerely,
Original signed by
R. D. RAGAN
W. Rudniski,
Chief, Welfare Division.

rd/pt

000078

c.c. 109/32-4-101
P.A. c.c. 109/3-8
c.c. 109/29-2

s.19(1)

Superintendent, Duck Lake Agency

109/10-3 (W.2)

Chief, Welfare Division

January 14, 1964.

No. James Smith Band
Lease No. _____

The Chief of the Economic Development Division wrote to you on January 9th about a letter from concerning the lease on her property to . A copy of her letter is enclosed.

also protested any reduction or discontinuation of her eligibility for 'relief' after she receives her lease cheque. Enclosed is a copy of my letter to explaining that her subsequent eligibility will depend upon the amount of the payment and the circumstances under which the indebtedness she mentioned, was incurred. As she has apparently been receiving welfare assistance the necessity for incurring a substantial debt at the local store appears questionable. Nevertheless a report would be appreciated outlining in detail the assistance granted to during recent months and, if possible, the nature of her indebtedness. Please forward with your reply a copy of the Family Statement (Form IA3-120) most recently completed for

Your comments would also be appreciated regarding her request for a new house.

Kindly forward a copy of your reply to the Regional Office.

BF
14-2-64
Re reply
on 109/10-3

Original signed by
R. D. RAGAN
W. Rudnicki.

GR/pt

c.c. Regional Supervisor - Saskatchewan.

W. 2

s.19(1)

c.c. 109/32-4-101

108/3-8 (R16)

Chief, Economic Development Division

January 10, 1964.

Will you please incorporate the following paragraph dealing with leasing in your letter.

IT is assumed your reference to leasing concerns the circular letter sent to all band members by Mr. Milward notifying them of the meeting to consider the future leasing program. I am pleased to note your interest and see that you have taken a definite stand on the matter. With regard to your rental under lease no. [redacted], I will take this matter up with the Agency Superintendent.

Jules D'Astous.

WJM/mn

s.19(1)

Superintendent, Duck Lake Indian Agency

c.c. 109/3-8

109/32-4-101 (R16)

Chief, Economic Development Division

January 9, 1963.

Lease No.

I have received a letter from Mrs. No. concerning the lease on her property to ,

The lease in question is Lease No. covering the north east quarter of Section Township Range , for a term of five years from January 1, 1962, at a rental of one third crop share. The approved copies of this lease were returned to your office under cover of our letter of September 24, 1963.

mentions that her grain cheque each year amounts to only a little over one hundred dollars and that she has not yet received any income from this fall's crop.

Will you please look into this matter and advise at your early convenience with a copy of your letter directed to this office. Will you also supply us with the 1962 and 1963 crop reports on the above noted lease.

Original Signed by
W. P. McINTYRE

Jules D'Astous.

WJM/mm

c.c. Regional Supervisor - Sask.

s.19(1)

James [redacted]
Fort A La Corne SK
Jan 2nd 1964

Dear Sir:

109/3-8

Well here I am taking my greatest pleasure in scribbling a few lines to you But please excuse my big ugly hand scribbling & mistakes I am not very good at writing letters Ill do my best and hope you will understand it.

My opinion is I will vote in favor of band leases.

I have only 50 acres of land I never get much out of it every fall I only get one cheque and just get little over hundred dollars I never can find a right leaser. And this fall's crop I did not get any of my share yet [redacted] is sure taking his time ~~not~~ to sell the share of my grain And this is January already did not sell anything for me yet

Twice I told David Knight about it he dont seem to do anything at all [redacted] said he got 5 loads of wheat on my land.

My opinion I'd rather see my land go to band leases. So every body could get their share all who, who have no lands. And so as the rest of the land on the Reserve. The private leases are not darn good at all.
I sure like to see all the private leases go to band leases. In that way every body will get something out of it but private leases lots of indians with no lands gets nothing
Some indians they get such big cheques and you never see them buy anything good only buy second hand cars and only runs for one month thats very waste of money.
I sure like to see my leaser sell the grain for me now. I am heavy ~~[illegible]~~ debts in the store I like to pay him very soon my grain cheque will go to that store I sure.
I wont have any thing left to me.
And when ever I get the grain cheque.
I dont want David Knight or Mr

s.19(1)

Kohls to cut me off in relief at all. I am a destitute and I'm in ~~tible~~ title to get it Why I said it.
Lots of indians were getting big grain cheques and besides the relief cheques So why should they cut me off for one month.
I have no income of any kind just live on relief and thats not enough too.
This will be all for now.

Yours Sincerely

[redacted]

P.S. Kindly please let me know what whats as soon as possible.

P.S.

I would like to have a new house this coming summer
This house I am living in now is very old forty years old
The old people use to live in this house and both are dead
I gave one cow for this old house fourteen years ago. And this house is very very cold and boards are coming apart from the outside
I dont know how many times I asked the social welfare in Melfort for a house he tells me to see the indian agent
I have asked David Knight once he did not say anything
By rumors I was told the people with big families gets the new houses first they do get it. And some dont live in them they go away to places
And the houses are just standing there empty nobody living in them
I wonder if you could do anything for me I am asking for your help now.
This will be all and oblige

011982

8-E/801

Dept of citizenship & immegration
Indian affair Branch
Ottawa Ont;

s.19(1)

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa

YOUR FILE No:

FROM : Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

OUR FILE No: 109/3-8 (RS1)

SUBJECT: Complaint re [redacted]
Merchant [redacted]

DATE: June 28, 1963

Information

With reference to the memorandum of June 19th from the Chief, Welfare Division, I am enclosing a copy of a self-explanatory memo from the Superintendent of Duck Lake Agency. It will be noted that Superintendent Milward states that [redacted] has enjoyed a good reputation in the area up to the present time; however, he has requested the local R.C.M.P. to make discrete inquiries regarding this complaint. If the R.C.M.P. uncover anything, you will be advised before further action is taken.

Encls.

J. G. McGill

CGSB Standard 6-GP-22; PP&S Cat. No. 3590

s.19(1)

Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

109/3-8 (RS)

109/3-8-4

Supt., Duck Lake Indian Agency

June 26, 1963.

Complaint re
Merchant

In reply to your letter of June 21, 1963, I took the opportunity to discuss the matter with the R.C.M.P. in Melfort. They will make very discret enquiries and if there is no foundation to the complaints you will be advised by personal letter from the detachment. On the other hand, if there is some justification and a master file is established, before any action is taken your authorization will be requested.

I approached the matter this way as I felt the R.C.M.P. could handle the problem more unobtrusively.

I suspect the complaint is more personal spite than anything else.

bought the store during the winter and gave out quite a lot of personal credit to the Indians.

He has enjoyed a good reputation in the area up to the present.

J. E. Milward.

JEM/da

s.19(1)

[redacted]

Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan.

109/3-8 (W2)

BF 19/7/63

Chief, Welfare Division.

June 19, 1963.

Complaint re Mr. [redacted]
Merchant

Enclosed is a copy of a self-explanatory letter purported to represent the views of 'the Indians' at Fort A La Corne.

Please make enquiries and submit your comments and recommendations in due course.

Original Signed by
R. D. RAGAN

for W. Rudnicki.

CE:mm

s.19(1)

W 2

Fortalaccon
Sask
109/3-8

Dear Sir,

I would like to report something happening in [redacted]. Their is a storekeeper in [redacted]. By the name of [redacted] Bootlegging hard liquor to us. when we buy liquor he marks down Spacers on the bill he is also beating the ~~or~~ us very badly. he charges to much for ~~the~~ his goods. when we come to his store drun

000092

s.19(1)

(2)

He steals our money.
When we buy something
from him when we
give him $20 or $10
he give us change
for 25 or $1. Please
do not answer to me
about this letter. all
I want you to do is
fix [redacted]

I am the
Indians

Copy

s.19(1)

Fort Alacon, Saskatchewan.

Dear Sir:

I would like to report something happening in . There is a storekeeper in by the name of , bootlegging hard liquor to us. When we buy liquor he marks down groceries on the bill. He is also beating us very badly. He charges too much for his goods. When we come to his store drunk, he steals our money. When we buy something from him when we give him $20 or $10 he give us change for $5.00 or $1.00. Please do not answer me about this letter, all I want you to do is fix .

From the Indians.

MELFORT
2 PM
JUN 10
1963
SASK.

Indian Affairs
Branch
Ottawa Canada

s.19(1)

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Senior Administrative Officer

YOUR FILE No:

FROM : A/Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

OUR FILE No: 109/3-8

SUBJECT: Complaints -
Kinistino Town Council re Intoxicants
James Smith Band

DATE Aug. 3, 1962

Adm 1

Attached for your information is a copy of a report of a meeting that Superintendent Milward held with two councillors of the Town of Kinistino prior to receiving your memorandum of July 30 and attached complaint of [redacted] Kinistino.

We have asked the Superintendent for a further report on this matter and his comments on the suggestion that the Band Council undertake an educative programme on the reserve to help combat any abuses that may exist in the use of intoxicants.

A further report will follow in due course.

K. J. Gavigan

KJG/cm
Encl.
c.c. Supt. Milward,
Duck Lake Agency

Noted
J.D.S.
action 1.
8/8/62

CGSB Standard 6-GP-22; PP&S Cat. No. 3590

Reverse of previous page

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[redacted]

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A/Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

109/3-8 (Adm. 1)

Supt., Duck Lake Indian Agency

109/18-6-4
109/3-8-4

Complaint by [redacted] and
Kinistino Toun Council re Intoxicants -
James Smith Band

Aug. 2, 1962.

On the evening of July 26, 1962, I had an informal meeting with two Councillors of the town of Kinistino, Mr. McCloy and Mr. McDonald. The mayor was away on holidays and other Councillors could not be present. The tow Agency Assistants, Mr. N. W. Stocks and Mr. David Knight were with me.

The subject discussed was the rowdyism of members of the James Smith Band resulting from use of intoxicants in the town of Kinistino.

Both Councillors expressed concern over the increase of drinking by the Indians in their community since the advent of extension of liquor privileges to the Indians in general. They said they did not at present have a town policeman and the condition had worsened. Their main question was "Would Indian Affairs contribute to the cost of maintaining order in the town or would they use their influence in trying to have the town placed under R.C.M.P. jurisdiction."

I advised them that both Indian Affairs and this Agency were concerned with this problem and we would do everything possible to reduce and control it. However, I told them that normally the costs of law enforcement in towns is carried by the town concerned and that our Branch would be very reluctant to initiate a precedent in their case.

I agreed with them that more effective control could be maintained with the R.C.M.P. supervising the town and would make their request known to our Branch. In regard to this request it should be noted that this Band comprises more than 730 members and Kinistino is

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their main shopping centre. It is therefore apparent that this number of Indians could very well cause concern in a town as small as Kinistino, particularly so when large numbers would come into town on the days family allowance cheques or relief orders are disbursed.

It will be realized of course, that all seven hundred Indians are never drunk at one time or in Kinistino at one time. Yet, it must be said that the majority of Indians do drink liquor though the amounts vary considerably. The percent of Indians who would be classed as drunkards or trouble makers would be relatively small.

The number of Indians drinking openly has of course increased with the privilege of purchase, the town Councillors indicated this applies to the Kinistino area, and also the privilege of off-license purchasing has contributed its share to back lane drinking, etc. The Councillors felt that off-license sales should be prohibited to Indians. I pointed out to the Council that is a Provincial matter.

The major part of the problem developed when the mixed beverage room opened in the Hotel in Kinistino. This resulted in women as well as men becoming drunk and rowdy in the town, whereas formerly the heavy open drinking was done mostly by the men.

This is the situation that prompted [redacted] to write to our Branch asking that some remedial action be undertaken by our Branch. I pointed out to the town Councillors the fact that while the provincial law permits the licensing and operation of beer parlours and the sale of liquor it does not necessarily follow that any town must establish one within their limits. Therefore, if all efforts to maintain law and order in Kinistino failed to control this situation they could close the beer parlour in the town and as a result they would not have this problem in their area. This proposal was not favourably received as may be imagined. I also suggested wider application of the interdict listings and more care by the proprietor of the Hotel in supplying customers. The reaction indicated to me that the Hotel owner was out to make money and refused sales only in

extreme cases.

I will discuss this matter with the James Smith Band Council at the next Council meeting. However, I do not anticipate any solution being offered by the Indians as the Band Council with one exception drink in varying amounts.

Frankly, there is a problem in Kinistino but primarily it is one of their own making. Too often non-Indians wish to exploit Indians in regard to land leases for example and will take him to the beer parlour or provide the Indian with funds for liquor in order to make a deal on leasing or other matter. The non-Indians are, I feel, primarily to blame in creating this problem by taking advantage of the susceptibility of the Indian to intoxicants and the town should correct its faults before asking us to place the Indian under further restrictions.

J. E. Milward.

J. E. Milward.

JEM/da

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Director, Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa.

YOUR FILE No:

FROM : Superintendent, Shellbrook Indian Agency.

OUR FILE No:
111/29-1

SUBJECT: Welfare of Indians

DATE:
May 14, 1962.

s.19(1)

Reference your letter of April 26, 1962, regarding complaints made to our Minister at the time of her visit to Saskatchewan, namely, alleged reduction of Welfare Assistance issued by Assistant, Indian Agency, M.J. Harvey to [redacted] Big River Reserve.

I have reviewed our files since January 1st for assistance given and income received by [redacted].

In the month of January after applying the means test, [redacted] received Welfare Assistance in the amount of $100.00 for himself and family. The maximum allowance being $142.00 was reduced as the applicant was able to provide some income from trapping as well as meat and fish.

In February and March a Winter Works Program was in progress on the reserve and all able-bodied men who would ordinarily be "on relief" were given an opportunity to work at the rate of $1.00 per hour to provide for their families. During this period [redacted] worked for 149 hours earning $149.00. No application was received for Welfare Assistance during the two months. The work project terminated March 31 and an application for assistance was submitted on April 2, 1962, and after applying the means test he was given assistance in the amount of $84.00. The maximum allowance being $142.00, was reduced in view of natural wild meat and fish being available and income from trapping and wages earned.

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We have not received any complaints from [redacted] in this regard and I feel that Mr. Harvey has provided assistance to the family whenever there was need.

R. T. Smith.

RTS/mk
c.c. for Regional Office.

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

PA-109/3-8

TO: The Director

YOUR FILE No:

FROM: Chief, Agencies Division

OUR FILE No:

SUBJECT: Saddle Lake Indian Reserve

DATE: September 28, 1961.

In connection with the letter the Minister received from Frank J. W. Fane, M.P., on matters relating to the Saddle Lake Indian Reserve, I wish to comment on the points in the letter affecting this Division.

(3) Mr. Knapp

I think it can be said that Mr. Knapp has rendered valuable service at Saddle Lake since his appointment in April, 1957. The most recent performance assessment rating indicates that his general rating is superior while his administrative rating is above average. Mr. Knapp's weaknesses are well known to Mr. Hunter who pointed out when making the rating that his public relations may not be the best. He apparently fails with both his own staff and the general public to give their point of view full consideration. Nevertheless, he has a very thorough knowledge of Indian Affairs and his Agency is very well organized.

So far as the request to have Superintendent Knapp removed it would appear from Mr. Fane's remarks that the school problem is behind this complaint. No doubt the Education Division will be providing you with full details on this matter.

Mr. Knapp has been accused of not visiting the reserve very often and when he does he spends very little time with the Indians. In this connection I should point out that we have an Assistant residing on the Saddle Lake Indian Reserve which would normally reduce the number of visits the Superintendent must make to the area. I do not think, however, that Superintendent Knapp has in any way neglected the Saddle Lake Indian Reserve in spite of the fact that we have an Assistant there.

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(5) Power and
(7) Power Lines

It is not possible to verify that Mr. Knapp promised two families electricity, water and sewage if they moved their residence closer to the Agency. This, of course, would have to be looked into by the Regional Supervisor. It is just possible that the Superintendent suggested that houses erected in the general area of the Assistant's Headquarters might at some future date be in a position to be serviced.

On the general question of electricity for the reserve our policy has been to leave this up to the Bands themselves to finance. There would, of course, be no objection to the Superintendent looking into the possibility of having power brought into the reserve and he could assist the Band in negotiating with the power companies concerned if necessary.

(6) Roads

This complaint does not indicate that there are insufficient roads on this reserve but it is directed to the problem of schools in one particular area.

We have had a very extensive road program at Saddle Lake over the past 4 or 5 years and some 60 to 65 miles of road were constructed to provide for better transportation routes to bring children to the various schools. We have on more than one occasion held up this road program as an example to other Agencies across Canada. Our road construction officer has been at Saddle Lake twice over the past year and has reported that Superintendent Knapp has done an excellent job in this particular field. The road construction is of the highest order.

Jules D'Astous

WJB:bw

House of Commons
Canada

Personal & Confidential

Ottawa, Sept. 21, 1961

Honourable Ellen Fairclough, P.C.,M.P.,
Minister of Citizenship & Immigration,
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Ellen:

Re: Saddle Lake Indian Reserve

During the recent recess in Parliament I was asked to attend a Band meeting in the community of Saddle Lake Indian Reserve in my constituency, held on August 21st,1961. Senator the Honourable James Gladstone, Mr. F.J. Bigg, M.P., Athabaska, and I, were at the meeting. The meeting was not attended by the Superintendent of the Saddle Lake Agency, Mr. Knapp, as I understand Mr. Knapp was on holidays at that time. I did not see Mr. Knapp while visiting in the district. As a matter of fact, I did not see any of his staff. I did not arrange the meeting so I do not know if Mr. Knapp or his assistant were advised that it was taking place. This meeting was presided over by Chief Moses, who was Chairman. I may say that I took very voluminous and exact notes and answered a great many questions to the best of my ability. I promised to bring the complaints of this Band to your attention and I now do so in the order that they were given to me:

(1) Relief

The chief complaint regarding relief is that the administration of relief seems to be entirely under the full jurisdiction of the Superintendent. The Chief and the Band Council do not have any say regarding the issuing of relief. They feel that the Chief and the Council should be consulted in the spending and distribution of this Government's money, and consequently wonder why they bother to elect a Chief and Council if they are not consulted.

The meeting also was unanimous in putting forward the idea that people on relief should be used for completing some of the welfare houses which were not completed when the allotted amount of money ran out. They feel also that there should be a skilled carpenter on the Reserve who is a resident Treaty Indian and who can take charge of the building of houses. They say that according to the Act the people are not allowed to work out their relief for the good of the Tribe. They say that the Superintendent tells them that they may not work out relief received on Band projects. If such is the case, they wish to have the Act changed to provide for their being allowed to work out their relief. I am quite in accord with this recommendation.

(2) Housing

Complaints regarding housing were many and started with (1) that the Superintendent has full control of the authorizing of welfare houses. The Welfare Committee of the Council is

consulted/

consulted once a year and requested to give names of three or four families eligible for a welfare house. The Committee recommends the ones it feels are eligible but the Superintendent apparently has the power of veto over their recommendation, but the Council wants to have more say so that the help for building these houses may be better organized, especially for those who are unable to do work on their own house. Again it was recommended that a Treaty Indian from this Reserve, skilled in carpentry, be available to act as foreman for the building. One very strong complaint about housing was that the allotted funds for the house were either not adequate or were badly administered, with the result that when the allotted funds were used up, the houses were not completed and the work was stopped, the house turned over to the occupant and nothing more was done. I personally visited that day two of these houses on which the work was stopped, leaving a few square yards in the gable of one end not completed, some of the inside sheathing not put up, and certain other partitions not made. I was very shocked to see that new houses could be left like this and I was more shocked to see that the occupants after some years had not done anything to remedy the omission. In this connection, I would suggest that it would be well to allot a little more money and finish the houses properly. I am sure that in each case, $100.00 would have completed the house, and if this is not possible, build fewer houses each year and see that they are completed. It would seem that every welfare house is left in the same condition. However, some of the occupants are more industrious than others and have completed their own houses.

(3) Mr. Knapp

This complaint concerns the Superint endent, Mr. Knapp. The people at the meeting, there were approximately 150, were of one mind in suggesting the removal of Mr. Knapp from the Superintendency of the Saddle Lake Agency. As I said before, I regret that it was impossible for Mr. Knapp to be at this meeting to defend himself. He is accused of dictatorship, unfairness, making promiscuous promises that he should not, and of exceeding his authority. It was also said that he visits the Reserve very seldom and on his visits does not leave the gravel road. A great deal of the trouble seems to stem from the fact that the people all want all their children to attend Blue Quills Residential School. This ofcourse is impossible. It was said that the Superintendent is using his position as a whip to cause children of Roman Catholic families to leave Blue Quills and attend the Catholic non-residential school in St.Paul. People stating this said that they were promised a welfare house if they complied. This promise was allegdly made to several families and it would seem that no welfare houses are available for the present. Other Roman Catholic families who are not on the route followed by the bus which takes the children to the St.Paul Roman Catholic Day School find it more convenient to have their children attend the Provincial Public School in Vilna. The difference in mileage is that between 10 miles and 40. Several families were allegdly excommunicated by their church because they allowed their children to go to a Protestant school. Many families alleged that they were being 'high pressured' into having their children taken out of Blue Quills and kept at home and bussed to the St.Paul Roman Catholic Day School. They find this most unsatisfactory because

Visit on Saddle Lake.

they/

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they wish the children to have the benefits which undoubtedly they receive by attending Blue Quills Residential School. Many said that the Superintendent promised them a welfare home right away if they removed their children from Blue Quills and sent them on the bus to the Day School. It was said very frequently that this Reserve wished that Superintendent Knapp be removed from the charge of Saddle Lake Agency. It was also said that on the 15th of April, 1961, a delegation visited, I believe, Mr. Hunter in Edmonton, and I am sure that Mr. Hunter has reported this delegation to you. While I am on school business I must call to your attention the fact that there is a Roman Catholic Day School operating on the Reserve. I may say that there is some unhappiness about the organization of this school and the facilities for bussing the children to it. Several complaints were to the effect that the children were delivered to the school by busses about 7.45 a.m. The school doors were not opened at that time and the children were left out in the cold weather without having proper clothing for being outside. It is felt that such things as this cause great hardship and confusion among the children. They felt that Mr. Knapp could have this changed if he wished.

