

Health Canada Commitments to Address
Youth Solvent Abuse at Davis Inlet

- ▶ Health Canada is committed to supporting the Mushuau Innu and the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador in securing the safety of the affected children in Davis Inlet as a top priority. Health Canada is prepared to support the Mushuau Innu and the provincial government in seeing that the affected children and their families are appropriately assessed and treated including both short and long term treatment and prevention.
- ▶ In particular, Health Canada is committed to working cooperatively and on an urgent basis with the Mushuau Innu:
 - ▶ to reach agreement, in consultation with the Province, on an appropriate treatment plan for the affected children as soon as possible
 - ▶ to ensure, in cooperation with the Province, that the previously committed regional detoxification center is located in close proximity and access to appropriate medical facilities with necessary staff and programming resources in Labrador
 - ▶ to develop, in cooperation with the province, a culturally appropriate family-centered treatment plan for both parents and children in order that children that need to leave for treatment can be reintegrated to safe and nurturing families and community.
 - ▶ to provide, in cooperation with DIAND, a social services coordinator to coordinate activities between federal, provincial and Innu agencies at Davis Inlet
 - ▶ to explore other necessary long-term initiatives in the mandate of Health Canada to repair the cultural and social fabric of the communities of Davis Inlet and Natuashish.
- ▶ Health Canada is committed to provide all necessary human and financial resources as agreed with the Mushuau Innu including direct financial resources to ensure the timely implementation of these commitments and reimburse reasonable expenses incurred from November 4, 2000 to date.
- ▶ Health Canada and the Mushuau Innu agree to immediately address, in the context of this agreement, the urgent needs of the Mushuau Innu children and youth including the necessary medical and psychosocial assessments, working cooperatively with the Province

ON BEHALF OF
HONORABLE ALLAN ROCK


ADM - FIN/MS

ON BEHALF OF MUSHUAU INNU
UTSHIMASSIT, LABRADOR N.A.C.D

Chief Simuun Tshakapsh
12-12-00