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December 7, 2000Draft Discussion PaperFederal Government Position
Youth Solvent Abuse at Davis Inlet

- Canada is committed to supporting the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador in securing the safety of the affected children in Davis Inlet, as required by provincial child welfare legislation, as a **top priority**. Canada is prepared to support the provincial government and the Mushuau Innu in seeing that the affected children are appropriately assessed and treated.
- Canada committed to a series of measures to address the issues facing Innu children in Sheshatshiu, in a Nov. 26 communiqué by Canada, the province and the Innu of Sheshatshiu. Canada is prepared to apply these measures to the Mushuau Innu. In particular Canada is committed to:
 - work co-operatively with the Mushuau Innu to seek appropriate treatment options for the affected children as soon as possible - and to apply all necessary resources in accomplishing this.
 - the establishment of a regional detoxification centre with appropriate staff and programming resources in Labrador.
 - agree in principal to the development of family-centered treatment programs for parents and children.
 - register the Innu under the Indian Act.
 - to support the provision of a social services co-ordinator to co-ordinate activities between federal, provincial and Innu agencies at Davis Inlet.
 - work with the Innu and the province to explore other necessary long term initiatives needed to repair the cultural and social fabric of the community in order that the affected children can return to a safe and healthy community.
- Canada is prepared to work with the Mushuau Innu and the province of Newfoundland in a process to implement the above commitments, and to review the Mushuau healing strategy, in order to develop plans to ensure that the children that need to leave for treatment can return to a safe and nurturing community, provided that these discussions do not delay the immediate ensuring that help is provided immediately to the children at risk.