(4) (1) [redacted], a resident on the Reserve, whose Post Office address is St.Brides, has a daughter in Grade 12, and a son aged 16 in Grade 9. He would like some kind of assistance in sending these children on to higher education. They are apparently very intelligent children and I am sure are quite worthy of receiving assistance to provide them with higher education. Can you arrange something for them, and could you give [redacted] some suggestions about how to apply for such assistance?

(5). Power, etc.

It was stated at the meeting that Mr. Knapp told at least two families that if they moved their residence closer to the Agency on the Reserve they would be provided with electricity, water works and sewage disposal. The complaint was, why should some be promised benefits like this and not all, and there was a question that I could not answer as to where the funds would come from to supply these facilities for some.

(6) Roads

Roads under construction on the west side of the Reserve lead directly to Vilna where there is no Roman Catholic separate school. Several people from this area are complaining that they felt they would be forced to send their children to the Protestant School in Vilna rather than to the Roman Catholic School in St. Paul. It was said many times that Mr. Knapp had approached these west side families with promises of houses, food and clothing, if they agreed to send their children to the Protestant School. They feared that they would also be excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church if they sent their children to Vilna. Certain other people who were there suggested that those who administer the Roman Catholic Church in that area are being extremely short-sighted if people are excummicated for sending their children to the most available school.

It/...

It was recommended that the whole of Saddle Lake Reserve be in the Vegreville Federal Constituency. That would entail adding a part of Townships 57 and 58, in Range 11, to the Vegreville Electoral District, and removing them from the Constituency of Athabaska. Ofcourse in order to make the boundary straight it would merely entail transferring Townships 56, 57 and 58 in Range 11, to the Vegreville Constituency.

(8) Nursing Station

The meeting was in full accord with the statement that the facilities afforded by the Nursing Station are most inadequate. It was stated that the nurse is on Saddle Lake Reserve twice a week from 9 a.m. until 11.30 a.m. If the people are not there waiting for her they do not get service. They asked for your consideration in providing better nursing service and they suggested also a more sympathetic nurse. I may say that I have not met the nurse who looks after service there.

(9) Court Fines

The meeting recommended unanimously that when Indians are fined for offences off the Reserve the fines should be given to the Reserve Band funds to be added to this fund. It was said that this is the practice in some places.

(10) Power Lines

It was felt that the possibilities for the provision of power lines through the Reserve should be explored.

(11) Indian Act

The Band went on record unanimously in stating that they recommended that copies of the new amended Indian Act be submitted to their Band Council before the amended Act is made law. They felt that they should have a chance to discuss it and make future recommendations. They suggested that they be given adequate time for this. I told them that changes in the new Act were made according to the recommendations contained in the various briefs that were presented over the last three years to the joint committee on Indian Affairs. However, they still wish to review the Act before it becomes law.

(12) Indian Health

The Band Council had a complaint in which I believe it was justified regarding the visiting of the Reserve by what was alleged to be a Royal Commission on Indian Health. The Chief stated that he was notified of this meeting just two hours before it took place. I consider this a very poor show because he should have had time to prepare his recommendations, which he did not have. I also think that I as the Member of Parliament in which this Reserve is situated, should have been notified. Please have this investigated fully.

(13) Post Office

Regarding a Post Office on the Reserve I feel very strongly that they should have a Post Office situated on the Reserve close to the Agency, because at the present time, the residents on the Reserve get their mail at many Post Offices, namely Vilna, Spedden, Ashmont, St.Paul, St.Brides, Brosseau, Duvernay, Hamlin and others, and I feel that they should not have to travel all over the country to get their mail. I would, therefore, recommend, with the full approval of the Band members who were present/

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present at the meeting that a Post Office be established on Saddle Lake Indian Reserve, without further delay.

(14) Education

One lady, a widow, [redacted] by name, who has 10 children, wants her two high school children to be resident at Blue Quills and attend that school. She says that Mr. Knapp promised her that they may board at Blue Quills and attend high school at St. Paul, which would mean their being bussed home at night. It is felt that the High School children can learn and study better when they are resident at Blue Quills.

(15) It was stated that two Treaty Indian families resident in the City of Edmonton, one [redacted] has been off the Reserve for 15 years or more. One year I know this family contacted Mr. Knapp and asked for assistance for their boy who was attending High School. Their request was cleared almost immediately. This year, one [redacted], who is also living in Edmonton, and has been off the Reserve for only five years, applied to Mr. Knapp for assistance for his children who are attending school in Edmonton. I am advised that he was told that he had been away from the Reserve too long to get assistance and was therefore not entitled to any. He did not get assistance and felt that discrimination was shown against the latter person and he should have received the same consideration as the first. I would ask you to have this case also investigated.

Accept my thanks in advance for your attention in this connection. May I be advised please.

Sincerely,

Frank J.W. Fane, M.P.
VEGREVILLE, Alberta

COPY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

Copy for Miss M.R. Pound, Prime Minister's Office.

111/3-8 (Adm.2)
HTV/in

Adm 2

Ottawa, November 22, 1961.

Bert Mason, Esq.,
Secretary-Treasurer, C.C.F. Executive,
Shellbrook Constituency,
Shellbrook, Saskatchewan.

Dear Mr. Mason,

Reference is made to the resolutions and accompanying brief on Indian Administration submitted by your Organization earlier this year. I informed you in my interim reply of August 24, that the resolutions and the recommendations contained in the brief were being studied by the responsible departmental officers. I am now in a position to reply in more detail.

First of all I should point out that many of the proposals contained in the brief were considered by the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Indian Affairs and were included in the recommendations contained in the Committee's final report to Parliament. These recommendations are now being given consideration by the Government.

Resolution No. 1

Federal-Provincial Conferences
on Indian Administration.

The federal government recognizes a particular responsibility for Canadians of Indian status and is anxious to discharge this responsibility fully and in such a way as will promote the best interests of the Indians. In my view, this would include ensuring, as far as possible, that Indians are recognized as citizens of the various provinces and that they have access to the services, benefits and programs provided by the province for all other citizens. After all, Indians of the provinces are liable for provincial taxes and have the same obligations as other citizens. It surely follows that they should also enjoy the same rights and privileges .

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The Department has already negotiated several formal and informal agreements with the provinces covering various aspects of Indian administration and is prepared at all times to co-operate in extending these agreements wherever a Province indicates a willingness to assume increased responsibility towards their citizens of Indian status.

Resolution No. 2

This resolution deals with the need for improved roads and communication facilities on Indian reserves. There is presently in effect an agreement with the Saskatchewan Municipal Road Assistance Authority whereby the province and the department share equally in the cost of constructing market grid roads lying within the boundaries of certain Indian reserves within the province. Since the agreement came into effect the Department has contributed the following amount from appropriation:-

Fiscal Year	Miles of Road Construction	Cost
1958-59	19.41	$36,352.49
1959-60	27.56	43,585.94
1960-61	20.3	51,190.96

In addition to the contributions towards the development of market grid roads, each year the Department has constructed many more miles of reserve roads without provincial assistance. This road construction and maintenance program will be continued in the future with priority being given to those areas where access roads to municipalities are essential to the success of the integrated school program. The Department maintains close liaison with the provincial authorities concerned to obtain the maximum amount of assistance in developing Indian reserve roads.

The provision of such things as communication facilities and electric power on Indian reserves should remain the responsibility of band councils. Although I agree that these facilities are most desirable the funds appropriated by Parliament each year are insufficient to meet the full cost of improvements of this nature.

All available funds have to first be directed to more urgent works such as roads, drainage, irrigation, sewage disposal systems, water supply systems and similar works all of which have a direct bearing on the development of the reserves and the general welfare of the Indian population. However, our field officers are always ready to assist band councils in negotiating with the public utility companies for an extension of services to the reserves.

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Where the department has an office operating on an Indian reserve, every effort is made to provide the staff with either radio or telephone communications which are available to Indian band councils in emergencies.

I shall now deal with the various subjects raised in the body of the brief submitted by your organization.

Public Relations

I quite agree that there is an increasing need for better understanding of the Indian and his problem by his fellow citizens and to meet this need my department has made provision for accelerated dissemination of informational material.

In an effort to provide factual information, the department has already produced a number of informational brochures which are distributed free of charge. I enclose copies of the most recent of these publications which I hope you will find interesting and informative. In addition to these brochures, photographic displays depicting various Indian activities and our annual reports are used as public information media.

Housing

The tremendous task in raising the standard of housing on the many Indian reserves throughout Canada will be readily appreciated. Although much remains to be done, there has been a marked improvement in housing conditions on Indian reserves. In 1958, for example, our housing appropriation was doubled and since then and including the estimated current year's program in Canada as a whole 5,259 houses have been built representing an expenditure of $8,237,921 from public funds and $6,470,233 contributed by the Indians. In Saskatchewan 1,062 houses will have been built in the same period representing an expenditure of $1,371,666 from public funds and a contribution of $830,903 by the Indians.

I should also mention that because of the rapid rate of family formation and changes in housing needs resulting from changing economic conditions the demand for houses continues to increase and it is becoming more difficult to reduce the backlog. The situation is particularly severe this year as unfavourable economic conditions tended to discourage movement away from the reserve while a number of families found it necessary to return.

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The results of studies conducted by the Department and the information secured as a result of trial projects are being incorporated in a revised housing program and a procedure for loans to provide for the increased number of better homes needed in most Indian communities. It is hoped that this program will result in improved housing primarily as a result of greater participation by individuals and communities.

Relief Projects

The Department is aware of the importance of programs designed to provide employment in lieu of relief assistance. An extensive placement program has been developed and we have engaged specialists to seek out employment opportunities off reserves in various types of jobs for which Indians are qualified. These placement officers, in co-operation with the National Employment Service have been successful in placing many Indians in various jobs of both a permanent and seasonal nature. In carrying out this program provision has been made for upgrading classes to enable young Indians to meet the entrance requirements for vocational training. Arrangements have also been made for on-the-job training contracts with employers.

I should also mention the winter employment programs which have been carried out under the Department of Labour Winter Works Incentive Program and those sponsored by the Department in co-operation with various Indian band councils. These programs are timed to coincide with periods of low employment and provide jobs for Indians who would otherwise be idle. They have arrested the upward trend in relief costs, have created a number of worthwhile assets on the reserves and have done much to prevent deterioration of morale resulting from dependency on relief.

Transportation of Indian Patients
and Medical Services on Indian Reserves

As I informed you in my letter of August 24, these items were referred to the Minister of National Health and Welfare for attention and direct reply.

Child Welfare

This Department has had a number of meetings with the Provincial Department of Rehabilitation and Welfare with the object of arranging for the extension of child welfare and other provincial welfare services to Indian reserves. If the province is prepared to extend these services, it would avoid competition between the federal and provincial welfare agencies for the very limited professional staff available.

....

Such a development would in addition prevent the duplication of voluminous welfare legislation, programs and services which would be inefficient, costly and serve to set the Indians further apart from other provincial citizens. Although we have agreements with a number of provincial and private child welfare agencies in other provinces, to date we have not been successful in reaching an agreement with the Saskatchewan Department of Rehabilitation and Welfare.

The Department has indicated its willingness to defray the actual cost of maintenance of Indian children on Indian reserves who might be made wards as a result of such an arrangement and to enter into a financial agreement with the Province with regard to the costs of preventive services.

With reference to the adoption of non-Indian children by Indians, as suggested in the first paragraph on page 9, an amendment to the Indian Act with this in mind is already receiving consideration.

Education

The importance of education in preparing Indians to become self-supporting and responsible members of the Canadian community is recognized and every effort is being made to improve the educational facilities available to Indians. Each year more funds are provided for Indian education and at the present time well over 50% of our total annual appropriation is allotted for this purpose.

The suggestion that the Department provide complete day school facilities for every group of Indians, several of which are very small and located in remote areas is impracticable. In the case of many there is no alternative but to transport the children to larger centres for high school education because the reserve population is insufficient to warrant a school large enough to offer an adequate program. Trade and technical training on the reserve is impracticable for the same reason. In addition the provincial trade training legislation limits the value of reserve training schools.

Our policy is to raise the general level of education of Indian children to the point where all children with the native ability may enter provincial trade, technical and professional training institutes. In such institutes they can receive recognized training in association with the young men and women with whom they will work.

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The unemployment situation in Canada during the past year has forcibly brought to our attention the plight of unskilled and semi-skilled workers. To train Indian youth for jobs that are rapidly disappearing would I fear only bring about further disillusionment.

Training on the reserve for employment off the reserve has not proven to be successful. Working conditions are not comparable in the two situations and the training therefore loses much of its value. Furthermore, the recent close scrutiny of Canada's labour problems has indicated the necessity of a mobile labour force to take advantage of employment opportunities wherever they may arise. Given the right training the Indians, some of whom are migrant by tradition, are well suited to such conditions.

The need for training young Indian women in homemaking is recognized. In addition to the Home Economics course offered in many Indian schools, we have endeavoured to meet the situation by a School Health program and adult education programs such as the Homemakers Clubs and special courses similar to that conducted at Beauval during the past three summers.

The integration program in Saskatchewan has opened up many provincial high schools to Indian children so that they do not, as you suggest, have to go to a residential school for this instruction. In many instances they can attend as day pupils. If they must leave home they are often placed in non-Indian homes for board and lodging, a measure supported by your brief.

In large centres the Department employs special personnel to assist Indian students residing in urban centres. They find homes for Indian students, offer guidance, assist the students to adjust to city life, introduce them to youth centres and movements, and if necessary help them with personal and school problems.

Except for the extensive on-reserve trade and technical training recommended in the brief, our educational policy is in line with the recommendations of your organisation.

Indian Reserve Surveys

Last year the Department created an Economic Development Division which is responsible for co-ordinating and directing Indian employment and programs designed to promote the economic advancement of the Indian people.

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In co-operation with other federal and provincial departments of government, pilot surveys have been conducted by economic specialists and it is anticipated that the results will enable the Department to plan an effective program for the economic development of reserves. The implementation of the survey reports will require the active assistance and support of non-Indian organizations. However, I feel it would be preferable to obtain the assistance of organizations representing a cross section of the community rather than specific political groups or parties.

Freedom of Worship

As far as I am aware Indians already enjoy the same rights and privileges as other Canadian citizens in the matter of freedom of worship.

Employment of Indians in the Department

Wherever possible, it is the policy of the Department to give preference to qualified Indians. It may be of interest to your organization to know that there are now 221 Indians employed with the Indian Affairs Branch in salaried positions. This does not of course include the large number of Indians who are employed on departmental projects on a day labour basis.

General

In several instances the brief mentions the necessity of amending the Indian Act. As you are aware, the needs of Indian bands differ from province to province and within provinces from district to district. Because of this, the Indian Act must provide a great degree of flexibility to meet these varied conditions. When major changes in the Indian Act are contemplated, we of course endeavour to obtain the views and advice of as many Indian leaders as possible.

The general trend of the Joint Parliamentary Committee's recommendations envisaged increased authority and responsibility of band councils whenever individual band councils were prepared to accept such responsibility. I might point out that some band councils do not appear too anxious to take advantage of the authority and responsibility already available to them under the present Indian Act.

This has been particularly the case in Saskatchewan although there is evidence of an awakening desire on the part of Saskatchewan Indians to assume greater responsibility for the administration of their affairs. Just a few weeks ago, I discussed this matter with

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representatives of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians here in Ottawa and arranged for them to visit two progressive Ontario reserves, Tyendinaga, near Belleville and Walpole Island, near Wallaceburg. This was done to enable these Indian leaders to obtain first hand knowledge of the methods by which these band councils manage their own revenue funds and exercise control over the general development of their communities.

The Joint Committee also recommended that Indian administration be placed on the agenda of a Federal-Provincial Conference in order that matters which are normally under provincial jurisdiction may be transferred to the provinces as soon as possible. However, the Joint Committee emphasized that any transfer of responsibility must be mutually acceptable not only to the Federal and Provincial authorities but also to the Indian people.

In closing, may I take this opportunity to thank you and your organization for your interest in the welfare of the Indians. It is heartening to hear that our efforts in this important field have the support and interest of others.

Yours sincerely,

Ellen L. Fairclough

Ellen L. Fairclough,
Minister.

Copy for Miss M.R. Pound, Prime Minister's Office.

111/3-8 (Adm.2)
HFV/in

Ottawa, November ~~22~~ 22, 1961.

Bert Mason, Esq.,
Secretary-Treasurer, C.C.F. Executive,
Shellbrook Constituency,
Shellbrook, Saskatchewan.

Dear Mr. Mason,

Reference is made to the resolutions and accompanying brief on Indian Administration submitted by your Organization earlier this year. I informed you in my interim reply of August 24, that the resolutions and the recommendations contained in the brief were being studied by the responsible departmental officers. I am now in a position to reply in more detail.

First of all I should point out that many of the proposals contained in the brief were considered by the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Indian Affairs and were included in the recommendations contained in the Committee's final report to Parliament. These recommendations are now being given consideration by the Government.

Resolution No. 1

Federal-Provincial Conferences
on Indian Administration.

The federal government recognizes a particular responsibility for Canadians of Indian status and is anxious to discharge this responsibility fully and in such a way as will promote the best interests of the Indians. In my view, this would include ensuring, as far as possible, that Indians are recognized as citizens of the various provinces and that they have access to the services, benefits and programs provided by the province for all other citizens. After all, Indians of the provinces are liable for provincial taxes and have the same obligations as other citizens. It surely follows that they should also enjoy the same rights and privileges .

.....2

The Department has already negotiated several formal and informal agreements with the provinces covering various aspects of Indian administration and is prepared at all times to co-operate in extending these agreements wherever a Province indicates a willingness to assume increased responsibility towards their citizens of Indian status.

Resolution No. 2

This resolution deals with the need for improved roads and communication facilities on Indian reserves. There is presently in effect an agreement with the Saskatchewan Municipal Road Assistance Authority whereby the province and the department share equally in the cost of constructing market grid roads lying within the boundaries of certain Indian reserves within the province. Since the agreement came into effect the Department has contributed the following amount from appropriation:-

Fiscal Year	Miles of Road Construction	Cost
1958-59	19.41	$36,352.49
1959-60	27.56	43,585.94
1960-61	20.3	51,190.96

In addition to the contributions towards the development of market grid roads, each year the Department has constructed many more miles of reserve roads without provincial assistance. This road construction and maintenance program will be continued in the future with priority being given to those areas where access roads to municipalities are essential to the success of the integrated school program. The Department maintains close liaison with the provincial authorities concerned to obtain the maximum amount of assistance in developing Indian reserve roads.

The provision of such things as communication facilities and electric power on Indian reserves should remain the responsibility of band councils. Although I agree that these facilities are most desirable the funds appropriated by Parliament each year are insufficient to meet the full cost of improvements of this nature.

All available funds have to first be directed to more urgent works such as roads, drainage, irrigation, sewage disposal systems, water supply systems and similar works all of which have a direct bearing on the development of the reserves and the general welfare of the Indian population. However, our field officers are always ready to assist band councils in negotiating with the public utility companies for an extension of services to the reserves.

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Where the department has an office operating on an Indian reserve, every effort is made to provide the staff with either radio or telephone communications which are available to Indian band councils in emergencies.

I shall now deal with the various subjects raised in the body of the brief submitted by your organization.

Public Relations

I quite agree that there is an increasing need for better understanding of the Indian and his problem by his fellow citizens and to meet this need my department has made provision for accelerated dissemination of informational material.

In an effort to provide factual information, the department has already produced a number of informational brochures which are distributed free of charge. I enclose copies of the most recent of these publications which I hope you will find interesting and informative. In addition to these brochures, photographic displays depicting various Indian activities and our annual reports are used as public information media.

Housing

The tremendous task in raising the standard of housing on the many Indian reserves throughout Canada will be readily appreciated. Although much remains to be done, there has been a marked improvement in housing conditions on Indian reserves. In 1958, for example, our housing appropriation was doubled and since then and including the estimated current year's program in Canada as a whole 5,259 houses have been built representing an expenditure of $8,237,921 from public funds and $6,470,233 contributed by the Indians. In Saskatchewan 1,062 houses will have been built in the same period representing an expenditure of $1,371,666 from public funds and a contribution of $830,903 by the Indians.

I should also mention that because of the rapid rate of family formation and changes in housing needs resulting from changing economic conditions the demand for houses continues to increase and it is becoming more difficult to reduce the backlog. The situation is particularly severe this year as unfavourable economic conditions tended to discourage movement away from the reserve while a number of families found it necessary to return.

