

Briefing Note for Question Period

Title: Children from Sheshatshiu

Issue: Status of children and youth from Sheshatshiu

Anticipated Questions:

Where are the children and youth from Sheshatshiu been placed ?

Suggested Response:

- There were 19 children/youth from this Community who were placed in the care of the Director of Child, Youth, and Family Services following their involvement in solvent abuse.

Following a period of detoxification at a barracks in Goose Bay, the children and youth were moved to more appropriate placements as follows:

- 1 child went to British Columbia for treatment with her family
- 4 children are placed in two caregiver homes (foster homes)- 2 per family
- 1 boy is in an open custody placement
- 3 children have gone out to the country
- 2 children are receiving treatment at the Charles J. Andrew Solvent Abuse Treatment Center in Sheshatshiu
- 6 children are being supported in staffed living arrangements in the Happy Valley/Goose Bay area.. Two of these children are on the wait list for treatment at the Charles J. Andrew Center
- 2 youth ages 18 & 19 years old have chosen not to have any intervention. One youth has returned home with his parents.

Anticipated Question:

How many of these 19 children and youth remain in the custody of the Director of Child, Youth, and Family Services ?

Answer:

17 children/youth remain in the Directors care at the placements described above.

Anticipated Question:

Will the children/youth who have not yet received treatment be getting treatment for their solvent abuse?

Suggested Answer:

Yes, the Inter-Agency committee from Sheshatshiu are working on individual treatment plans for each of these children based on their individual needs.

Anticipated Question:

Why is it taking so long to involve the children in the treatment ?

Suggested Answer:

Due to the number of children/youth involved in the solvent abuse and the nature of their treatment needs the Interagency Committee is working with the parents to determine the best approach to treatment for each child/youth.

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