

Media Contact/Contacts avec les médias**Date:** 23/11/00**Time/Heure:** 1:20 p.m.**Subject/Sujet:** Gas-sniffing in Sheshatshiu, Labrador

Reporter/Journaliste: Ann Budgell
Organization/Organisation: CBC Radio
City/Ville: Goose Bay, Labrador
Tel./Tél.:

Officer Contacted/Agent appelé: Al Garman, Regional Director, First Nations and Inuit Health Branch, Atlantic Region

Synopsis - Questions and Answers/Résumé - Questions et réponses:

This was an interview on a live call-in show. I was not asked to remain on-line to take questions.

The interviewer started by asking what my teleconference with provincial officials, immediately before this interview, was about. I explained that this was a chance for us to coordinate efforts on behalf of the Innu.

She said that, earlier in the show, Chief Simeon Tshakopesh of Davis Inlet complained that Health Canada was doing nothing to help the Innu and asked if this were true. I explained that we have been working with the community for the last decade to address the Innu problems. I also said that we have \$300 available this year to fund programs they developed themselves and that this will be made available on receipt and negotiation of proposals specifying what they want to do.

She asked why it has taken so long to resolve this issue. I explained that the problems in Davis Inlet have been around for generations and so will take a long time to deal with them.

Finally she asked if similar problems existed elsewhere? I replied that I was not aware of other similar problems but that mental health-type problems certainly existed in the remote and isolated Aboriginal communities.