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The results of studies conducted by the Department and the information secured as a result of trial projects are being incorporated in a revised housing program and a procedure for loans to provide for the increased number of better homes needed in most Indian communities. It is hoped that this program will result in improved housing primarily as a result of greater participation by individuals and communities.

Relief Projects

The Department is aware of the importance of programs designed to provide employment in lieu of relief assistance. An extensive placement program has been developed and we have engaged specialists to seek out employment opportunities off reserves in various types of jobs for which Indians are qualified. These placement officers, in co-operation with the National Employment Service have been successful in placing many Indians in various jobs of both a permanent and seasonal nature. In carrying out this program provision has been made for upgrading classes to enable young Indians to meet the entrance requirements for vocational training. Arrangements have also been made for on-the-job training contracts with employers.

I should also mention the winter employment programs which have been carried out under the Department of Labour Winter Works Incentive Program and those sponsored by the Department in co-operation with various Indian band councils. These programs are timed to coincide with periods of low employment and provide jobs for Indians who would otherwise be idle. They have arrested the upward trend in relief costs, have created a number of worthwhile assets on the reserves and have done much to prevent deterioration of morale resulting from dependency on relief.

Transportation of Indian Patients
and Medical Services on Indian Reserves

As I informed you in my letter of August 24, these items were referred to the Minister of National Health and Welfare for attention and direct reply.

Child Welfare

This Department has had a number of meetings with the Provincial Department of Rehabilitation and Welfare with the object of arranging for the extension of child welfare and other provincial welfare services to Indian reserves. If the province is prepared to extend those services, it would avoid competition between the federal and provincial welfare agencies for the very limited professional staff available.

Such a development would in addition prevent the duplication of voluminous welfare legislation, programs and services which would be inefficient, costly and serve to set the Indians further apart from other provincial citizens. Although we have agreements with a number of provincial and private child welfare agencies in other provinces, to date we have not been successful in reaching an agreement with the Saskatchewan Department of Rehabilitation and Welfare.

The Department has indicated its willingness to defray the actual cost of maintenance of Indian children on Indian reserves who might be made wards as a result of such an arrangement and to enter into a financial agreement with the Province with regard to the costs of preventive services.

With reference to the adoption of non-Indian children by Indians, as suggested in the first paragraph on page 9, an amendment to the Indian Act with this in mind is already receiving consideration.

Education

The importance of education in preparing Indians to become self-supporting and responsible members of the Canadian community is recognized and every effort is being made to improve the educational facilities available to Indians. Each year more funds are provided for Indian education and at the present time well over 50% of our total annual appropriation is allotted for this purpose.

The suggestion that the Department provide complete day school facilities for every group of Indians, several of which are very small and located in remote areas is impracticable. In the case of many there is no alternative but to transport the children to larger centres for high school education because the reserve population is insufficient to warrant a school large enough to offer an adequate program. Trade and technical training on the reserve is impracticable for the same reason. In addition the provincial trade training legislation limits the value of reserve training schools.

Our policy is to raise the general level of education of Indian children to the point where all children with the native ability may enter provincial trade, technical and professional training institutes. In such institutes they can receive recognized training in association with the young men and women with whom they will work.

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The unemployment situation in Canada during the past year has forcibly brought to our attention the plight of unskilled and semi-skilled workers. To train Indian youth for jobs that are rapidly disappearing would I fear only bring about further disillusionment.

Training on the reserve for employment off the reserve has not proven to be successful. Working conditions are not comparable in the two situations and the training therefore loses much of its value. Furthermore, the recent close scrutiny of Canada's labour problems has indicated the necessity of a mobile labour force to take advantage of employment opportunities wherever they may arise. Given the right training the Indians, some of whom are migrant by tradition, are well suited to such conditions.

The need for training young Indian women in homemaking is recognised. In addition to the Home Economics course offered in many Indian schools, we have endeavoured to meet the situation by a School Health program and adult education programs such as the Homemakers Clubs and special courses similar to that conducted at Beauval during the past three summers.

The integration program in Saskatchewan has opened up many provincial high schools to Indian children so that they do not, as you suggest, have to go to a residential school for this instruction. In many instances they can attend as day pupils. If they must leave home they are often placed in non-Indian homes for board and lodging, a measure supported by your brief.

In large centres the Department employs special personnel to assist Indian students residing in urban centres. They find homes for Indian students, offer guidance, assist the students to adjust to city life, introduce them to youth centres and movements, and if necessary help them with personal and school problems.

Except for the extensive on-reserve trade and technical training recommended in the brief, our educational policy is in line with the recommendations of your organisation.

Indian Reserve Surveys

Last year the Department created an Economic Development Division which is responsible for co-ordinating and directing Indian employment and programs designed to promote the economic advancement of the Indian people.

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In co-operation with other federal and provincial departments of government, pilot surveys have been conducted by economic specialists and it is anticipated that the results will enable the Department to plan an effective program for the economic development of reserves. The implementation of the survey reports will require the active assistance and support of non-Indian organizations. However, I feel it would be preferable to obtain the assistance of organizations representing a cross section of the community rather than specific political groups or parties.

Freedom of Worship

As far as I am aware Indians already enjoy the same rights and privileges as other Canadian citizens in the matter of freedom of worship.

Employment of Indians in the Department

Wherever possible, it is the policy of the Department to give preference to qualified Indians. It may be of interest to your organization to know that there are now 221 Indians employed with the Indian Affairs Branch in salaried positions. This does not of course include the large number of Indians who are employed on departmental projects on a day labour basis.

General

In several instances the brief mentions the necessity of amending the Indian Act. As you are aware, the needs of Indian bands differ from province to province and within provinces from district to district. Because of this, the Indian Act must provide a great degree of flexibility to meet these varied conditions. When major changes in the Indian Act are contemplated, we of course endeavour to obtain the views and advice of as many Indian leaders as possible.

The general trend of the Joint Parliamentary Committee's recommendations envisaged increased authority and responsibility of band councils whenever individual band councils were prepared to accept such responsibility. I might point out that some band councils do not appear too anxious to take advantage of the authority and responsibility already available to them under the present Indian Act.

This has been particularly the case in Saskatchewan although there is evidence of an awakening desire on the part of Saskatchewan Indians to assume greater responsibility for the administration of their affairs. Just a few weeks ago, I discussed this matter with

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representatives of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians here in Ottawa and arranged for them to visit two progressive Ontario reserves, Tyendinaga, near Belleville and Walpole Island, near Wallaceburg. This was done to enable these Indian leaders to obtain first hand knowledge of the methods by which these band councils manage their own revenue funds and exercise control over the general development of their communities.

The Joint Committee also recommended that Indian administration be placed on the agenda of a Federal-Provincial Conference in order that matters which are normally under provincial jurisdiction may be transferred to the provinces as soon as possible. However, the Joint Committee emphasized that any transfer of responsibility must be mutually acceptable not only to the Federal and Provincial authorities but also to the Indian people.

In closing, may I take this opportunity to thank you and your organization for your interest in the welfare of the Indians. It is heartening to hear that our efforts in this important field have the support and interest of others.

Yours sincerely,

Ellen L. Fairclough,
Minister.

The tremendous task in raising the standard of housing on the many Indian reserves throughout Canada will be readily appreciated. Although much remains to be done, there has been a marked improvement in housing conditions on Indian reserves. In 1958, for example, our housing appropriation was doubled and since then and including the estimated current year's program in Canada as a whole 5,259 houses have been built representing an expenditure of $8,237,921 from public funds and $6,470,233, contributed by the Indians. In Saskatchewan 1,062 houses will have been built in the same period representing an expenditure of $1,371,666 from public funds and a contribution of $830,903 by the Indians.

~~An extensive survey to determine the extent~~ of the housing problem in all Indian communities ~~was~~ carried out in the fall of 1960 which revealed ~~that~~ about 25.3% of the present Indian houses ~~are substandard~~. In Saskatchewan this percentage ~~is higher~~ (33.8%) but, as you will note, a special ~~effort is being made in this Province~~. I would also point out that because of the rapid rate of family formation and changes in housing needs resulting from changing economic conditions the demand for houses continues to increase and it is becoming more difficult to reduce the backlog. The situation is particularly severe this year as unfavourable economic conditions tended to discourage movement away from the reserve while a number of families found it necessary to return.

Details for file to support information given by the Minister to Bert Mason, Esq., Secretary-Treasurer, C.C.F. Executive, Shellbrook Constituency, Shellbrook, Saskatchewan.

CANADA

Fiscal Year	Number Of Units	Welfare	Personal, V.L.A. & Band Funds	Total
1958-59	1,344	2,049,073	1,498,677	3,547,750
1959-60	1,465	1,995,897	1,722,987	3,718,884
1960-61	1,225	2,192,951	1,648,569	3,841,520
1961-62 (Estimated)	1,225	2,000,000	1,600,000	3,600,000
	5,259	8,237,921	6,470,233	14,708,154

SASKATCHEWAN

1958-59	276	346,192	200,099	546,291
1959-60	266	330,575	195,749	526,324
1960-61	260	361,899	219,055	580,954
1961-62 (Estimated)	260	333,000	216,000	549,000
	1,062	1,371,666	830,903	2,202,569

Adm. 2

Adm. 1

PA → 111/3-8 (Adm.1)

Brief Submitted by the Shellbrook
Local C.C.F. Organization

August 31, 1961.

This will refer to your 111/3-8 of August 24th, 1961, forwarding a brief on Indian Affairs submitted to the Minister by the Shellbrook local C.C.F. organization.

It would appear that the only matter raised in the brief which concerns the work of this Division is a reference to public relations made on Page 2. In regard thereto I would suggest the following paragraph be included in the Minister's reply:

> "I note that reference is made in the brief to the need for a greater understanding of Indians and the work of the Indian Affairs Branch by the public. The Department recognizes this need and is presently producing a number of informational brochures, the latest of which I enclose herewith. In addition, photographic displays of the Branch annual reports are used as public information media. It is expected that the Indian Affairs Branch will, in the near future, obtain the full time services of a technical officer trained in public relations. Meanwhile, the Department's Information Division is assisting the Branch in this field."

I suggest that brochures forwarded to the Shellbrook Agency include "The Indian in Transition", "The Canadian Indian", and "Indians of the Prairie Provinces" (new edition).

J. D. Darling.

JDD/cl

Senior Administrative Officer.

111/3-8(Adm.2)

Chief, Economic Development Division. P. A. 111/3-8(D1)

Brief to Minister by Shellbrook C.C.F. Constituency Executive dated April 25, 1961.

August 29, 1961.

We have reviewed this brief and the other material that was submitted for our comments with your memorandum of August 24th. As you will have noted, the subject headings and the recommendations do not deal with matters that are primarily the concern and responsibility of this Division. We are therefore confining our remarks to a few subjects which were included incidentally in the brief, which are of particular interest to us.

If the material submitted by other Divisions includes points falling within the functions of this Division, you may wish to refer their material to us for comment at that time.

"Work for pay" projects - last paragraph on page 3 and third paragraph on page 4 - The Branch agrees that every effort should be made to assist Indians to find work, which will enable them to support themselves rather than be given direct relief assistance. We have developed an employment placement program, and have taken specialists on our staff, to seek out employment opportunities off reserves in various types of jobs for which the Indians are fitted, both of a permanent and seasonal nature, and we have met with gratifying success in placing Indians in a number of jobs, in co-operation with the National Employment Service. In the process of carrying out this program, provision has been made for up-grading classes to enable young Indians to meet the entrance requirements for vocational training, and arrangements have also been made for on-the-job training contracts with employers.

In keeping with the same objective, winter works projects have been carried out, not only under the Department of Labour Winter Works Incentive Program, but also under similar programs sponsored by the Branch in co-operation with various Indian bands.

. . . . 2

Underwood D1

These programs are on Indian reserves. We are hopeful that it will be found possible to extend the number and scope of works projects of this nature, to meet the needs for employment on reserves whenever opportunities for employment off the reserves are lacking.

Page 9 - Education - We are glad to note that the Shellbrook organization is aware of the vocational training presently being provided. We have already commented on the provisions for "On-the-Job" training. The Shellbrook group may rest assured that every effort is being made to provide or arrange for whatever facilities appear necessary. The suggestion that mobile units might be used to provide training courses on reserves is an interesting one, but would naturally have to be considered in relation to facilities presently available and the need for additional facilities.

Page 11 paragraph 4 - The brief calls for integrated secondary schools, but it will be noted, from page 14 paragraph 2, that a good start seems to have been made already in making arrangements of this kind for some children in the Shellbrook Agency.

Page 12 paragraphs 2 to 5 - The Education and Agencies Divisions presumably will point out that young Indians are presently attending business colleges and taking commercial courses, and that our efforts of the past to employ Indians in the Branch are being intensified. Employment of Indians by the Branch has been a lively subject of discussion at Branch conferences.

Page 13 - The Shellbrook organization recommends a detailed survey of reserves by a continuing committee of federal and provincial government representatives, following a federal-provincial conference, with Indian representation, to formulate a clear-cut policy on the respective responsibilities of the governments concerned. It suggests that the continuing committee should appoint "teams" comprising representatives of each recognized political party to carry out these studies.

. . . 3

Within the framework of the Indian Act, the Branch already has a number of formal and informal agreements with provinces covering various phases of Indian activity, and we stand ready to co-operate in extending these arrangements to other fields whenever a province indicates its willingness to assume added responsibilities. The Shellbrook organization may not be fully aware of the present arrangements, which are working out very well. When amendments to the Indian Act become necessary, we are prepared to recommend whatever changes appear advisable, provided we are satisfied that these changes have the support of the Indians and are in line with their expressed wishes.

The needs of Indian Bands and the circumstances in which they find themselves, differ from province to province and from district to district. Because of this, any amendments to the Indian Act concerning over-all policy would have to be of a very broad nature indeed. For the present, the procedures that have been followed seem to have sufficient flexibility, and have not noticeably limited the establishment of specific working agreements with the provinces.

We have been encouraging Indians to take more direct responsibility in running their own affairs, and there is much to be said for concentrating on new developments along that line. In such efforts, the co-operation of the provincial governments will be welcomed.

With reference to paragraph 5 on page 13, the Indian Affairs Branch has already made a start on economic development surveys, and we have been very pleased with the co-operation received from other federal and provincial departments. These surveys are carried out by specialists and we believe that they can achieve more satisfactory results than could reasonably be expected from surveys made by interested laymen. The first surveys of this nature should set the pattern for future action. When the recommendations of the specialists have been received and studied, their implementation will require the active assistance and support of non-Indian organizations. We would prefer to see such assistance in the hands of organizations representing a cross-section of the community rather than representing political groups.

While we have indicated that we prefer to rely on specialists in carrying out economic development surveys, this is not to say that we do not welcome suggestions from interested individuals and groups within each community. We appreciate their desire to help the Indians to improve their economic and social status, and we are glad to have their co-operation. Staff shortages, however, make it necessary that we limit our activities in the field of economic surveys.

Director, Indian Affairs Branch

R. F. Battle.

HGS/cb.

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Chief, Economic Development Division

YOUR FILE No:

FROM : Senior Administrative Officer

OUR FILE No: 111/3-8 (Adm.2)

SUBJECT:

DATE: August 24, 1961.

I forward herewith a lengthy brief on Indian Administration submitted to the Minister by the Shellbrook local C.C.F. Organization.

The Minister has asked for a report on the various matters raised in this brief and I would appreciate your comments on those which concern the work of your Division.

The medical aspects have been referred to the Minister of National Health and Welfare for attention and direct reply.

H.T. Vergette,
for Senior Administrative Officer.

Rec'd Aug 25. DI

AUGUST 17, 1961

COL. JONES

The Minister has requested that a reply be drafted to Mr. Bert Mason for her signature and I suggest a copy be forwarded to Miss Round for file.

J.R. Moodie,
Executive Assistant.

Personal

O t t a w a,
August 12th, 1961.

Mr. J.R. Moodie,
Executive Assistant to the Minister of
Citizenship and Immigration,
Woods Building,
O T T A W A.

Dear Jim,

I am sorry for the delay in passing this file on to your Minister but I have been basking in the West Indies!

I am sending Mrs. Walker's letter as well, to which I have replied, and would also ask you to note that Mr. Mason writes on behalf of the Shellbrook C.C.F. Executive!

Sincerely,

(Miss) M.R. Pound,
Personal Secretary.

s.19(1)

Shellbrook, Sask.
July 13th, 1961.

Rt.Hon.J.G.Diefenbaker,
Prime Minister of Canada,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr.Diefenbaker;

I am taking the liberty of forwarding to you the enclosed brief and resolutions to be submitted to the Hon. Ellen Fairclough, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. I would appreciate it very much, if you would forward the material to Mrs. Fairclough, after you have read it.

When the resolutions were endorsed by our constituency executive last winter, I was asked to prepare an accompanying brief. As you will note by the date of the enclosed letter, our secretary wrote it on April 25th and I was supposed to see that the brief went forward in a few days.

However, an [redacted] held up completion of the brief until this week. As our member for Prince Albert, I was supposed to prepare a copy for your perusal but I have found typing very tiring. I thought you would perhaps not mind my sending you Mrs. Fairclough's brief instead of a personal copy.

I was delighted to see that the Committee on Indian Affairs, according to today's paper, has recommended an immediate conference with the provinces on Indian Affairs. I am sure that all political parties are deeply interested in the Indian problem and will give your government evry co-operation.

Sincerely,

APPENDED NOTE TO BRIEF.

Since completing the enclosed brief, I undertook to check further the statement regarding provincial child welfare workers contained in the last paragraph on page 16 of the brief.

I find that the directive states child welfare workers will no longer go on reserves " unless a case is referred to them by the social welfare worker for the Department of Indian Affairs."

Inasmuch as there is only one Indian Affairs social welfare worker in Saskatchewan and he is stationed in Saskatoon, you can readily see that the situation is far from satisfactory. If the social welfare worker were absent from Saskatoon, there might be lengthy delays if Indian agencies in the north or South of the province had to contact him in regard to a case to be referred to provincial child welfare workers."

In clearing out some old files today, I came across this interview I wrote for the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix some seven or eight years ago, on the occasion of the retirement of a veteran employee of the Indian Affairs department.

I felt that I should include it with the other clippings, as I note his comments bear out many of the things I myself have found during the past year and a half I spent on investigating Indian affiars in this area. I had completely forgotten about writing the interview.

M.R.W.

COPY ONLY

SHELLBROOK, SASK.

April 25th, 1961.

HON. ELLEN FAIRCLOUGH
MINISTER OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH, OTTAWA, CAN.

Dear Mrs. Fairclough:

At the request of the Shellbrook CCF constituency executive, I am forwarding to you the enclosed resolutions, endorsed at a recent meeting of our executive. It is our hope that you will give the most sympathetic consideration to these resolutions and to the accompanying brief.

Our executive wishes to commend your Department for the work it is presently doing on behalf of our Indian citizens and for the excellent progress that has been made in recent years. We are sure, however, you will agree that much still remains to be done in the wholefield of Indian Affairs.

It is our belief that the problem of helping our Indian people achieve full citizenship status and all it entails, is the responsibility of all Canadian citizens, irrespective of political faith. It is in that spirit we are submitting this Brief to you and may we assure you and your Department of our fullest cooperation.

Respectfully,

signed Bert Mason

Secretary-Treasurer.

RESOLUTIONS on Indian Affairs endorsed by the Shellbrook CCF constituency executive.

1. "Resolved that we urge the federal government to call an immediate conference with the provinces on Indian Affairs, to work out uniform federal-provincial agreements on all aspects of Indian Affairs."

2. "Resolved that we urge the federal government, with provincial assistance, to provide communication facilities on those Indian reserves which are at present without such facilities and we further urge that on reserves where present roads are inadequate, at least one main road be built to grid standard".

The problem of Canada's Indians has become one of increasing concern to many people in Canada today. In the past decade there has been a growing awareness that the problem is not solely a matter of government responsibility but something that must concern all people of conscience in this country.

For almost a century our Indian people have been "segregated" on reserves, living under a paternalistic system that too often has tended to rob them of their once proud independence. If they have become "second-class citizens, lazy, shiftless and unwilling to accept responsibilities as so many claim, then we must all share the blame.

....2

The fact that our governments in recent years have adopted a more enlightened policy in dealing with the Indians is much to their credit. However, it is our respectful opinion that until a concentrated program of education is undertaken, not only among our Indians but among our white people as well, successful integration will never be accomplished.

The Indian's ingrained suspicion of the white man must be overcome just as the white man must learn to accept the Indian for what he is, just another Canadian citizen. To achieve this, education is of the utmost importance, not only of the older generation of Indians but of the new generation of boys and girls now growing up on our reserves— a generation of boys and girls who are no longer able to pursue their traditional way of life but who cannot be permitted to sink into a way of life in which they will become permanent "charges" of the government for their entire life span.

We feel that before such an educational program can be successful, it is important that the Indian Affairs Branch establish good public relations, something which has not been done in the past. Of all government departments it would appear the Indian Affairs Branch has always had the poorest public relations.

Although it has been constantly criticized for what it has failed to do for Canada's Indians, it seems to have made too little effort to acquaint the public with exactly how much it has accomplished. The average Canadian taxpayer hasn't the faintest idea of the millions of dollars that have already been spent in health and welfare services for the Indians. Neither has he been made fully aware of the money that has been spent and is being spent in assisting with the construction of integrated schools or of how successful this program is proving.

How can the Canadian public appreciate the tremendous task that faces our government in trying to bring our Indian people to full citizenship status and all it entails, if it fails to take the public into its confidence?

