

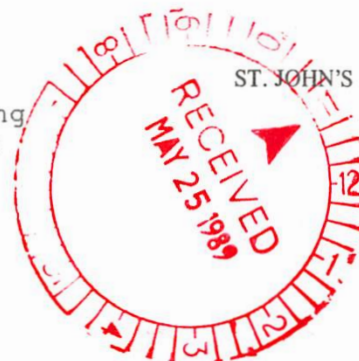


MAY 25 1989

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

LABRADOR REGIONAL OFFICE
215 Hamilton River Road
c/o Elizabeth Goudie Building
Happy Valley/Goose Bay, LB
AOP 1E0



1989 05 23

Mrs. Sharron Callahan
Director
Division of Youth Corrections
Department of Social Services

RE: REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT OF STAFF
MEMBER TO SENIOR COUNSELLOR
POSITION - INNUWASS GROUP HOME

The enclosed request is self-explanatory. However, it is being brought to your attention due to a number of concerns/questions that the Regional Office has regarding the staffing of the Innuwass Group Home.

As you are aware, there are presently no staff at the Innuwass Group Home that meet the qualifications for group home staff as established by the Department. This is due to a number of factors, primarily the difficulty to obtain staff of Innu descent, who meet these qualifications. That is not to imply that attempts do not continue to encourage that staff of this group home meet the qualifications to the best of their ability. The questions arising from this situation, however, are as follows:

1. Are the staff of the Innuwass Group Home approved as meeting the equivalency requirements due to their experience and the fact that the uniqueness of this group home require that it be staffed by Innu people in order to provide the most culturally appropriate program to the Innu youth it serves.

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2. If they are not approved, what steps are recommended to obtain this approval or to exempt this staffing unit from the qualification requirements.
3. If they are exempt from these qualifications, should we be encouraging the Board of Directors to develop qualification requirements for its staff. Some qualifications currently required are:
 - Innu descent
 - Non-Drinker
 - Reliability
 - Caring - Ability to relate to youth, community, and culture. There are perhaps more qualifications but these serve as an example.
4. If they are exempt from these qualification requirements, what is the procedure for the appointment of staff to senior positions. Should we develop a procedure.

Your anticipated consideration and guidance regarding these matters would be appreciated.

Yours truly,



Verna Burkinshaw
Social Work Program Co-Ordinator
Youth Corrections

VB/ar

enclosure