



INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS SECRETARIAT
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

582: 06.06(h)

P. O. Box 8700
Confederation Building
St. John's
Newfoundland
A1B 4J6

May 4, 1990

Mr. Calvin Payne
Assistant Deputy Minister
Income and Rehabilitative Services
Department of Social Services

Dear Mr. Payne:

Subject: Attached correspondence from the Honourable John Efford to the Honourable Perrin Beatty respecting a National Native Child Care Commission

Pursuant to a request from Ms. Vivian Randell, Director of Child Care and Homemaker Services, of May 3, 1990, I am pleased to offer my views on the above-noted correspondence.

A fundamental policy of this province is that services are made available to all residents of the province irrespective of ethnic origin. I understand that the federal government's Child Care Strategy has a specific native component although it appears that there has not been much elaboration on Canada's approach. The province's participation in this element of the national strategy would certainly be influenced by the federal approach if and when overtures are made to Newfoundland.

Mr. Efford's support for a National Native Child Care Commission is commendable. My only caution is that the province should maintain that the federal government continue its responsibility for the native element of the national strategy and that the province retain its options with respect to participation in it.

I hope these comments are useful to you and I would appreciate receiving a copy of the Minister's correspondence when it is signed.

Sincerely,

Dave Kennedy
Director, Policy Development

DK/clp
Attachment



GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 8700

Office of
The Minister

ST. JOHN'S
A1B 4J6

May 3, 1990

The Honourable Perrin Beatty
Minister
Health and Welfare Canada
Brooke Claxton Building
Tunney's Pasture
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0K9

Re: National Native Child Care Commission

Dear Mr. Beatty,

At the request of the Native Council of Canada, I have been asked to write you concerning the views of this Province with respect to supporting the above-noted Child Care Commission. I am happy to be able to oblige.

This Department has had some preliminary involvement with the Native Council of Canada in the completion of a child care needs assessment in this Province. Funds for this project, I understand, were made available through the Child Care Initiatives Fund. A National Native Child Care Commission could receive the views and opinions of native people throughout Canada, concerning their particular needs for appropriate child care services. It could be an excellent vehicle for consolidating the information that has been gathered on this issue and for establishing commonalities of purpose and direction. My one concern would be that the Commission have the capacity to travel and hold hearings in the various and diverse regions of this country. In my own province, I would be concerned that both the Labrador and Island portions of the Province be given equal consideration.

The postponement of the Federal Government's National Child Care Strategy remains a source of great concern for this Province. The development of comprehensive child care services, which meet the need of various groups, as for example the one

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represented by the Native Council of Canada, will not be possible without the assistance and support of the Federal Government.

I look forward to your response in this matter.

Yours truly,

R. JOHN EFFORD, M.H.A.
Minister

/af

c.c. Mr. Chris McCormick
National Spokesperson
Native Council of Canada
384 Bank Street, 2nd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 1Y4