The public should be made aware of just how bad conditions are on some of Canada's Indian reserves. They should be acquainted with the efforts being made to improve these conditions and they should know, in terms of dollars and cents, jsut how much it is going to cost to implement all the demands made on the Department.

Until the public is given a clear and honest picture, public conscience will never be aroused to the extent that all Canadian citizens recognize and accept the fact that they share with the government the responsibility of "helping the Indian help himself." We submit that greater interest in the problem of Indian Affairs would be shown if the Department maintained closer contact with the news media at the local level.

It is a well-known fact that Indian Agency officials are often reluctant to release information for publication, even when such information might reflect credit on the Department. It may that as civil servants, they feel they have no right to issue such information and that only Ottawa can give out press releases on any phase of Departmental work. A clear-cut definition of policy in this regard would do much to bring about better public relations at the local level.

May we point out, in submitting this brief, that all comments and recommendations contained in the following pages are based on discussions we have had over a period of months, not only with the Indians themselves, but with a number of people directly connected with the work of the Indian Affairs Branch and the Department of Indian Health as well as lay church workers and our own medical men who are ministering regularly to Indian patients. Statements appearing in Quotation marks are direct comments made by the persons interviewed.

....3

We have found universal agreement on the need for a definite clear-cut policy in five specific areas: Housing, Communications, Transportation, Child Welfare and Education.

Housing

It is agreed that adequate housing is perhaps the most urgent necessity on most of Canada's Indian reserves today, especially in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The housing conditions on some reserves in this area has been described as "appalling" and "horrifying". It is claimed that much of the ignorance on the part of Indian parents in regard to health, stems from the "horrible housing conditions, the filth and dirt in which they live."

Church lay workers havereported cases of six or seven people living in one-roomed log houses not much larger than a fair-sized living room in a white home. Some of the homes have been described as being "unbelievably filthy". One church worker reported visiting a very small log house, occupied by six people, " so filthy it was unbelievable" and living in the midst of the filth was a man who was seriously ill. He reports three of the house's occupants were able-bodied women who displayed complete indifference to the filth and dirt around them.

Now that Indian children are being integrated into many schools outside the reserves, surely children coming from homes like that will be forever handicapped in their association with white children. The lay worker in question felt there should be regular inspection of homes on reserves where the occupants are receiving social aid. When people were found living in the midst of filth and dirt, they should be denied any assistance until they had cleaned their homes up.

We would point out that sub-section K of section 72 of the Indian Act states that the Governor-in-Council may pass regulations to " provide for inspection of premises on reserves etc." if such regulations are now in effect, then we respectfully submit that greater efforts be made to enforce them, until such time at least a proper and full-scale housing program be undertaken on the reserves.

It has been observed where reserves are situated close to a town, the residents visit town more frequently than from isolated reserves. As a result, they seem more "civilized" and are quicker to adopt the white man's way of living and their homes are of a little better standard and are at least maintained in a cleaner condition.

On some of the reserves in more remote areas, where they cling to the old traditions "the white man's world has hardly made a dent on them." It is on these reserves where living conditions are most appalling and it is on these reserves where some immediate action is needed.

It is felt that a system of annual housing grants and loans, on a greatly-expanded scale, would be a start towards assisting the Indians to undertake their own housing programs. Under the direction of an experienced foreman and one or two assistants, all the labor could be done by the Indians themselves. Not only would better homes be provided but work could be provided many Indians to help them eke out their existence.

Housing ✓

Wherever possible, work with pay, rather than direct assistance, should be provided for able-bodied Indian men. The Indian nature being what it is, the Indian must be educated to the idea of work. Even if a man was paid to dig a well or put in a garden for himself, it would be better than simply handing him social assistance. He would at least be bettering his conditions and would be taking the first step, in many cases, towards self-achievement and independence.

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While there are many Indians living on reserves today, who have achieved a certain amount of prosperity through their own endeavours, there are far too many, especially among some of the younger Indian men, who are content to drift around the reserve idling their time away and living without any thought of the morrow.

There is much that would profit the white man if he adopted certain features of the Indian philosophy but in the white man's world of today, that philosophy is in many ways impractical and does not prepare the Indian for the world outside his reserve. The idea of "working to earn your living" is instilled in every white boy and girl from the time they are small. It is accepted that as soon as their schooling is ended, they will go out into the workingworld to take their place in society. Not so the Indian.

As long as the present "paternalistic" system continues on our Indian reserves, it is hopeless to expect the Indian to understand the white man's philosophy of work as part of his daily life. If our Indian people are going to be successfully integrated into the white man's world, it is essential that "work for pay" projects be undertaken right on the reserves and we submit than an extensive home-building program would be the most logical starting point.

Communications

Lack of communications on some reserves in this area of Saskatchewan is posing a serious problem. In cases of sudden, severe illness there is no way to contact the nearest doctor or hospital if a reserve is without a telephone. Thedoctor is unable to get to the patient and it means the Indians have to be brought into the hospital and a delay in getting transportation can often be fatal.

If parents of a sick child, for instance, have no means of getting a child to hospital, a phone call, if phones were available, could at least be put through to the Indian Superintendent and transportation could be arranged for them. With no communication facilities on some reserves, this is impossible.

The Shellbrook Indian Agency has several reserves without communication facilities. One such reserve has 600 Indians living on it. The result is that our local hospital has reported a rise in hospitalization costs because Indian patients may be ready for dischargefrom the hospital but have to remain longer than necessary, simply because the hospital has no way of contacting the family to have the patient picked up.

At present, hospital officials have to phone to the nearest point to such a reserve and the message has to be relayed on. If the reserve should happen to be some miles from the nearest telephone, this often results in a lengthy delay and as a result, a badly-needed hospital bed is sometimes occupied two or three days longer than necessary and this in turn results in unnecessary hospitalization costs to the government.

It is assumed that the Indian reserves at present without communication facilities are located mainly in the northern areas or more remote parts of a province. We have been informed that in areas where telephone lines are not available, it would be possible to utilize power poles to provide a form of radio-telephone service.

In the Shellbrook area, government power lines either go directly through the reserves or are immediately adjacent to them. The Saskatchewan Power Corporation is at present undertaking experiments to utilize power phones for telephones and carrier systems on their power lines.

We would point out that of the seven reserves in this area, only one has a resident Indian Agent. This means the nearest departmental

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contact for the other six reserves, is the local Indian office in Shellbrook.

We would urge that your government cooperate with the Provincial government in sharing costs of bringing either telephones or radio-telephone communication facilities to reserves not so served. Not only would it facilitate much of the work of the Indian Agency office but it would mean that in cases of sudden severe illness, lives might be saved, if direct communication with a doctor was available.

Transportation

The problem of transportation, it is universally agreed, is one of the most complex and disturbing problems faced by the Indians. Dr. Dan McCue, of Shellbrook, has reported that lack of transportation has resulted in Indian babies, in some cases, being dead of arrival, at the hospital and others "At death's door", so far gone that "doctors and nurses slaved over them most of the night to save them".

Parents of these children have told him they had no means of transportation themselves and couldn't get anyone to bring them in sooner. Hospital Administrator, J.R. Huckstep, says lack of transportation, like the lack of communication, is posing a real problem for the local hospital.

Even when the parents of an Indian child have been contacted, they often have difficulty getting someone with a car or truck to pick up the patient and take him home to the reserve. The hospital has now adopted the policy of telling parents when a child is brought into hospital, to contact the hospital by phone every couple of days to check when the child will be ready to leave. When a reserve has no phone, this again is difficult.

The hospital makes it a point to notify the parents two or three days in advance, when a child will be ready to leave, to give them time to find transportation and to ensure that a hospital bed will not be occupied longer than necessary. Several instances have been reported where hospital beds were occupied by Indian patients who could have gone home a day or so earlier but had to wait to be picked up. As a result, local residents had to be sent on to Prince Albert, thirty miles away, because all the hospital beds were filled.

It was the opinion of the doctor and the hospital administrator that some definite plan should be worked out to make arrangements for transportation to and from reserves for indigent sick patients, especially where communication facilities are lacking.

At present, if an Indian patient is taken to the doctor, the doctor determines if the patient is ill and needs treatment or hospitalization. If transportation had to be provided for the patient, the Indian Health Service will pay the costs of transportation, provided that the Indian Affairs Branch Office certifies that the patient is indigent.

Of course it is essential and desirable that a Band accept responsibility for arranging transportation for its own people. Some reserves have already arranged for their own taxi service, with payment being made from monies set aside from band funds. In addition, the Indians have been encouraged to set up Health and Welfare Committees on their reserves and by bingos and other activities, to raise money for transportation for those who are without.

At the present time, however, in the Shellbrook area, only one such committee has been set up out of the seven reserves. Until such time as each reserve can take full responsibility for its own transportation scheme, we feel that some definite policy should be established to assist the Indians in this regard.

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We therefore suggest that consideration be given to the following recommendation, namely, that the Indian Affairs Branch of your Department, working with the Chief and Councillors on each reserve, designate an individual (or individuals) on or near each Indian reserve, to provide "taxi" service for emergency cases when a family has no transportation or is unable to get anyone to take the patient to doctor or hospital.

Those who are able to pay their own costs of the taxi service, should receive a receipt from the individual supplying the service. Each month a copy of all receipts issued, along with bills for all indigent patients transported, should be submitted to the Agency office. Each bill submitted should include the name of the person transported, the name of the reserve, date of examination by the doctor or date of admission to hospital, if hospital care is necessary. Each bill for transportation should also be signed by the doctor or the hospital administrator.

The same procedure would be followed if a discharged patient had to be supplied transportation. A revolving fund for transportation for each reserve could be set up at the agency office. Each band could be set aside an initial sum for transportation for its reserve and would be credited with that amount at the office. All monies raised for transportation would also be credited to the particular fund of the band raising the money.

Monthly bills for transportation would be paid from Transportation funds by the Superintendent and where band funds at any time, were insufficient to cover the full cost, the balance could be paid by the Department. Receipted bills would be turned over to the Band Councils each month and the onus would then be on the Chief and Councillors to collect transportation costs from any individual they found had abused the transportation privileges.

We respectfully submit that the system outlined above, or one similar to it, should be instituted on a trial basis. At the end of the trial period, it should be possible to establish a more or less accurate estimate of transportation costs on each reserve over a stated period. Band Councils might then be persuaded to budget a certain amount annually to cover such costs, much as school boards budget for their conveyance costs.

It is our feeling that such a plan would offer a workable compromise between the Department and the Band Councils in regard to transportation. The Indians and many white people feel the Department should pay all the costs of transportation, apparently unaware of thefact that there is nothing in their Treaty of the Indian Act, to guarantee transportation to the Indians.

It is recognized that the Government's only obligation in this respect, is a moral obligation but it is one that cannot be ignored. Our Indian people have been asking for more control of their own affairs but they must also learn that in controlling their own affairs, they must also assume more responsibility. If a definite policy in regard to providing transportation were to be set up and if the Indians were assured of the Department assisting them with the costs, it is our belief they would "police" the plan themselves to the extent that abuses would be kept at a minimum.

We feel such a plan as outlined above or something similar, would result in a saving to the Department in the longrun and would encourage the Indians to gradually take over complete responsibility in this field. It would also protect the Department from abuses which no doubt occur under the present system.

It would appear that one of the biggest factors in Indian Health costs, including transportation, is the lack of sufficient doctors and nurses in Departmental service. We have been informed that in most points where Indian Health Services have been set up, there are only one or two doctors, sometimes three, on the staff.

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If these clinics had sufficient doctors, at least four, one doctor could be constantly visiting the reserves and holding regular clinics. As it is, the only time their Indian Health doctor visits a reserve, is at Treaty time, according to one Chief. That is understandable when you realize that a Superintendent of an Indian Health Zone might have as many as 9,000 Indians under his care.

It has been admitted that the great problem of the Department of Indian Health Services is to get young doctors to join the Indian Health Service. Their reluctance is understandable when they could earn twice as much in a small town where their duties might not be as arduous, as they could earn at present in Indian Health.

It would appear that higher salaries might attract more young doctors into the service. Failing that, if Indian Health Services were administered by provincial Health Departments, existing staffs could be augmented by provincial department workers.

We feel that consideration should be given to the institution by your department of a concentrated scheme, similar to that operated by the Armed Services, under such a scheme, the brightest Indian High School students in each province, could be selected for medical training with all their expenses paid by the Government. In return, young doctors in training under the scheme, would serve for three years with the Department of Indian Health after graduation.

While attending University, the students would work in Indian Health centres for the five months from May until September, thus gaining first-hand experience of the work they would be doing after graduation. An extensive scheme for training nurses could also be undertaken.

Indian and Metis girls in this province who have been able to take training, are proving excellent nurses and nurses' assistants. If the brightest of the Indian boys and girls could be interested in training for doctors and nurses, it would not only fill a great need in this field, but would be a great factor in hastening complete integration of our Indian people with the white.

There is an urgent need for sufficient doctors to visit many reserves regularly, to hold clinics. Prevention generally proves less costly than the cure. Shellbrook doctors say that every other Indian baby brought to them, has low blood from poor nutrition. It is estimated that approximately 50 percent of Indian children in this area suffers from poor nutrition and this no doubt holds true for a big majority of reserves throughout Western Canada.

If staffs at Indian Health clinics were sufficient to allow for more time to be spent holding clinics on the reserves, Indian mothers could be educated to the importance of proper nutrition for their children. They would be educated not to delay in getting a sick child to hospital. Many deaths of Indian babies can be attributed to this delay in seeking medical aid, simply because the parents were ignorent of the imperative need of early treatment.

We respectfully submit that the Indian Act be amended to clarify the responsibility of the Government in regard to medical, hospital and transportation services for the Indians and we further suggest that your government explore with provincial governments, the possibility of integrating their Health Services so that more direct administration is possible.

Child Welfare

As the Indian Act now stands, no provision has been made for enforcing provincial child welfare acts on an Indian reserve, in regard to neglected or abandoned children. We would recommend that the Act be amended to include a section dealing specifically with Child Welfare. The provisions of such a section should be consistent with provincial Child Welfare Acts

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and should clearly indicate under whose jurisdiction the provisions are to be enforced.

At the present time in Saskatchewan, adoption cases are handled by a provincial agency for the Department of Indian Affairs. Indian juvenile delinquents are brought into provincial courts and the Department of Social Welfare deals with cases of Indian children living off the reserves who have been abandoned by their parents.

It should therefore be logically assumed that provincial child welfare workers should have the right to fo on an Indian reserve and remove a child who has been abandoned or is being seriously neglected and if such a child is committed to their care, to place the child in a foster home outside the reserve.

The Field Workers' Manual issued by the Indian Affairs Branch, states that Department workers have no authority to go on an Indian reserve and forcibly remove a child. An accredited child care agency must be contacted and action can then be taken. Recently, however, advice has gone out from your Regional office at Regina that child welfare workers for the Department of Social Welfare say they will no longer enter reserves as they are not within their jurisdiction.

Section 87 of the Indian Act states:

"All laws of general application from time to time in force in any province are applicable to and in respect of Indians in this province, except to the extent that such laws are inconsistent etc....."

In the Field Workers' Manual issued by your Department, the above paragraph is interpreted to mean that technically, by virtue of Section 87, Indians are subject to provincial laws governing "the apprehension, guardianship and adoption of children." Agency officials interpret that to mean that a provincial government now has the power to administer the provincial Child Welfare Act on Indian reserves as the Child Welfare Act is not "inconsistent" to the Indian Act.

However, inasmuch as there is no section in the Indian Act dealing specifically with Child Welfare, it can be argued that there is no basis for measuring "consistency". Provincial jurisdiction is such cases should be clearly defined in the Act, as it is felt that Section 87 of the Act is too vague.

Under the Indian Act, as it now stands, White persons not authorized by the Federal Government or the Chief or Council of an Indian Band could be accused of trespassing if they entered an Indian reserve without permission. Because there is no clear-cut definition of policy in regard to Child Welfare in the present Act, provincial welfare workers could conceivably be looked upon as "trespassers" if they went on reserves in the regular course of their duties.

The recent granting of liquor privileges to the Indians in this province has resulted in some children being neglected because of liquor. In such cases, where a child has been abandoned or is being brought up in a filthy home with poor nutrition or is simply neglected because "the mother doesn't care", then provincial welfare workers should have the right to protect Indian children in the same manner they protect a white child.

It is recommended that foster home placements be on a temporary basis only, in most instances. If the parents proved they would take proper care of the child, then it should be returned to the home under supervision of the Social Welfare Department. Indian parents love their children deeply and the threat of having their children taken away from them would undoubtedly have a good psychological effect, in cases where parents were neglecting a child's welfare.

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It is further recommended that certain changes be made in the Indian Act to allow legally adopted children to take the same racial origin status as the adoptive parents. In other words, if an Indian child is legally adopted by white parents, that child should be designated as white and not remain a Treaty Indian on the records. In the same manner, a white child legally adopted by an Indian father should be designated as Indian.

Under the Act at present, a white woman marrying a Band member, automatically comes under the Indian Act. However, should she have an illegitimate white child at the time of marriage or a child by a previous marriage to a white man, the child, even if legally adopted by her Indian husband, will not be listed as Indian.

In other words, although the mother after her marriage, becomes legally an Indian and although her Indian husband is willing to adopt her child, it has to remain non-Indian. It is felt that an amendment to the Act, to cover such cases, is imperative.

Education.

If Canada's Indian population continues to expand as it has in the past ten years, the problem of educating its young people is bound to become more acute with each passing year. While much has been accomplished in the academic field in recent years as far as Canada's young Indians are concerned, the greatest need is for a concerted program of vocational and technical training to fit these young people for life outside the reserves.

In Saskatchewan, selected groups of Metis and Indian young people are now being given an opportunity for Government vocational training at larger urban centres but much more is needed. It is imperative that some form of technical training be made available to all young Indian people between the ages of 16 and 19, if possible, this training be provided without having to send them miles away from home.

Now that integrated schools have been constructed in many areas, we would recommend that federal and provincial governments undertake a cost-sharing program of constructing composite high schools in areas where a number of Indian reserves are located, if none exist at present. Indian pupils could then be conveyed to school and obtain vocational training without having to be sent away from home as at present.

It is essential that family life on the reserves be maintained as closely as possible, as the younger people when they become more highly educated can have an influencial effect on their elders. It is essential that vocational training schools be integrated as well as purely academic schools. Building a vocational school for Indians would simply mean a continuation of the unhappy practice of segregating the Indian pupil from the white.

It would appear, however, that a simpler, less costly and more effective means of providing technical training for Indian youths would be to take the training directly to them on thereserves.

Instead of young Indians having to go away for technical training, why would it not be possible to send mobile units, "schools on wheels" right on to the reserves to provide such training? As originally suggested in the House of Commons in May, 1955, such a mobile unit could consist of a well-equipped van with a qualified mechanic and carpenter ot conduct a six-week or longer course in practical mechanical matters and basic carpentry.

It has been proven that the Indian is quick to pick up the rudiments of mechanics and with even six weeks instruction, many could be trained sufficiently to enable them to get employment in the outside world. Today many western farmers find it almost impossible to get farm workers while at the same time, young Indian men are roaming around unable to find work other than odd jobs.

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The reason farmers will not hire them is because that while they may have had some schooling, they have had no training in handling machinery. Many of these young Indian men are unable to drive a truck, tractor or combine and they don't know how to keep machinery in good working order. As a result, outside of seasonal odd jobs, many of them are of little use to a farmer.

It is just as important to provide technical training for the young Indian who will continue to live on the reservation. They should be taught how to build simple homes for themselves. How to operate and care for machinery so they could earn a living for themselves and provide a decent home for their wives when they married. It is our belief that "on the spot" training would prove most effective because the Indians would be able to put their training to practical use by working on their own machinery, cars and trucks. They would learn to make use of the limited facilities on the reserve and their training would therefore have a more realistic value.

It must be remembered that it may be many, many years before all young Indian men and women are absorbed into the outside labor force and for that reason it is imperative that a start be made immediately to improve living conditions on the reserves and to train many of this present generation, who will continue to live on the reserves, to be self-sufficient.

All Indian girls between the ages of 16 and 19 should be taught proper buying habits, how to cook, how to sew and how to use food in a home so that food allowances would last. Here again, some form of "travelling" school could be devised so that those Indian girls who were unable to go on for higher education would at least receive basic training in home-making.

Instead of going off to towns and cities, drifting aimlessly and getting into trouble, such girls could perhaps obtain employment as domestics. Without any skills or training in home-making, however, no one would employ them. Some of the brightest Indian girls could be trained in Home Economics as dieticians. They could then enter the employ of the government and could work with the Department of Health on the reserves. They could hold classes for Indian women, instructing them in proper diets for their families and show them how to make better use of their food allowances.

Poor buying habits on the part of many Indian parents and ignorance of proper nutrition is mainly responsible for the fact that fifty percent of Indian children on reserves in this area are suffering from poor nutrition. There is an obvious need for educating Indian women to buy sensibly and budget their food allowances wisely.

Indian mothers, for example, will buy the most expensive cuts of meat when cheaper cuts are just as nutritious. They will buy expensive food and fruit and allow it to be eaten up in a meal or two, without giving any thought to the next day. The result is that food allowances are almost invariably used up before the month is out.

As one means of educating Indian women in sensible buying habits, simple food budgets could be prepared for distribution on the reserves. The budgets could be printed in both English and their own language and coud be prepared for maximum nutrition within the limits of the average food allowance in an Indian home.

In some areas of Canada, it is estimated that approximately 60 percent of Indians living on reserves, are receiving social assistance. In many areas, there is a problem of "some Indians not spending money too honestly." This is a matter of concern to Agency officials and has been for some time.

Since the granting of liquor privileges in Saskatchewan, many cases have been reported of money for food being spent on liquor instead of food. Children, as a result, are suffering. One lay worker reported an instance

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of a father going to town with $30 and coming home with $10 worth of groceries and $20 worth of liquor.

Agency officials are aware that many Indians are not spending the money they are given "too honestly" but they point out in many cases, refusing assistance would only result in greater hardship on the children "who can't be allowed to starve". It would seem that a concentrated program of education among Indian women might do much to overcome this problem.

At the present time, the only hope many Indian boys and girls have of obtaining a high school education, is still through residential schools. While a church and residential school may have served a purpose in the past, they are not the solution to the educational problem of Canada's Indians.

It is imperative that our governments embark immediately on steps to provide integrated secondary schools. Many Indian parents have expressed the wish that their children, who are now attending residential schools, be alloed to remain at home and attend high schools in their area. They ask why the government could not give them the same assistance that their children now receive when attending a residential school.

see p. 14 para 2.

In this area, several white families have expressed interest in taking Indian boys and girls into their homes to allow them to attend the same high schools as their own children xxx and receive the same education. It is felt that by boarding these boys and girls in white homes and having them integrated into the regular secondary school system, greater opportunities would be available to them and they would not be "segregated" as they are at present in residential schools.

In addition, they would be closer to their homes and closer contact would be maintained with their families until such time as they could be conveyed by school bus from their own homes to the nearest high school. We understand that this has already been undertaken to a limited extent but has not been too successful. We would respectfully suggest that a publicity campaign be undertaken to interest the public in taking these boys and girls into their homes as paying boarders, until such time as it will be possible for them to remain at home and conveyed to school.

Indian parents have a deep and abiding love for children, in most instances, and want only for their children to be happy. In this respect they are no different fromwhite parents. They want their children to remain at home while attending school. Indian children, when sent away to get their schooling are often lonely and feel isolated. In many cases, the system can only have the effect of "breaking up the family".

Closer personal contact with the Indians is the most essential factor of any educational program undertaken by the Department among the Indians. In the past, lack of personal contact was one of the things most deeply resented by the Indians. They felt, as many of them still do, that representatives of the Department were "trying to force the white man's ideas down the Indian's throat". They said they were "always being told what was good" for them instead of being asked for their opinions.

It is gratifying to note that in the past few years, as far as the Shellbrook Indian Agency is concerned at least, there has been a decided change in this regard. Indians in this area have commented on the fact that they are no longer being told what to do but are being asked what they want to do. We feel your Department should be commended for its more enlightened policy in dealing with the Indians in the past few years.

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However, we do feel that greater personal contact should be maintained between the Department and the Indian people in the future. One of the most effective ways of doing this would be to train and take into the employ of the Indian Affairs Branch, more Indian young people.

In the business administration of a reserve, it is felt that closer liason could be established by having selected young Indians given a course in business administration. In the white man's world, it is common for individuals specially trained in business administration, to assist in planning and budgeting municipal affairs. Why would it not be possible for such a system to be instituted on our Indian reserves in the administration of Band affairs.

Young Indians trained in business administration could become employees of the Indian Affairs Branch at the conclusion of their training period. Wherever possible, they could be assigned to their own Agencies to become travelling business administrators among the reserves.

The duties of such a business administrator might include assisting councils in making a survey of a reserve's potentialities. Where land suitable for cultivation was leased by a white man, he could provide an estimate of what would be needed by way of assistance for the Indians to take over cultivation of the land themselves. He could handle financial details connected with loans to individuals and could prepare annual budgets for Band Councils.

He could assist in finding employment for Indians in their own region wherever possible and could work in cooperation with the National Employment Office in finding outside opportunities for work. In short, he could co-ordinate all the business details of the reserves and act as liason between the Superintendent and the Band Councils.

It is recognized that a tremendous task lies ahead of the government in bringing about successful integration of Canada's Indian population with the white but a start has already been made. It is accepted that any improvement must come from the Indians themselves but it will be many years before they will be able to take over complete responsibility for their own affairs.

6 For too many years, they have been conditioned to "hand-outs" and "Government paternalism" and for that reason, it is essential that the "change-over" be a gradual one, with education the cornerstone of the program.

As a basic step in integration, we would respectfully submit that the employment of more Indians in government service would provide a much-needed stimulus and example for the general public to follow. Young Indian people, after training, could serve as clerks and stenographers, for instance. Even a start like this at the lowest level, would demostrate to the Indian people that our governments are not merely giving "lip service" to the idea of equal opportunities for all. More important, the general public would have an example to follows.

The native population of New Zealand has never been segrgated. Maoris hold positions of influence and share actively in government affairs and are respected citizens. We have only to contrast this with the situation in South Africa or the Congo to realise that if Canada's Indian problem is to be satisfactorily resolved, our first task is to build up the Indians' self-respect and restore his pride of race.

As long as we continue to segregate our Indian people on reserves, as long as we continue to "talk" and fail to "act" then we shall never overcome the Indian's ingrained suspicion of the white man's motives. Our governments, both federal and provincial, must set the example for the general public to follow, just as has been done in New Zealand.

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We would urge that as the first step in this regard, your government call an immediate conference with the provinces on Indian Affairs, to work out uniform federal-provincial agreements on all aspects of Indian Affairs and that Indian representatives be called to the conference and that a detailed study be made of the existing Indian Act to provide much needed changes.

A veteran employee of the Indian Affairs Branch once commented that it appeared the policy of his Department seemed to be "to have no policy" in handling certain aspects of Indian Affairs. It would appear the most urgent need at the present time, is the formulation of a definite clear-cut policy on Indian Affairs, a policy in which the provinces' field of responsibility is clearly defined and which would allow the Indians more direct responsibility in the administration of their own affairs.

Such a conference would do much to clear up the present existing "confusion" and would be tangible proof that our governments are deeply concerned about the problems of Canada's Indians and are determined to take immediate and definite action.

It is suggested that the Conference could set up a continuing committee, composed of representatives from each of the various governments attending, to undertake a detailed survey of Canada's Indian reserves.

It is further suggested that the Committee could be empowered to appoint "teams" in each province, consisting of one representative from each of the recognized political parties in that province. Each party could name its own representative to the team which would visit every Indian reserve in its province to make a first-hand study of conditions on those reserves and report its findings to the Committee.

It is felt such a plan would prove less costly than a Royal Commission, less travelling would be entailed and an "on the spot" survey would be more effective than the accepted practice of briefs being submitted before a Commission.

Having the teams fully representative of the various political parties would eliminate any possibility of charges of "partisanship" and would bring home forcibly to all Canadans the fact they must share with the senior governments, the responsibility of finding a solution to Canada's Indian problem.

Since preparation of this brief was commenced, a five-day course was held in the City of Saskatoon for personnel working with the Indians and Metis in Northern Canada. We are taking the liberty of enclosing a news report on this course which we feel bears out to a considerable degree some of the findings we ourselves made in the course of gathering material for this brief.

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Branch represented?

We would direct your attention to the comment of Victor Valentine, Chief Research Officer for the Department of Northern Affairs, regarding "frightful living conditions" among Indians and Metis of the North, Mr. Valentine's comment merely echoes the comments of our local doctors and others about "Horrifying" living conditions on some reserves right here in our own area.

We feel that it is essential for "personal" surveys to be made of Canada's Indian reserves, especially those of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Only in this way, can the true picture be obtained of the problems peculiar to the prairie Indians who never enjoyed the same standard of living as the Indians of British Columbia, Alberta, or Ontario for instance.

In closing, we would like to quote the comment of one experienced worker, in the Indian Affairs Branch:

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"The only salvation for the Indians is to concentrate on the present generation growing up on the reserves." We feel that a significant step towards this end has already been accomplished by integrated schools and much credit is due our government in this regard.

In the Shellbrook Indian Superintendency, children from two reserves have been successfully integrated into the school unit system and are now being conveyed by bus to schools where they are getting the same educational opportunities as white children, including high school.

On one of the reserves, half the parents were at first opposed to their children attending an integrated school. Today, those same parents have displayed a complete reversal of feeling, proving that education of the older Indians can be accomplished through the children.

Now that children on many reserves have the same "freedom" of education as white children in integrated schools, it is felt that they should have the same "freedom of worship" on reserves. Unfortunately there is nothing in the Indian Act which guarantees this.

A case was reported recently of a lay church worker going on a reserve which had no resident priest or minister at the time. A Sunday School was organized and attended by a large group of children. After two months of successful operation, the lay worker was informed by the Chief that he could no longer go on the reserve to hold a Sunday School for the children.

Under Canada's Bill of Rights, all citizens are guaranteed freedom of worship. We would presume that our Indian citizens are entitled to the same rights and privileges as white people but there is nothing in the Indian Act which states that Indians on reserves are guaranteed freedom of worship.

It would appear there is need for an amendment to the Act to guarantee that every Indian on a reserve has complete freedom of worship in the faith of his choice. It would also appear that Sections 120 and 121 should be stricken from the Act in the light of present day conditions.

In submitting this brief for your consideration, we have endeavoured to be as objective as possible and we trust that any criticism has been of a constructive nature. We are keenly aware of the taks faced by the federal and provincial governments in trying to bring about a practical solution to Canada's Indian problem and we can only repeat our assurances of our active co-operation in helping bring about that solution.

Submitted on behalf of the Shellbrook CCF Constituency Executive.

Mary K. Walker

Mrs. Howard A. Walker
CNR Station,
Shellbrook, Sask.

Senior Administrative Officer 111/3-8 (Adm.2)

Chief, Welfare Division P.A. → 111/3-8 (W)

August 25, 1961.

As requested in your memorandum of August 24th, the following comments are provided in connection with the brief received by the Minister from the Shellbrook local C.C.F. Organization.

Housing - Page 3

In 1958 the appropriation for housing was doubled and consideration is being given to a further increase. A determined effort has been made in Saskatchewan, in particular, to improve housing conditions on reserves in this Province. Since 1958, for example, and including the current year's program, 965 houses have been built, representing an expenditure of $1,371,666 from our appropriation. The Indians themselves have contributed $254,120 over these years. The program will be continued vigorously in the future. In 1962-63, for example, the appropriation for housing in Saskatchewan has been further increased and it is planned to build 239 houses rather than 163 which it is expected will be built in the current year.

The enormous proportions of the task involved in raising the standard of housing on reserves in Saskatchewan will be readily appreciated. There is not only the backlog of need which must be met, but the rapid rate of new family formations, deterioration of older houses and the changing requirements of the Indians themselves in this difficult time of transition from the old to the new.

Special emphasis is being placed upon the participation of the Indians themselves in the housing program and, as far as possible, Indian labour is being utilized.

. . . 2

The reference to provision of work in lieu of direct relief assistance is noted. It is pointed out that the Department embarked upon an extensive works program last winter, that a special appropriation for this purpose was provided, that a number of Departmental projects were deferred, as far as this could be done, until periods of peak unemployment on the reserves and that, in addition to this, Indian bands with sufficient funds were able to participate in the Winter Works Incentive Program carried out under the auspices of the Department of Labour.

Child Welfare

This Department has had a number of discussions with the Provincial Department of Rehabilitation and Welfare in an effort to arrange for the extension of provincial child welfare and protection services to Indian reserves. So far as this Department is concerned, there are no legal obstacles and we now have agreements with a number of provincial and private child welfare agencies in other provinces for this purpose.

To date we have not been successful in reaching an agreement with the Provincial Department of Rehabilitation and Welfare and the present arrangement whereby referrals are accepted only through the Indian Affairs Branch Social Worker is at the specific request of the provincial authorities.

The provincial officers have been co-operative and interested and we are hopeful that it may be possible to reach an agreement with them soon to make it possible to extend services to Indians on Indian reserves on exactly the same basis as citizens of other ethnic origins in the Province.

The Department has indicated its willingness to defray the actual cost of maintenance of Indian children on Indian reserves who might be made wards as a result of such an arrangement and to enter into a financial agreement with the Province with regard to the costs of preventive + other services.

With reference to the adoption of non-Indian children by Indians, as suggested in the first paragraph at the top of page 9, an amendment to the Indian Act is being recommended for this purpose.

J. H. Gordon.

JHG/jf

MEMORANDUM

CLASSIFICATION

TO
A

Senior Administrative Officer

YOUR FILE No. Votre dossier 111/3-8 (Adm.2)

OUR FILE No. Notre dossier 111/3-8 (A1)

FROM
De

Chief, Agencies Division

DATE October 27, 1961.

FOLD

SUBJECT
Sujet

I wish to refer to your memorandum of August 24, 1961, to which was attached a lengthy brief submitted to the Minister by the Shellbrook Local C.C.F. Organization.

The only points of interest to this Division in the brief would be those references pertaining to roads and communication facilities. I might say that in recent briefs from the Province of Saskatchewan these two areas have been given some prominence.

With respect to roads, an agreement is presently in effect with the Saskatchewan Municipal Road Assistance Authority whereby the Province and this Branch share equally the cost of constructing market grid roads lying within the boundaries of certain Indian reserves in the Province. The Road Assistance Authority, which is under the Department of Municipal Affairs, inaugurated a long range program of developing market grid roads back in 1956 and 1957 and several of the major reserves in Saskatchewan will be affected. Since the agreement came into effect the Branch has contributed the following amounts:

Fiscal Year	Miles of Road Construction	Cost
1958-59	19.41	$36,352.49
1959-60	27.56	$43,585.94
1960-61	20.3	$51,190.96

Apart from the above amounts the Branch has built many more roads on reserves without Provincial assistance. The road construction and maintenance program will be continued in the years ahead, particularly in those areas where better road facilities are required in connection with the school integration program.

CGSB—6GP22a PP&S Cat. No. 3590

Concerning communication facilities we have, wherever staff is located on an Indian reserve, endeavoured to provide some means of communication whether it be telephone service or radio equipment. We have never considered it feasible to install communicating services on reserves where we have no staff and no adequate supervision could be given to the use of such a facility. It would seem to me that where individual bands feel there is a need for such a service, they should negotiate with the Public Utilities concerned and, of course, assume the responsibility for payment of whatever expenses are involved.

The brief, I might say, has been very well prepared and it certainly covers many points related to our field administration. Roads and communication services do appear to be the main points of interest to this Division, although there are others on which you may wish some comment. If this is the case would you please let me know.

Jules D'Astous

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Senior Administrative Officer

YOUR FILE No: 111/3-8 (Adm.2)

FROM : Chief, Welfare Division

OUR FILE No: 111/3-8 (W)

SUBJECT:

DATE: August 25, 1961.

As requested in your memorandum of August 24th, the following comments are provided in connection with the brief received by the Minister from the Shellbrook local C.C.F. Organization.

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The enormous proportions of the task involved in raising the standard of housing on reserves in Saskatchewan will be readily appreciated. There is not only the backlog of need which must be met, but the rapid rate of new family formations, deterioration of older houses and the changing requirements of the Indians themselves in this difficult time of transition from the old to the new.

Special emphasis is being placed upon the participation of the Indians themselves in the housing program and, as far as possible, Indian labour is being utilized.

. . . 2

CGSB Standard 6-GP-22; PP&S Cat. No. 3590

The reference to provision of work in lieu of direct relief assistance is noted. It is pointed out that the Department embarked upon an extensive works program last winter, that a special appropriation for this purpose was provided, that a number of Departmental projects were deferred, as far as this could be done, until periods of peak unemployment on the reserves and that, in addition to this, Indian bands with sufficient funds were able to participate in the Winter Works Incentive Program carried out under the auspices of the Department of Labour.

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The provincial officers have been co-operative and interested and we are hopeful that it may be possible to reach an agreement with them soon to make it possible to extend services to Indians on Indian reserves on exactly the same basis as citizens of other ethnic origins in the Province.

The Department has indicated its willingness to defray the actual cost of maintenance of Indian children on Indian reserves who might be made wards as a result of such an arrangement and to enter into a financial agreement with the Province with regard to the costs of preventive services.

With reference to the adoption of non-Indian children by Indians, as suggested in the first paragraph at the top of page 9, an amendment to the Indian Act is being recommended for this purpose.

J. H. Gordon.

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Senior Administrative Officer.

YOUR FILE No: 111/3-8(Adm.2)

FROM : Chief, Economic Development Division.

OUR FILE No: 111/3-8(D1)

SUBJECT: Brief to Minister by Shellbrook C.C.F. Constituency Executive dated April 25, 1961.

DATE: August 29, 1961.

We have reviewed this brief and the other material that was submitted for our comments with your memorandum of August 24th. As you will have noted, the subject headings and the recommendations do not deal with matters that are primarily the concern and responsibility of this Division. We are therefore confining our remarks to a few subjects which were included incidentally in the brief, which are of particular interest to us.

If the material submitted by other Divisions includes points falling within the functions of this Division, you may wish to refer their material to us for comment at that time.

"Work for pay" projects - last paragraph on page 3 and third paragraph on page 4 - The Branch agrees that every effort should be made to assist Indians to find work, which will enable them to support themselves rather than be given direct relief assistance. We have developed an employment placement program, and have taken specialists on our staff, to seek out employment opportunities off reserves in various types of jobs for which the Indians are fitted, both of a permanent and seasonal nature, and we have met with gratifying success in placing Indians in a number of jobs, in co-operation with the National Employment Service. In the process of carrying out this program, provision has been made for up-grading classes to enable young Indians to meet the entrance requirements for vocational training, and arrangements have also been made for on-the-job training contracts with employers.

In keeping with the same objective, winter works projects have been carried out, not only under the Department of Labour Winter Works Incentive Program, but also under similar programs sponsored by the Branch in co-operation with various Indian bands.

. . . . 2

These programs are on Indian reserves. We are hopeful that it will be found possible to extend the number and scope of works projects of this nature, to meet the needs for employment on reserves whenever opportunities for employment off the reserves are lacking.

Page 9 - Education - We are glad to note that the Shellbrook organization is aware of the vocational training presently being provided. We have already commented on the provisions for "On-the-Job" training. The Shellbrook group may rest assured that every effort is being made to provide or arrange for whatever facilities appear necessary. The suggestion that mobile units might be used to provide training courses on reserves is an interesting one, but would naturally have to be considered in relation to facilities presently available and the need for additional facilities.

Page 11 paragraph 4 - The brief calls for integrated secondary schools, but it will be noted, from page 14 paragraph 2, that a good start seems to have been made already in making arrangements of this kind for some children in the Shellbrook Agency.

Page 12 paragraphs 2 to 5 - The Education and Agencies Divisions presumably will point out that young Indians are presently attending business colleges and taking commercial courses, and that our efforts of the past to employ Indians in the Branch are being intensified. Employment of Indians by the Branch has been a lively subject of discussion at Branch conferences.

Page 13 - The Shellbrook organization recommends a detailed survey of reserves by a continuing committee of federal and provincial government representatives, following a federal-provincial conference, with Indian representation, to formulate a clear-cut policy on the respective responsibilities of the governments concerned. It suggests that the continuing committee should appoint "teams" comprising representatives of each recognized political party to carry out these studies.

. . . 3

Within the framework of the Indian Act, the Branch already has a number of formal and informal agreements with provinces covering various phases of Indian activity, and we stand ready to co-operate in extending these arrangements to other fields whenever a province indicates its willingness to assume added responsibilities. The Shellbrook organization may not be fully aware of the present arrangements, which are working out very well. When amendments to the Indian Act become necessary, we are prepared to recommend whatever changes appear advisable, provided we are satisfied that these changes have the support of the Indians and are in line with their expressed wishes.

The needs of Indian Bands and the circumstances in which they find themselves, differ from province to province and from district to district. Because of this, any amendments to the Indian Act concerning over-all policy would have to be of a very broad nature indeed. For the present, the procedures that have been followed seem to have sufficient flexibility, and have not noticeably limited the establishment of specific working agreements with the provinces.

We have been encouraging Indians to take more direct responsibility in running their own affairs, and there is much to be said for concentrating on new developments along that line. In such efforts, the co-operation of the provincial governments will be welcomed.

With reference to paragraph 5 on page 13, the Indian Affairs Branch has already made a start on economic development surveys, and we have been very pleased with the co-operation received from other federal and provincial departments. These surveys are carried out by specialists and we believe that they can achieve more satisfactory results than could reasonably be expected from surveys made by interested laymen. The first surveys of this nature should set the pattern for future action. When the recommendations of the specialists have been received and studied, their implementation will require the active assistance and support of non-Indian organizations. We would prefer to see such assistance in the hands of organizations representing a cross-section of the community rather than representing political groups.

. . . . 4

While we have indicated that we prefer to rely on specialists in carrying out economic development surveys, this is not to say that we do not welcome suggestions from interested individuals and groups within each community. We appreciate their desire to help the Indians to improve their economic and social status, and we are glad to have their co-operation. Staff shortages, however, make it necessary that we limit our activities in the field of economic surveys.

R. F. Battle.

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Adm. 2

YOUR FILE No:

FROM : Adm. 1

OUR FILE No: 111/3-8 (Adm.1)

SUBJECT: Brief Submitted by the Shellbrook Local C.C.F. Organization

DATE: August 31, 1961.

This will refer to your 111/3-8 of August 24th, 1961, forwarding a brief on Indian Affairs submitted to the Minister by the Shellbrook local C.C.F. organization.

It would appear that the only matter raised in the brief which concerns the work of this Division is a reference to public relations made on Page 2. In regard thereto I would suggest the following paragraph be included in the Minister's reply:

> "I note that reference is made in the brief to the need for a greater understanding of Indians and the work of the Indian Affairs Branch by the public. The Department recognizes this need and is presently producing a number of informational brochures, the latest of which I enclose herewith. In addition, photographic displays of the Branch annual reports are used as public information media. It is expected that the Indian Affairs Branch will, in the near future, obtain the full time services of a technical officer trained in public relations. Meanwhile, the Department's Information Division is assisting the Branch in this field."

I suggest that brochures forwarded to the Shellbrook Agency include "The Indian in Transition", "The Canadian Indian", and "Indians of the Prairie Provinces" (new edition).

J. D. Darling

J. D. Darling.

CGSB Standard 6-GP-22; PP&S Cat. No. 3590

ROUTE SLIP

PASS TO:

1. Pr Admin Officer
2.
3.
4.

Date 30/8/61

Initials [illegible]

Suggested comments on Education section of brief.

[illegible]

C. & I. 48

SHELLBROOK LOCAL C.C.F. ORGANIZATION

To provide complete day school facilities for every group of Indians, some of which are very small and remote, is practically impossible. For most remote reserves there is no alternative than to bring the children out to larger centres for high school education because the reserve population is insufficient to warrant a school large enough to offer an adequate programme. Trade and technical training on the reserve is impractical for the same reason. In addition the provincial trade training legislation limits the value of reserve training schools.

Our policy is to raise the general level of education of Indian children to the point where all children with the native ability may enter trade, technical and professional training institutes in the province. In such institutes they can receive recognized training in association with the young men and women with whom they will work.

The unemployment situation in Canada during the past year has forcibly brought to our attention the plight of unskilled and semi-skilled workers and the bleak future they face. To train Indian youth for jobs that are rapidly disappearing would only bring about further disillusionment.

Training on the reserve for jobs off the reserve has not proved successful. Working conditions are not comparable in the two situations and the training therefore loses most of its value. In this connection it will readily be understood that few reserves will support a full-time carpenter or mechanic. Furthermore, the recent close scrutiny of Canada's labour problems have revealed the necessity of a mobile labour force to take advantage of employment opportunities wherever they may arise. Given the right training the Indian, migrant by tradition, is well suited to such conditions.

The need for training young Indian women in homemaking is recognized. In addition to the Home Economics course offered in many Indian schools, an endeavour is made to meet the situation through the School Health programme and through such adult education programmes as the Homemakers Clubs and special courses similar to that conducted at Beauval during the past three summers.

The integration programme in Saskatchewan has opened up many provincial high schools to Indian children so that they do not, as you suggest, have to go to a residential school for this instruction. In many instances they can attend as day pupils. If they must leave home they are often placed in non-Ind

homes for board and lodging, a measure supported by your brief.

In large centres the Branch employs special personnel to assist Indian students living away from home in cities. They find homes for Indian students, offer guidance, assist the students to adjust to city life, introduce them to youth centres and movements, and if necessary help them with personal and school problems.

Except for the extensive on-reserve trade and technical training recommended in the brief, our educational policy follows very closely the advocacy of the brief.

COPY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

Copy sent to Miss M.R. Pound Prime Minister's Office, OTTAWA Aug 24/61

111/3-8 (Adm.2)
HTV/in

Adm 2

Ottawa, August 24, 1961.

Hon. J.W. Monteith, P.C., M.P.,
Minister of National Health
and Welfare,
Ottawa.

My dear Colleague,

I attach herewith a copy of a brief from the Shellbrook Constituency C.C.F. Executive which was recently referred to me by the Prime Minister's Office.

You will note that a portion of this brief deals with medical services which are the responsibility of your Department.

I have informed the Secretary-Treasurer of the Organization that the medical services aspects of the brief have been referred to you for attention and direct reply.

Yours sincerely,

Ellen L. Fairclough

Ellen L. Fairclough.

Adm-24/8

COPY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

Copy sent to Miss M-R Pound, Prime Minister's office, OTTAWA aug 24

111/3-8 (Adm.2)
HTV/in

Adm 2

Ottawa, August 24, 1961.

Bert Mason, Esq.,
Secretary-Treasurer, C.C.F. Executive,
Shellbrook Constituency,
Shellbrook, Saskatchewan.

Dear Mr. Mason,

The Prime Minister recently referred to me the resolutions and brief on Indian Administration endorsed by the executive of your organization at a meeting earlier this year.

A number of the suggestions made in the brief deal with medical services which are the responsibility of the Department of National Health and Welfare. I have therefore referred a copy of your brief to my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, from whom you will hear in due course.

The resolutions and recommendations in your brief which are the concern of this Department are being studied by the responsible departmental officers. As soon as I have received their reports I shall write you again.

Yours sincerely,

Ellen L. Fairclough

Ellen L. Fairclough,
Minister.

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : A, E, D, W, SA, Adm.1, andRT (information only)

YOUR FILE No:

FROM : Senior Administrative Officer

OUR FILE No: 111/3-8 (Adm.2)

SUBJECT:

DATE: August 24, 1961.

I forward herewith a lengthy brief on Indian Administration submitted to the Minister by the Shellbrook local C.C.F. Organization.

The Minister has asked for a report on the various matters raised in this brief and I would appreciate your comments on those which concern the work of your Division.

The medical aspects have been referred to the Minister of National Health and Welfare for attention and direct reply.

H.T. Vergette,
for Senior Administrative Officer.

111/3-8 (Adm.2)
HTV/in

Ottawa, August 24, 1961.

Bert Mason, Esq.,
Secretary-Treasurer, C.C.F. Executive,
Shellbrook Constituency,
Shellbrook, Saskatchewan.

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Yours sincerely,

Ellen L. Fairclough,
Minister.

cc: Miss Pound.

111/3-8 (Adm.2)
HTV/in

Ottawa, August 24, 1961.

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Minister of National Health
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Yours sincerely,

Ellen L. Fairclough.

adm.

OFFICE OF MINISTER
CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION

AUGUST 17, 1961

MIN. FILE.....

MEMORANDUM

COL. JONES

The Minister has requested that a reply be drafted to Mr. Bert Mason for her signature and I suggest a copy be forwarded to Miss Pound for file.

J.R. Moodie,
Executive Assistant.

Noted
17.8.61

COPY ONLY

COPY ONLY

SHELLBROOK, SASK.

April 25th, 1961.

HON. ELLEN FAIRCLOUGH
MINISTER OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH, OTTAWA, CAN.

Dear Mrs. Fairclough:

At the request of the Shellbrook CCF constituency executive, I am forwarding to you the enclosed resolutions, endorsed at a recent meeting of our executive. It is our hope that you will give the most sympathetic consideration to these resolutions and to the accompanying brief.

Our executive wishes to commend your Department for the work it is presently doing on behalf of our Indian citizens and for the excellent progress that has been made in recent years. We are sure, however, you will agree that much still remains to be done in the wholefield of Indian Affairs.

It is our belief that the problem of helping our Indian people achieve full citizenship status and all it entails, is the responsibility of all Canadian citizens, irrespective of political faith. It is in that spirit we are submitting this Brief to you and may we assure you and your Department of our fullest cooperation.

Respectfully,

signed Bert Mason

Secretary-Treasurer.

RESOLUTIONS on Indian Affairs endorsed by the Shellbrook CCF constituency executive.

1. "Resolved that we urge the federal government to call an immediate conference with the provinces on Indian Affairs, to work out uniform federal-provincial agreements on all aspects of Indian Affairs."

2. "Resolved that we urge the federal government, with provincial assistance, to provide communication facilities on those Indian reserves which are at present without such facilities and we further urge that on reserves where present roads are inadequate, at least one main road be built to grid standard".

The problem of Canada's Indians has become one of increasing concern to many people in Canada today. In the past decade there has been a growing awareness that the problem is not solely a matter of government responsibility but something that must concern all people of conscience in this country.

For almost a century our Indian people have been "segregated" on reserves, living under a paternalistic system that too often has tended to rob them of their once proud independence. If they have become "second-class citizens, lazy, shiftless and unwilling to accept responsibilities as so many claim, then we must all share the blame.

....2

The fact that our governments in recent years have adopted a more enlightened policy in dealing with the Indians is much to their credit. However, it is our respectful opinion that until a concentrated program of education is undertaken, not only among our Indians but among our white people as well, successful integration will never be accomplished.

The Indian's ingrained suspicion of the white man must be overcome just as the white man must learn to accept the Indian for what he is, just another Canadian citizen. To achieve this, education is of the utmost importance, not only of the older generation of Indians but of the new generation of boys and girls now growing up on our reserves-- a generation of boys and girls who are no longer able to pursue their traditional way of life but who cannot be permitted to sink into a way of life in which they will become permanent "charges" of the government for their entire life span.

We feel that before such an educational program can be successful, it is important that the Indian Affairs Branch establish good public relations, something which has not been done in the past. Of all government departments it would appear the Indian Affairs Branch has always had the poorest public relations.

Although it has been constantly criticized for what it has failed to do for Canada's Indians, it seems to have made too little effort to acquaint the public with exactly how much it has accomplished. The average Canadian taxpayer hasn't the faintest idea of the millions of dollars that have already been spent in health and welfare services for the Indians. Neither has he been made fully aware of the money that has been spent and is being spent in assisting with the construction of integrated schools or of how successful this program is proving.

How can the Canadian public appreciate the tremendous task that faces our government in trying to bring our Indian people to full citizenship status and all it entails, if it fails to take the public into its confidence?

The public should be made aware of just how bad conditions are on some of Canada's Indian reserves. They should be acquainted with the efforts being made to improve these conditions and they should know, in terms of dollars and cents, jsut how much it is going to cost to implement all the demands made on the Department.

Until the public is given a clear and honest picture, public conscience will never be aroused to the extent that all Canadian citizens recognize and accept the fact that they share with the government the responsibility of "helping the Indian help himself." We submit that greater interest in the problem of Indian Affairs would be shown if the Department maintained closer contact with the news media at the local level.

It is a well-known fact that Indian Agency officials are often reluctant to release information for publication, even when such information might reflect credit on the Department. It may be that as civil servants, they feel they have no right to issue such information and that only Ottawa can give out press releases on any phase of Departmental work. A clear-cut definition of policy in this regard would do much to bring about better public relations at the local level.

May we point out, in submitting this brief, that all comments and recommendations contained in the following pages are based on discussions we have had over a period of months, not only with the Indians themselves, but with a number of people directly connected with the work of the Indian Affairs Branch and the Department of Indian Health as well as lay church workers and our own medical men who are ministering regularly to Indian patients. Statements appearing in Quotation marks are direct comments made by the persons interviewed.

....3

We have found universal agreement on the need for a definite clear-cut policy in five specific areas: Housing, Communications, Transportation, Child Welfare and Education.

Housing

It is agreed that adequate housing is perhaps the most urgent necessity on most of Canada's Indian reserves today, especially in Manitoba and Saskatchewan. The housing conditions on some reserves in this area has been described as "appalling" and "horrifying". It is claimed that much of the ignorance on the part of Indian parents in regard to health, stems from the "horrible housing conditions, the filth and dirt in which they live."

Church lay workers havereported cases of six or seven people living in one-roomed log houses not much larger than a fair-sized living room in a white home. Some of the homes have been described as being "unbelievably filthy". One church worker reported visiting a very small log house, occupied by six people, " so filthy it was unbelievable" and living in the midst of the filth was a man who was seriously ill. He reports three of the house's occupants were able-bodied women who displayed complete indifference to the filth and dirt around them.

Now that Indian children are being integrated into many schools outside the reserves, surely children coming from homes like that will be forever handicapped in their association with white children. The lay worker in question felt there should be regular inspection of homes on reserves where the occupants are receiving social aid. When people were found living in the midst of filth and dirt, they should be denied any assistance until they had cleaned their homes up.

We would point out that sub-section K of section 72 of the Indian Act states that the Governor-in-Council may pass regulations to " provide for inspection of premises on reserves etc." if such regulations are now in effect, then we respectfully submit that greater efforts be made to enforce them, until such time at least a proper and full-scale housing program be undertaken on the reserves.

It has been observed where reserves are situated close to a town, the residents visit town more frequently than from isolated reserves. As a result, they seem more "civilized" and are quicker to adopt the white man's way of living and their homes are of a little better standard and are at least maintained in a cleaner condition.

On some of the reserves in more remote areas, where they cling to the old traditions "the white man's world has hardly made a dent on them." It is on these reserves where living conditions are most appalling and it is on these reserves where some immediate action is needed.

It is felt that a system of annual housing grants and loans, on a greatly-expanded scale, would be a start towards assisting the Indians to undertake their own housing programs. Under the direction of an experienced foreman and one or two assistants, all the labor could be done by the Indians themselves. Not only would better homes be provided but work could be provided many Indians to help them eke out their existence.

Wherever possible, work with pay, rather than direct assistance, should be provided for able-bodied Indian men. The Indian nature being what it is, the Indian must be educated to the idea of work. Even if a man was paid to dig a well or put in a garden for himself, it would be better than simply handing him social assistance. He would at least be bettering his conditions and would be taking the first step, in many cases, towards self-achievement and independence.

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While there are many Indians living on reserves today, who have achieved a certain amount of prosperity through their own endeavours, there are far too many, especially among some of the younger Indian men, who are content to drift around the reserve idling their time away and living without any thought of the morrow.

There is much that would profit the white man if he adopted certain features of the Indian philosophy but in the white man's world of today, that philosophy is in many ways impractical and does not prepare the Indian for the world outside his reserve. The idea of "working to earn your living" is instilled in every white boy and girl from the time they are small. It is accepted that as soon as their schooling is ended, they will go out into the workingworld to take their place in society. Not so the Indian.

As long as the present "paternalistic" system continues on our Indian reserves, it is hopeless to expect the Indian to understand the white man's philosophy of work as part of his daily life. If our Indian people are going to be successfully integrated into the white man's world, it is essential that "work for pay" projects be undertaken right on the reserves and we submit than an extensive home-building program would be the most logical starting point.

Communications

Lack of communications on some reserves in this area of Saskatchewan is posing a serious problem. In cases of sudden, severe illness there is no way to contact the nearest doctor or hospital if a reserve is without a telephone. Thedoctor is unable to get to the patient and it means the Indians have to be brought into the hospital and a delay in getting transportation can often be fatal.

If parents of a sick child, for instance, have no means of getting a child to hospital, a phone call, if phones were available, could at least be put through to the Indian Superintendent and transportation could be arranged for them. With no communication facilities on some reserves, this is impossible.

The Shellbrook Indian Agency has several reserves without communication facilities. One such reserve has 600 Indians living on it. The result is that our local hospital has reported a rise in hospitalization costs because Indian patients may be ready for dischargefrom the hospital but have to remain longer than necessary, simply because the hospital has no way of contacting the family to have the patient picked up.

At present, hospital officials have to phone to the nearest point to such a reserve and the message has to be relayed on. If the reserve should happen to be some miles from the nearest telephone, this often results in a lengthy delay and as a result, a badly-needed hospital bed is sometimes occupied two or three days longer than necessary and this in turn results in unnecessary hospitalization costs to the government.

It is assumed that the Indian reserves at present without communication facilities are located mainly in the northern areas or more remote parts of a province, We have been informed that in areas where telephone lines are not available, it would be possible to utilize power poles to provide a form of radio-telephone service.

In the Shellbrook area, government power lines either go directly through the reserves or are immediately adjacent to them. The Saskatchewan Power Corporation is at present undertaking experiments to utilize power phones for telephones and carrier systems on their power lines.

We would point out that of the seven reserves in this area, only one has a resident Indian Agent. This means the nearest departmental

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contact for the other six reserves, is the local Indian office in Shellbrook.

We would urge that your government cooperate with the Provincial government in sharing costs of bringing either telephones or radio-telephone communication facilities to reserves not so served. Not only would it facilitate much of the work of the Indian Agency office but it would mean that in cases of sudden severe illness, lives might be saved, if direct communication with a doctor was available.

Transportation

The problem of transportation, it is universally agreed, is one of the most complex and disturbing problems faced by the Indians. Dr. Dan McCue, of Shellbrook, has reported that lack of transportation has resulted in Indian babies, in some cases, being dead of arrival, at the hospital and others "At death's door", so far gone that "doctors and nurses slaved over them most of the night to save them".

Parents of these children have told him they had no means of transportation themselves and couldn't get anyone to bring them in sooner. Hospital Administrator, J.R. Huckstep, says lack of transportation, like the lack of communication, is posing a real problem for the local hospital.

Even when the parents of an Indian child have been contacted, they often have difficulty getting someone with a car or truck to pick up the patient and take him home to the reserve. The hospital has now adopted the policy of telling parents when a child is brought into hospital, to contact the hospital by phone every couple of days to check when the child will be ready to leave. When a reserve has no phone, this again is difficult.

The hospital makes it a point to notify the parents two or three days in advance, when a child will be ready to leave, to give them time to find transportation and to ensure that a hospital bed will not be occupied longer than necessary. Several instances have been reported where hospital beds were occupied by Indian patients who could have gone home a day or so earlier but had to wait to be picked up. As a result, local residents had to be sent on to Prince Albert, thirty miles away, because all the hospital beds were filled.

It was the opinion of the doctor and the hospital administrator that some definite plan should be worked out to make arrangements for transportation to and from reserves for indigent sick patients, especially where communication facilities are lacking,

At present, if an Indian patient is taken to the doctor, the doctor determines if the patient is ill and needs treatment or hospitalization. If transportation had to be provided for the patient, the Indian Health Service will pay the costs of transportation, provided that the Indian Affairs Branch Office certifies that the patient is indigent.

Of course it is essential and desirable that a Band accept responsibility for arranging transportation for its own people. Some reserves have already arranged for their own taxi service, with payment being made from monies set aside from band funds. In addition, the Indians have been encouraged to set up Health and Welfare Committees on their reserves and by bingos and other activities, to raise money for transportation for those who are without.

At the present time, however, in the Shellbrook area, only one such committee has been set up out of the seven reserves. Until such time as each reserve can take full responsibility for its own transportation scheme, we feel that some definite policy should be established to assist the Indians in this regard.

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We therefore suggest that consideration be given to the following recommendation, namely, that the Indian Affairs Branch of your Department, working with the Chief and Councillors on each reserve, designate an individual (or individuals) on or near each Indian reserve, to provide "taxi" service for emergency cases when a family has no transportation or is unable to get anyone to take the patient to doctor or hospital.

Those who are able to pay their own costs of the taxi service, should receive a receipt from the individual supplying the service. Each month a copy of all receipts issued, along with bills for all indigent patients transported, should be submitted to the Agency office. Each bill submitted should include the name of the person transported, the name of the reserve, date of examination by the doctor or date of admission to hospital, if hospital care is necessary. Each bill for transportation should also be signed by the doctor or the hospital administrator.

The same procedure would be followed if a discharged patient had to be supplied transportation. A revolving fund for transportation for each reserve could be set up at the agency office. Each band could be set aside an initial sum for transportation for its reserve and would be credited with that amount at the office. All monies raised for transportation would also be credited to the particular fund of the band raising the money.

Monthly bills for transportation would be paid from Transportation funds by the Superintendent and where band funds at any time, were insufficient to cover the full cost, the balance could be paid by the Department. Receipted bills would be turned over to the Band Councils each month and the onus would then be on the Chief and Councillors to collect transportation costs from any individual they found had abused the transportation privileges.

We respectfully submit that the system outlined above, or one similar to it, should be instituted on a trial basis. At the end of the trial period, it should be posssible to establish a more or less accurate estimate of transportation costs on each reserve over a stated period. Band Councils might then be persuaded to budget a certain amount annually to cover such costs, much as school boards budget for their conveyance costs.

It is our feeling that such a plan would offer a workable compromise between the Department and the Band Councils in regard to transportation. The Indians and many white people feel the Department should pay all the costs of transportation, apparently unaware of thefact that there is nothing in their Treaty of the Indian Act, to guarantee transportation to the Indians.

It is recognized that the Government's only obligation in this respect, is a moral obligation but it is one that cannot be ignored. Our Indian people have been asking for more control of their own affairs but they must also learn that in controlling their own affairs, they must also assume more responsibility. If a definite policy in regard to providing transportation were to be set up and if the Indians were assured of the Department assisting them with the costs, it is our belief they would "police" the plan themselves to the extent that abuses would be kept at a minimum.

We feel such a plan as outlined above or something similar, would result in a saving to the Department in the longrun and would encourage the Indians to gradually take over complete responsibility in this field. It would also protect the Department from abuses which no doubt occur under the present system.

It would appear that one of the biggest factors in Indian Health costs, including transportation, is the lack of sufficient doctors and nurses in Departmental service. We have been informed that in most points where Indian Health Services have been set up, there are only one or two doctors, soemtimes three, on the staff.

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If these clinics had sufficient doctors, at least four, one doctor could be constantly visiting the reserves and holding regular clinics. As it is, the only time their Indian Health doctor visits a reserve, is at Treaty time, according to one Chief. That is understandable when you realize that a Superintendent of an Indian Health Zone might have as many as 9,000 Indians under his care.

It has been admitted that the great problem of the Department of Indian Health Services is to get young doctors to join the Indian Health Service. Their reluctance is understandable when they could earn twice as much in a small town where their duties might not be as arduous, as they could earn at present in Indian Health.

It would appear that higher salaries might attract more young doctors into the service. Failing that, if Indian Health Services were administered by provincial Health Departments, existing staffs could be augmented by provincial department workers.

We feel that consideration should be given to the institution by your department of a concentrated scheme, similar to that operated by the Armed Services, under such a scheme, the brightest Indian High Schools students in each province, could be selected for medical training with all their expenses paid by the Government. In return, young doctors in training under the scheme, would serve for three years with the Department of Indian Health after graduation.

While attending University, the students would work in Indian Health centres for the five months from May until September, thus gaining first-hand experience of the work they would be doing after graduation. An extensive scheme for training nurses could also be undertaken.

Indian and Metis girls in this province who have been able to take training, are proving excellent nurses and nurses' assistants. If the brightest of the Indian boys and girls could be interested in training for doctors and nurses, it would not only fill a great need in this field, but would be a great factor in hastening complete integration of our Indian people with the white.

There is an urgent need for sufficient doctors to visit many reserves regularly, to hold clinics. Prevention generally proves less costly than the cure. Shellbrook doctors say that every other Indian baby brought to them, has low blood from poor nutrition. It is estimated that approximately 50 percent of Indian children in this area suffers from poor nutrition and this no doubt holds true for a big majority of reserves throughout Western Canada.

If staffs at Indian Health clinics were sufficient to allow for more time to be spent holding clinics on the reserves, Indian mothers could be educated to the importance of proper nutrition for their children. They would be educated not to delay in getting a sick child to hospital. Many deaths of Indian babies can be attributed to this delay in seeking medical aid, simply because the parents were ignorent of the imperative need of early treatment.

We respectfully submit that the Indian Act be amended to clarify the responsibility of the Government in regard to medical, hospital and transportation services for the Indians and we further suggest that your government explore with provincial governments, the possibility of integrating their Health Services so that more direct administration is possible.

Child Welfare

As the Indian Act now stands, no provision has been made for enforcing provincial child welfare acts on an Indian reserve, in regard to neglected or abandoned children. We would recommend that the Act be amended to include a section dealing specifically with Child Welfare. The provisions of such a section should be consistent with provincial Child Welfare Acts

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and should clearly indicate under whose jurisdiction the provisions are to be enforced.

At the present time in Saskatchewan, adoption cases are handled by a provincial agency for the Department of Indian Affairs. Indian juvenile delinquents are brought into provincial courts and the Department of Social Welfare deals with cases of Indian children living off the reserves who have been abandoned by their parents.

It should therefore be logically assumed that provincial child welfare workers should have the right to fo on an Indian reserve and remove a child who has been abandoned or is being seriously neglected and if such a child is committed to their care, to place the child in a foster home outside the reserve.

The Field Workers' Manual issued by the Indian Affairs Branch, states that Department workers have no authority to go on an Indian reserve and forcibly remove a child. An accredited child care agency must be contacted and action can then be taken. Recently, however, advice has gone out from your Regional office at Regina that child welfare workers for the Department of Social Welfare say they will no longer enter reserves as they are not within their jurisdiction.

Section 87 of the Indian Act states:

"All laws of general application from time to time in force in any province are applicable to and in respect of Indians in this province, except to the extent that such laws are inconsistent etc....."

In the Field Workers' Manual issued by your Department, the above paragraph is interpreted to mean that technically, by virtue of Section 87, Indians are subject to provincial laws governing "the apprehension, guardianship and adoption of children." Agency officials interpret that to mean that a provincial government now has the power to administer the provincial Child Welfare Act on Indian reserves as the Child Welfare Act is not "inconsistent" to the Indian Act.

However, inasmuch as there is no section in the Indian Act dealing specifically with Child Welfare, it can be argued that there is no basis for measuring "consistency". Provincial jurisdiction is such cases should be clearly defined in the Act, as it is felt that Section 87 of the Act is too vague.

Under the Indian Act, as it now stands, White persons not authorized by the Federal Government or the Chief or Council of an Indian Band could be accused of trespassing if they entered an Indian reserve without permission. Because there is no clear-cut definition of policy in regard to Child Welfare in the present Act, provincial welfare workers could conceivably be looked upon as "trespassers" if they went on reserves in the regular course of their duties.

The recent granting of liquor privileges to the Indians in this province has resulted in some children being neglected because of liquor. In such cases, whereaa child has been abandoned or is being brought up in a filthy home with poor nutrition or is simply neglected because "the mother doesn't care", then provincial welfare workers should have the right to protect Indian children in the same manner they protect a white child.

It is recommended that foster home placements be on a temporary basis only, im most instances. If the parents proved they would take proper care of the child, then it should be returned to the home under supervision of the Social Welfare Department. Indian parents love their children deeply and the threat of having their children taken away from them would undoubtedly have a good psychological effect, in cases where parents were neglecting a child's welfare.

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It is further recommended that certain changes be made in the Indian Act to allow legally adopted children to take the same racial origin status as the adoptive parents. In other words, if an Indian child is legally adopted by white parents, that child should be designated as white and not remain a Treaty Indian on the records. In the same manner, a white child legally adopted by an Indian father should be designated as Indian.

Under the Act at present, a white woman marrying a Band member, automatically comes under the Indian Act. However, should she have an illegitimate white child at the time of marriage or a child by a previous marriage to a white man, the child, even if legally adopted by her Indian husband, will not be listed as Indian.

In other words, although the mother after her marriage, becomes legally an Indian and although her Indian husband is willing to adopt her child, it has to remain non-Indian. It is felt that an amendment to the Act, to cover such cases, is imperative.

Education.

If Canada's Indian population continues to expand as it has in the past ten years, the problem of educating its young people is bound to become more acute with each passing year. While much has been accomplished in the academic field in recent years as far as Canada's young Indians are concerned, the greatest need is for a concerted program of vocational and technical training to fit these young people for life outside the reserves.

In Saskatchewan, selected groups of Metis and Indian young people are now being given an opportunity for Government vocational training at larger urban centres but much more is needed. It is imperative that some form of technical training be made available to all young Indian people between the ages of 16 and 19, if possible, this training be provided without having to send them miles away from home.

Now that integrated schools have been constructed in many areas, we would recommend that federal and provincial governments undertake a cost-sharing program of constructing composite high schools in areas where a number of Indian reserves are located, if none exist at present. Indian pupils could then be conveyed to school and obtain vocational training without having to be sent away from home as at present.

It is essential that family life on the reserves be maintained as closely as possible, as the younger people when they become more highly educated can have an influencial effect on their elders. It is essential that vocational training schools be integrated as well as purely academic schools. Building a vocational school for Indians would simply mean a continuation of the unhappy practice of segregating the Indian pupil from the white.

It would appear, however, that a simpler, less costly and more effective means of providing technical training for Indian youths would be to take the training directly to them on thereserves.

Instead of young Indians having to go away for technical training, why would it not be possible to send mobile units, "schools on wheels" right on to the reserves to provide such training? As originally suggested in the House of Commons in May, 1955, such a mobile unit could consist of a well-equipped van with a qualified mechanic and carpenter ot conduct a six-week or longer course in practical mechanical matters and basic carpentry.

It has been proven that the Indian is quick to pick up the rudiments of mechanics and with even six weeks instruction, many could be trained sufficiently to enable them to get employment in the outside world. Today many western farmers find it almost impossible to get farm workers while at the same time, young Indian men are roaming around unable to find work other than odd jobs.

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The reason farmers will not hire them is because that while they may have had some schooling, they have had no training in handling machinery. Many of these young Indian men are unable to drive a truck, tractor or combine and they don't know how to keep machinery in good working order. As a result, outside of seasonal odd jobs, many of them are of little use to a farmer.

It is just as important to provide technical training for the young Indian who will continue to live on the reservation. They should be taught how to build simple homes for themselves. How to operate and care for machinery so they could earn a living for themselves and provide a decent home for their wives when they married. It is our belief that "on the spot" training would prove most effective because the Indians would be able to put their training to practical use by working on their own machinery, cars and trucks. They would learn to make use of the limited facilities on the reserve and their training would therefore have a more realistic value.

It must be remembered that it may be many, many years before all young Indian men and women are absorbed into the outside labor force and for that reason it is imperative that a start be made immediately to improve living conditions on the reserves and to train many of this present generation, who will continue to live on the reserves, to be self-sufficient.

All Indian girls between the ages of 16 and 19 should be taught proper buying habits, how to cook, how to sew and how to use food in a home so that food allowances would last. Here again, some form of "travelling" school could be devised so that those Indian girls who were unable to go on for higher education would at least receive basic training in home-making.

Instead of going off to towns and cities, drifting aimlessly and getting into trouble, such girls could perhaps obtain employment as domestics. Without any skills or training in home-making, however, no one would employ them. Some of the brightest Indian girls could be trained in Home Economics as dieticians. They could then enter the employ of the government and could work with the Department of Health on the reserves. They could hold classes for Indian women, instructing them in proper diets for their families and show them how to make better use of their food allowances.

Poor buying habits on the part of many Indian parents and ignorance of proper nutrition is mainly responsible for the fact that fifty percent of Indian children on reserves in this area are suffering from poor nutrition. There is an obvious need for educating Indian women to buy sensibly and budget their food allowances wisely.

Indian mothers, for example, will buy the most expensive cuts of meat when cheaper cuts are just as nutritious. They will buy expensive food and fruit and allow it to be eaten up in a meal or two, without giving any thought to the next day. The result is that food allowances are almost invariably used up before the month is out.

As one means of educating Indian women in sensible buying habits, simple food budgets could be prepared for distribution on the reserves. The budgets could be printed in both English and their own language and coud be prepared for maximum nutrition within the limits of the average food allowance in an Indian home.

In some areas of Canada, it is estimated that approximately 60 percent of Indians living on reserves, are receiving social assistance. In many areas, there is a problem of "some Indians not spending money too honestly." This is a matter of concern to Agency officials and has been for some time.

Since the granting of liquor privileges in Saskatchewan, many cases have been reported of money for food being spent on liquor instead of food. Children, as a result, are suffering. One lay worker reported an instance

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of a father going to town with $30 and coming home with $10 worth of groceries and $20 worth of liquor.

Agency officials are aware that many Indians are not spending the money they are given "too honestly" but they point out in many cases, refusing assistance would only result in greater hardship on the children "who can't be allowed to starve". It would seem that a concentrated program of education among Indian women might do much to overcome this problem.

At the present time, the only hope many Indian boys and girls have of obtaining a high school education, is still through residential schools. While a church and residential school may have served a purpose in the past, they are not the solution to the educational problem of Canada's Indians.

It is imperative that our governments embark immediately on steps to provide integrated secondary schools. Many Indian parents have expressed the wish that their children, who are now attending residential schools, be alloed to remain at home and attend high schools in their area. They ask why the government could not give them the same assistance that their children now receive when attending a residential school.

In this area, several white families have expressed interest in taking Indian boys and girls into their homes to allow them to attend the same high schools as their own children xxx and receive the same education. It is felt that by boarding these boys and girls in white homes and having them integrated into the regular secondary school system, greater opportunities would be available to them and they would not be "segregated" as they are at present in residential schools.

In addition, they would be closer to their homes and closer contact would be maintained with their families until such time as they could be conveyed by school bus from their own homes to the nearest high school. We understand that this has already been undertaken to a limited extent but has not been too successful. We would respectfully suggest that a publicity campaign be undertaken to interest the public in taking these boys and girls into their homes as paying boarders, until such time as it will be possible for them to remain at home and conveyed to school.

Indian parents have a deep and abiding love for children, in most instances, and want only for their children to be happy. In this respect they are no different fromwhite parents. They want their children to remain at home while attending school. Indian children, when sent away to get their schooling are often lonely and feel isolated. In many cases, the system can only have the effect of "breaking up the family".

Closer personal contact with the Indians is the most essential factor of any educational program undertaken by the Department among the Indians. In the past, lack of personal contact was one of the things most deeply resented by the Indians. They felt, as many of them still do, that representatives of the Department were "trying to force the white man's ideas down the Indian's throat". They said they were "always being told what was good" for them instead of being asked for their opinions.

It is gratifying to note that in the past few years, as far as the Shellbrook Indian Agency is concerned at least, there has been a decided change in this regard. Indians in this area have commented on the fact that they are no longer being told what to do but are being asked what they want to do. We feel your Department should be commended for its more enlightened policy in dealing with the Indians in the past few years.

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However, we do feel that greater personal contact should be maintained between the Department and the Indian people in the future. One of the most effective ways of doing this would be to train and take into the employ of the Indian Affairs Branch, more Indian young people.

In the business administration of a reserve, it is felt that closer liason could be established by having selected young Indians given a course in business administration. In the white man's world, it is common for individuals specially trained in business administration, to assist in planning and budgeting municipal affairs. Why would it not be possible for such a system to be instituted on our Indian reserves in the administration of Band affairs.

Young Indians trained in business administration could become employees of the Indian Affairs Branch at the conclusion of their training period. Wherever possible, they could be assigned to their own Agencies to become travelling business administrators among the reserves.

The duties of such a business administrator might include assisting councils in making a survey of a reserve's potentialities. Where land suitable for cultivation was leased by a white man, he could provide an estimate of what would be needed by way of assistance for the Indians to take over cultivation of the land themselves. He could handle financial details connected with loans to individuals and could prepare annual budgets for Band Councils.

He could assist in finding employment for Indians in their own region wherever possible and could work in cooperation with the National Employment Office in finding outside opportunities for work. In short, he could co-ordinate all the business details of the reserves and act as liason between the Superintendent and the Band Councils.

It is recognized that a tremendous task lies ahead of the government in bringing about successful integration of Canada's Indian population with the white but a start has already been made. It is accepted that any improvement must come from the Indians themselves but it will be many years before they will be able to take over complete responsibility for their own affairs.

6 For too many years, they have been conditioned to "hand-outs" and "Government paternalism" and for that reason, it is essential that the "change-over" be a gradual one, with education the cornerstone of the program.

As a basic step in integration, we would respectfully submit that the employment of more Indians in government service would provide a much-needed stimulus and example for the general public to follow. Young Indian people, after training, could serve as clerks and stenographers, for instance. Even a start like this at the lowest level, would demonstrate to the Indian people that our governments are not merely giving "lip service" to the idea of equal opportunities for all. More important, the general public would have an example to follows.

The native population of New Zealand has never been segrgated. Maoris hold positions of influence and share actively in government affairs and are respected citizens. We have only to contrast this with the situation in South Africa or the Congo to realize that if Canada's Indian problem is to be satisfactorily resolved, our first task is to build up the Indians' self-respect and restore his pride of race.

As long as we continue to segregate our Indian people on reserves, as long as we continue to "talk" and fail to "act" then we shall never overcome the Indian's ingrained suspicion of the white man's motives. Our governments, both federal and provincial, must set the example for the general public to follow, just as has been done in New Zealand.

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We would urge that as the first step in this regard, your government call an immediate conference with the provinces on Indian Affairs, to work out uniform federal-provincial agreements on all aspects of Indian Affairs and that Indian representatives be called to the conference and that a detailed study be made of the existing Indian Act to provide much needed changes.

A veteran employee of the Indian Affairs Branch once commented that it appeared the policy of his Department seemed to be "to have no policy" in handling certain aspects of Indian Affairs. It would appear the most urgent need at the present time, is the formulation of a definite clear-cut policy on Indian Affairs, a policy in which the provinces' field of responsibility is clearly defined and which would allow the Indians more direct responsibility in the administration of their own affairs.

Such a conference would do much to clear up the present existing "confusion" and would be tangible proof that our governments are deeply concerned about the problems of Canada's Indians and are determined to take immediate and definite action.

It is suggested that the Conference could set up a continuing committee, composed of representatives from each of the various governments attending, to undertake a detailed survey of Canada's Indian reserves.

It is further suggested that the Committee could be empowered to appoint "teams" in each province, consisting of one representative from each of the recognized political parties in that province. Each party could name its own representative to the team which would visit every Indian reserve in its province to make a first-hand study of conditions on those reserves and report its findings to the Committee.

It is felt such a plan would prove less costly than a Royal Commission, less travelling would be entailed and an "on the spot" survey would be more effective than the accepted practice of briefs being submitted before a Commission.

Having the teams fully representative of the various political parties would eliminate any possibility of charges of "partisanship" and would bring home forcibly to all Canadans the fact they must share with the senior governments, the responsibility of finding a solution to Canada's Indian problem.

Since preparation of this brief was commenced, a five-day course was held in the City of Saskatoon for personnel working with the Indians and Metis in Northern Canada. We are taking the liberty of enclosing a news report on this course which we feel bears out to a considerable degree some of the findings we ourselves made in the course of gathering material for this brief.

We would direct your attention to the comment of Victor Valentine, Chief Research Officer for the Department of Northern Affairs, regarding "frightful living conditions"among Indians and Metis of the North, Mr. ValentineIs comment merely echoes the comments of our local doctors and others about "Horrifying" living conditions on some reserves right here in our own area.

We feel that it is essential for "personal" surveys to be made of Canada's Indian reserves, especially those of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Only in this way, can the true picture be obtained of the problems peculiar to the prairie Indians who never enjoyed the same standard of living as the Indians of British Columbia, Alberta, or Ontario for instance.

In closing, we would like to quote the comment of one experienced worker, in the Indian Affairs Branch:

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"The only salvation for the Indians is to concentrate on the present generation growing up on the reserves." We feel that a significant step towards this end has already been accomplished by integrated schools and much credit is due our government in this regard.

In the Shellbrook Indian Superintendency, children from two reserves have been successfully integrated into the school unit system and are now being conveyed by bus to schools where they are getting the same educational opportunities as white children, including high school.

On one of the reserves, half the parents were at first opposed to their children attending an integrated school. Today, those same parents have displayed a complete reversal of feeling, proving that education of the older Indians can be accomplished through the children.

Now that children on many reserves have the same "freedom" of education as white children in integrated schools, it is felt that they should have the same "freedom of worship" on reserves. Unfortunately there is nothing in the Indian Act which guarantees this.

A case was reported recently of a lay church worker going on a reserve which had no resident priest or minister at the time. A Sunday School was organized and attended by a large group of children. After two months of successful operation, the lay worker was informed by the Chief that he could no longer go on the reserve to hold a Sunday School for the children.

Under Canada's Bill of Rights, all citizens are guaranteed freedom of worship. We would presume that our Indian citizens are entitled to the same rights and privileges as white people but there is nothing in the Indian Act which states that Indians on reserves are guaranteed freedom of worship.

It would appear there is need for an amendment to the Act to guarantee that every Indian on a reserve has complete freedom of worship in the faith of his choice. It would also appear that Sections 120 and 121 should be stricken from the Act in the light of present day conditions.

In submitting this brief for your consideration, we have endeavoured to be as objective as possible and we trust that any criticism has been of a constructive nature. We are keenly aware of the taks faced by the federal and provincial governments in trying to bring about a practical solution to Canada's Indian problem and we can only repeat our assurances of our active co-operation in helping bring about that solution.

Submitted on behalf of the Shellbrook CCF Constituency Executive.

Mary K. Walker

Mrs. Howard A, Walker
CNR Station,
Shellbrook, Sask.

COPY FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

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HTV/in

Adm 2

Ottawa, July 24, 1961.

S.J. Korchinski, Esq., M.P.,
Rama,
Saskatchewan.

My dear Stanley:

Reference is made to your letter of May 16, 1961, forwarding a letter from the Rev. H. Thiboutot, O.M.I. of Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan, in which he requests assistance from the Department to improve conditions among the native people in that area.

I regret the delay in replying to your letter. However, Sandy Bay is a comparatively isolated area and it has taken some time to obtain the required information.

First of all I must point out that there is no Indian Reserve at Sandy Bay. The total population is some 600 persons, mainly Metis and enfranchised Indians, only 68 being of Indian status. The Settlement is located on the Churchill River opposite Island Falls where the Churchill River Power Company maintain their power plant.

Most of the Indians at Sandy Bay are members of the Peter Ballantyne and Matthias Colomb Bands. There are 13 heads of Indian families residing in the area eight of whom are employed on a casual basis with the Churchill River Power Company and two in receipt of Old Age pensions. These Indians were visited by our field officers in December 1960 and again in March 1961. On both occasions there was only one family considered to be in inadequate economic circumstances. The local Indian Superintendent also reports that no complaints have been received from the Indians at Sandy Bay and that little relief assistance has been requested.

In the opinion of my officers these Indians would probably be well advised to return to their former homes where there are better opportunities for them to earn their living by hunting, trapping and fishing. I am informed most of the other members of those bands who

are presently engaged in these pursuits seem to enjoy a better standard of living than those at Sandy Bay where only casual employment can be expected.

As there is no reserve at Sandy Bay and because of the fact that most of the people are not of Indian status, this problem could seem to be one which might more properly be referred to the provincial government. It is, of course, not the policy of this Department to become involved in the social welfare problems of non-Indian communities.

I note that this view is shared by the Rev. Thiboutot who states that the people at Sandy Bay should be entitled to a greater share of the provincial revenues.

Yours sincerely,

Ellen L. Fairclough

Ellen L. Fairclough.

111/3-8 (Adm.2)

HTV/in

Ottawa, July 20, 1961.

S.J. Korchinski, Esq., M.P.,
Rosa,
Saskatchewan.

My dear Stanley:

Reference is made to your letter of May 16, 1961, forwarding a letter from the Rev. H. Thiboutot, O.M.I. of Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan, in which he requests assistance from the Department to improve conditions among the native people in that area.

I regret the delay in replying to your letter. However, Sandy Bay is a comparatively isolated area and it has taken some time to obtain the required information.

First of all I must point out that there is no Indian Reserve at Sandy Bay. The total population is some 600 persons, mainly Métis and enfranchised Indians, only 68 being of Indian status. The Settlement is located on the Churchill River opposite Island Falls where the Churchill River Power Company maintain their power plant.

Most of the Indians at Sandy Bay are members of the Peter Ballantyne and Matthias Colomb Bands. There are 13 heads of Indian families residing in the area eight of whom are employed on a casual basis with the Churchill River Power Company and two in receipt of Old Age pensions. These Indians were visited by our field officers in December 1960 and again in March 1961. On both occasions there was only one family considered to be in inadequate economic circumstances. The local Indian Superintendent also reports that no complaints have been received from the Indians at Sandy Bay and that little relief assistance has been requested.

In the opinion of my officers these Indians would probably be well advised to return to their former homes where there are better opportunities for them to earn their living by hunting, trapping and fishing. I am informed most of the other members of these bands who

.....2

are presently engaged in these pursuits seem to enjoy a better standard of living than those at Sandy Bay where only casual employment can be expected.

As there is no reserve at Sandy Bay and because of the fact that most of the people are not of Indian status, this problem would seem to be one which might more properly be referred to the provincial government. It is, of course, not the policy of this Department to become involved in the social welfare problems of non-Indian communities.

I note that this view is shared by the Rev. Thibautot who states that the people at Sandy Bay should be entitled to a greater share of the provincial revenues.

Yours sincerely,

Ellen L. Fairclough.

House of Commons
Canada

Ottawa

May 16th, 1961.

Hon. Ellen L. Fairclough,
Minister of Citizenship
and Immigration,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Ellen:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I have received from the Rev. H. Thiboutot, O.M.I., of Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan, in which he lists the various needs of the people of that community. In particular I note that there seems to be a need for a road to Duck Lake. This apparently would satisfy the greatest need of the native population..

Would you investigate the possibilities of granting such a request.

Yours sincerely,

S.J. Korchinski, M.P.,
Mackenzie.

SJK/ac
Enc.

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Senior Administrative Officer, Ottawa

YOUR FILE No: 111/3-8 (Adm.2)

FROM : Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

OUR FILE No: 107/3-8

SUBJECT: Adm 2

DATE: June 28/61

Reference is made to your letters of May 24th and June 9th concerning a petition forwarded to the Minister by Mr. Korchinski, M.P. for Mackenzie. We regret the delay in replying to your letters and I believe you will agree that it is a rather extensive problem to get out to the Sandy Bay area to pick up the information that would be required.

A few Indians of the Peter Ballantyne Band who resided in and around Pelican Narrows, Saskatchewan, have attempted to settle in and around Sandy Bay where they have received casual employment in the Churchill River Power Company establishment there. We believe that these Indians should return to their former homes at the settlements of Southend and Pelican Narrows and become engaged in hunting, trapping and fishing in the same manner as the other members of their band who, we can safely say, are in receipt of a higher source of income from the resources available to them than the Indians who have gone to Island Falls to depend upon casual labour in that area.

I believe we should view with disfavour any attempts on the part of Indians and non-Indians in the Sandy Bay and Island Falls areas to involve our Branch in a social welfare problem that, I believe, is the responsibility of the government of the Province of Saskatchewan.

I am enclosing herewith a memorandum dated June 13th, prepared by our Regional Welfare Supervisor, Mr. Carl Latham. The contents are self-explanatory and were compiled by Mr. Latham from a draft report entitled "A Social and Economic Study of Sandy Bay-Island Falls" prepared by Mr. Walter Hlady of the Centre for Community Studies at the University of Saskatchewan.

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CGSB Standard 6-GP-22; PP&S Cat. No. 3590

In the event that it is deemed advisable for our Branch to become financially involved in this particular situation at Sandy Bay, I am prepared to have Mr. Latham visit the area and ascertain exactly what financial responsibility, if any, our Branch should assume.

N. J. McLeod

NJM/ge
Encl.

cc. Supt., Carlton Agency

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

CONFIDENTIAL

TO : Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

YOUR FILE No:

FROM : Regional Welfare Supervisor

OUR FILE No: 107/3-8

SUBJECT: Sandy Bay - Island Lake

DATE: June 13/61

Reference is made to a letter dated May 24, 1961 from the Senior Administrative Officer enclosing a petition forwarded to the Minister by Mr. Stan Korchinski, M.P. for McKenzie Constituency.

Mr. Latham arranged to borrow a draft report entitled, "A Social and Economic Study of Sandy Bay-Island Falls" prepared by Mr. Walter Hlady, Centre for Community Studies. This study was undertaken at the request of the Dept. of Natural Resources and was based on field work during July 9, 1959 to September 5, 1959. The document is classified as "confidential" although it will probably be published later this year. The following is a condensation of certain aspects of the report which may have some relevance to the petition of Father Thiboutot.

Sandy Bay is a Roman Catholic community. Father Hector Thiboutot, the local priest, contributed information to the study undertaken by Mr. Hlady.

In his study, Mr. Hlady uses the terms "Whites" and "Natives", the latter includes Indians and Metis.

Sandy Bay is situated on the Churchill River, approximately two miles from Island Falls. During 1959, the population of Sandy Bay was approximately 490 persons including 20% enfranchised Indians, 40% Metis, and 40% persons of legal Indian status. Approximately 50 persons live apart from the community at a given time, mainly for education, special training, hospitalization, and occasionally for employment. Most Indians at Sandy Bay are members of the Peter Ballantyne Band who originally lived at Pelican Narrows. A smaller portion are members of the Matthias Colombe Band from Pukatawagan in Manitoba.

Reports suggest that a large number of Indians in the area became enfranchised during the 1930's and 40's to acquire drinking privileges.

CGSB Standard 6-GP-22; PP&S Cat. No. 3590

Island Falls is a small community located on Davis Island approximately two miles from Sandy Bay. The economy of Sandy Bay settlement, including Island Falls, is dominated by the Churchill River Power Company, a subsidiary of the Hudson's Bay Mining and Smelting Company. Island Falls is a Company town inhabited exclusively by non-Indians.

During the developmental phase of this project, economic opportunities in the area were exceedingly good. In 1959, there was a slight decline in the number of available jobs, but it was anticipated that income from the Company would remain at a high level and would be sufficient to maintain most families at Sandy Bay.

Because of the high level of employment in the area, few residents of Sandy Bay were required to move to other communities in search of employment. Moreover, few persons engaged in trapping, fishing, and hunting.

The Sandy Bay settlement has a substantial economic base. The sources and amounts of income during 1958 are as follows:

Churchill River Power Company	$244,448.00
Trapping	6,566.00
Fishing	7,200.00
Unemployment Insurance	5,944.00
Family Allowances	19,368.00
Supplementary Allowances	372.00
Disabled Persons' Allowances	960.00
O.A.P. and O.A.A.	7,260.00
Social Aid (long term)	1,500.00
Social Aid	2,777.00

Income for residents of Sandy Bay is probably in excess of that paid to native persons in other parts of the province ($1.75 an hour is the minimum for common labour).

... 3

Ranges of income by Sandy Bay residents working for the Churchill River Power Company in 1958

Earnings	Number
$ 0 - 249	1
250 - 499	2
500 - 749	4
750 - 999	-
1000 - 1249	7
1250 - 1499	5
1500 - 1749	5
1750 - 1999	1
2000 - 2249	2
2250 - 2499	2
2500 - 2749	1
2750 - 2999	2
3000 - 3249	2
3250 - 3499	7
3500 - 3749	7
3750 - 3999	3
4000 - 4249	5
4250 - 4499	7
4500 - 4749	2
4750 - 4999	8
5000 - 5249	1
5250 - 5499	2
5500 - 5749	1
5750 - 6000	2
Total	79

With the passing of time, the structure of interaction between Whites and Natives has become quite rigid. Although Natives are able to see the material benefits of the White culture, they are unable to penetrate the barriers which have been erected. There is little social intercourse between Whites and Natives at Island Falls and Sandy Bay and Indians resent the different treatment which they receive. The structure has been created and is sustained in large part by policies of the Churchill River Power Company. The latter provides a number of benefits to attract and maintain non-Indian employees. On the other hand, Indians and Metis are not provided with similar benefits and are recruited to the lower level of the labour force.

...4

There is a sharp difference in the living conditions of Natives and Whites. The latter are provided housing, including services, at a cost of $20.00 a month. Natives must arrange their own accommodation. As a result of friction, the Company established a commissary for Whites and another for Natives.

There is poor use of income by Natives judged by non-Indian standards. Native homes are little better than those of families with an average income of $1,000 per year in other Indian and Metis communities.

The purchase of intoxicants is extremely heavy. Data suggest that during 1959 from 20 to 30% of the income of Sandy Bay residents was spent on intoxicants. The making and sale of home brew is a leading industry and staggering quantities of "Molly" and "Soup" are consumed. Data indicate that 15,000 gallons of home beverages were made in the area. It is assumed that at least half of this quantity was sold to adjacent communities. If this assumption is correct, every household would consume one-half gallon of Molly or Soup daily.

In 1959 vast quantities of wine were purchased and consumed by Sandy Bay residents. Purchases averaged one-half gallon per family per week. Beer and liquor were less popular, possibly because they were more difficult to purchase.

Sex and consuming intoxicants appear to be the chief recreation of Sandy Bay residents. There is great concern about the number of children, 13 and older, who drink heavily and whose parents display no concern about their drinking habits.

According to Mr. Hlady's study, residents of the Sandy Bay community have identified their needs as follows:

(a) A community hall ****
(b) A poolroom **
(c) A beer parlour ****
(d) An acceptable baseball diamond **
(e) A skating rink **
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(j) A co-op store *
(k) Credit facilities *

1. Asterisks are used to denote importance by the people. One denote minor importance, grading to 4 - urgent.

...5

The report of Mr. Hlady includes recommendations as follows:

"It is recommended that all possible consideration be given to constructing a road between Sandy Bay and the transmission line south of Island Falls as part of a federal-provincial winter works project.

It is recommended that a dumping area be located near the settlement of SandyBay for garbage and refuse and that a road linking this area with the settlement be built."

The following information concerning roads has been extracted from Mr. Hlady's report:

" There is a definite need for roads in Sandy Bay. The so-called streets are little more than trails and even the streets must await the promised survey. The local ownership of a number of vehicles which are used in winter over the winter road provides the transportation but these are useless in summer without roads.

" Many of the population expressed the need for roads. With the idea growing that an all-weather road will be built connecting with Flin Flon, the need for a connection the year round to Sandy Bay from Island Falls is growing. Certainly, there are periods of the year when travel across the river is difficult. This is especially true at freezeup and breakup. The road from Island Falls along the transmission line passes the south end of the bay and a six mile road is necessary to connect up with Sandy Bay. Such a road would have several useful purposes. In summer when heavy machinery from Island Falls is needed in Sandy Bay, it must be ferried across the river before it can be used. This is sometimes an impossible task. With a road, this machinery could be brought in quite easily.

" A road such as has been mentioned would ease the supply of firewood and logs for building. Such materials are now brought in with canoes, not always a simple project.

" This road could be used as access to a dumping area for garbage.

" If the all-weather road to Flin Flon becomes a reality such a road would be extremely important in the development of this community. This should be considered a worthwhile winter project under provincial-fedenal winter works programs.

...6

" It is recommended that all possible consideration be given to constructing a road between Sandy Bay and the transmission line south of Island Falls as part of a federal-provincial winter works project.

" While roads within the community are planned and money available for some of the work, this program has been hamstrung by the failure of the surveyors to show up as arranged for. The surveyors were due in July. When this field work was completed early in September they had not yet arrived. The entire work project slated for the community has been held up awaiting their arrival. As now seems likely, they still might arrive this year in which case some of the work may be completed although it is likely that much of the road building, levelling of the school grounds and the access from the community to the lake will have to be postponed. Each of these projects rate quite high in the needs of the local population. It is difficult to have the local population work together effectively when the prerequisites which have been promised by the government are not completed. This is one example of the apparently poor organization of outsiders which can delay development in the community at a point when the local population seems relatively ready for improvement.

" It is recommended that every means possible be taken to ensure that the promised survey of the Sandy Bay settlement is completed as soon as possible. "

C. R. Latham

C. R. Latham,
Regional Welfare Supervisor

CRL/ge

CONFIDENTIAL

Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

Regional Welfare Supervisor 107/3-8

Sandy Bay - Island Lake June 13/61

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" It is recommended that every means possible be taken to ensure that the promised survey of the Sandy Bay settlement is completed as soon as possible. "

C. R. Latham,
Regional Welfare Supervisor

CRL/ge

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

FALSE 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. 111/3-8

SUBJECT OF FILE

MAIN FILE ON CHARGE TO A1 23/5/61

REFERENCE				DISPOSAL			
REFERRED TO	BY	REMARKS	DATE	PA or BF	BY	DATE	FOR C.R. USE
admin 2	JB	O 11775	4/7/61				

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

000211

IA 1-25

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

TO : Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa
Attention: Senior Administrative Officer

YOUR FILE No: 111/3-8 (Adm.

FROM : Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

OUR FILE No: 107/3-8

SUBJECT: Sandy Bay Settlement

DATE: June 29/61

Adm 2

-8 ?

Further to our letter of June 28th, attached please find a copy of a report from Superintendent Wark regarding conditions of the Indians residing in Sandy Bay settlement.

N. J. McLeod

HAM/ls
encl.
CC Supt. Wark

JUN 30 2 48 PM '61
INDIAN AFFAIRS

Text visible from another separate document because of water/ink damage

s.19(1)

File No. 107/10-1

Assistant Indian Agent,
Pelican Narrows, Sask.
June 9, 1961

Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan.

111/3-8 (Adm.2)

Superintendent, Carlton Agency, Prince Albert.

REPORT, [illegible] THE PETER BALLANTYNE AND MATTHIAS COLOMB BANDS RESIDING AT SANDY BAY, SASKATCHEWAN.

107/23-33

Sandy Bay Settlement.

The f[illegible] of treaty Indians and their occupation that reside at Sandy Bay, Saskatchewan.

June 28, 1961.

Name	Treaty No.	Number in Family	Occupation
[redacted]	P.B.B.	7	[redacted] Churchill River Power Co.
[redacted]	P.B.B.	4	Laborer odd jobs
[redacted]	P.B.B.	2	odd jobs
[redacted]	M.C.B.	3	employee
[redacted]	P.B.B.	3	C.R.P. employee
[redacted]	P.B.B.	[illegible]	employee
[redacted]	P.B.B.	2	Receiving relief from I.Affairs
[redacted]	P.B.B.	6	Receiving relief I.Affairs
[redacted]	P.B.B.	6	C.R.P. employee
[redacted]	P.B.B.	1	employed
[redacted]	P.B.B.	2	Receives O.A.A.
[redacted]	P.B.B.	1	C.R.P. employee
[redacted]	P.B.B.	4	Traps & Fishes
[redacted]	P.B.B.	1	Traps & Fishes
[redacted]	P.B.B.	[illegible]	C.R.P. employee
[redacted]	P.B.B.	7	Traps & does odd jobs
[redacted]	P.B.B.	[illegible]	Traps & Fishes
[redacted]	P.B.B.	1	Receives O.A.A.
[redacted]	P.B.B.	4	C.R.P. employee
Total number of Indians Sandy Bay		68	

OLW/NC
Att.

REGION SASKATCHEWAN SASKATOON
JUN 29 1961
ADMINISTRATION

[redacted]

[illegible] former employee's at the Churchill River Power Comp[illegible] out [illegible] for failing to show up for work on several occa[illegible]s.

[illegible] Sandy Bay three times from [illegible] month of December [illegible] on two of my visits there was one Ind[illegible] an[illegible]

CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

FALSE 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. 1111/3-8

SUBJECT OF FILE

MAIN FILE ON CHARGE TO A1 23/5/61

REFERENCE				DISPOSAL			
REFERRED TO	BY	REMARKS	DATE	PA or BF	BY	DATE	FOR C.R. USE
adm 2	28	011295	30/6/61				

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

000214

IA 1-25

MEMORANDUM • GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

YOUR FILE No. 111/3-8 (Adm. 2)

OUR FILE No: 107/3-8

DATE: June 8, 1961

TO : Senior Administrative Officer, Ottawa

FROM : Regional Supervisor, Saskatchewan

SUBJECT:

Adm 2

This is to acknowledge your letter dated May 24th with which was enclosed duplicate copies of a petition forwarded to the Minister by Mr. Stan Korchinski, Member of Parliament for McKenzie Constituency.

The above-mentioned correspondence was forwarded to the Superintendent of the Carlton Indian Agency who requested Assistant Lovell to obtain pertinent information. I think that you can appreciate that the Sandy Bay-Island Falls area is comparatively isolated and to date Assistant Lovell has been unable to visit the area. The Superintendent, Carlton Agency, and Assistant Lovell hope to visit the area during the coming week and will submit a report at their earliest convenience.

N. J. McLeod

CRL/ge

Regional Supervisor of I.A., Saskatchewan

Senior Administrative Officer

111/3-8 (Adm.2)

June 9, 1961.

Reference is made to my letter of May 24, 1961, concerning a petition forwarded to the Minister by Mr. Korchinski, M.P. for Mackenzie.

The Minister's office have asked for information on this matter and I would appreciate being advised as to when your report will be submitted.

Eric Acland.

Regional Supervisor of I.A., Saskatchewan

Senior Administrative Officer

111/3-8 (Adm.2)

May 24, 1961

I attach herewith in duplicate copies of a petition forwarded to the Minister by Mr. Stan Korchinski, M.P. for Mackenzie Constituency.

This petition seems to involve the Metis and the Province of Saskatchewan as well as this Department. Would you please let me have a full report on the various matters contained in the brief so that a reply to Mr. Korchinski can be prepared for the Minister's signature.

Eric Acland.

Sandy Bay Saskatchewan

March 27-1961

M. Stan Korchinski
Deputy of the MacKenzie
Constituency
House of Common
Ottawa

Dear Sir,

For the first time in the history of Sandy Bay a voice has to raise up in the interest of one of the most abuse population in Saskatchewan.

I am missionnary since many years I understand the true problems of the people of Sandy Bay. There were families in need of food and clothing and fuel this winter

Mothers told me few times, how can my children go to school at 9 o'clock, they had nothing to eat this morning, we have no more wood.

I send you a letter with the general ideas concerning the problems of Sandy Bay. There are also suggestions how to relax the tense for work, food and fuel. I hope that you pay a serious attention to this matter, and will do your best to obtain what will help these people for the winters to come. The need is there, the help is necessary.

Few charities can helps individuals, but will not relax the tense, this is on the go since few years, but will not succeed to help the whole.

If it is not possible to reach Duck Lake this year, let at least make part of it. At five miles from here, we are as far as Big Stone rapid, there are

d, those who are too poor can
the river, because from Big Stone
is ten miles farther away. Those who
ucks from the workers will be abel to
wood at all season. The non workers
bel to cut their own wood and also the
e workers. It shall be the beginning
l aid.

A man at Island Falls has a bouledozer
can bring here this summer. The road to
Lake shall not cust more that ten thousand
s. It is not necessary to cut hills and built
ugh muskeg. Let make that road on hard land
around the hills. About half is on gravel
dation, let find the easiest place to make
d between the river and the lakes a little
fa south, so the natives shall take advantage
of bo. Duck Lake will open a futur for our
many youngters who do not know what to
do with their soul here. The brushing head of
the bouledozer shall provide helps to the less fortunate.
Then those who have some ambition shall set
themselves a home where they will spot a
happsier way of life.

Thank you and I wish you a happy Easter tide.

Yours truly

Hector Thibouto tomy

WORKERS at Island Falls give their time to the [illegible]. During they help at Island Falls they do not help their locality. They have to built their own house in spare time, have no water facility, have to find their own fuel. There houses are poor, they have large families, 8-10-12 children.

At Island Falls there can be no distress about desabilities or sikness: because they have more chance to save their money and return to the civilisation at will.

The natives have no such chance. They cannot go out from here, they are not fit to go in the Barren Land, nor fit to go in the Prairie. They born here, it is their Valley. They have to support their old ages, their desabilities, their many children. They never had the chance to reach the standard of our civilisation. The school itself in some way upset their way of life and attempt to rub their last sanctuary of traditionnal culture, their Cree language. It is sad, but it is a fact, our civilisation carry many wiknesses and there are those wiknesses that strike hard the natives.

WHAT HAVE BEEN SERIOUSLY DONE to relax the tense of unemploiement, of food, of fuel at Sandy Bay?

NOTHING.

Yet the people of Sandy Bay have as much right to share the blanket of the provincial treasury.

THEY NEED A ROAD TO DUCK LAKE

Duck Lake is about 14 miles from here, a road that can be use at all season. Duck Lake is a large body of water, there are fishes and ducks in the Fall, berries and natural hay, nice bush and fones.

Duck Lake is an eternal source of food and ressources. It is the place where many families can live and