

This narrative history of a Residential School was researched and produced by the Government of Canada as part of its response to litigation and the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has not verified the content of this document. It is provided here for reference purposes only. Documented incidents of sexual and physical abuse are based on the documentary record and do not take into account survivor testimony.



You are welcome to contact the NCTR if you wish to add, comment on, or challenge any versions of the history presented herein.

Portage La Prairie IRS  
School Narrative  
21 July 2004 (revised)

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This School Narrative summarizes documents that provide an overview of the history and administration of the school.

NAME OF SCHOOL and VARIANTS

1896- 1908	Portage la Prairie Sioux Boarding School	[PLP-0900]
1896- 1927	Portage la Prairie Boarding School	[PLP-0914]
1927- 1965	Portage la Prairie Indian Residential School	[PLP-3402]
1965 -1975	Portage Indian Student Residence	[PLP-3402]

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

**Opening Date:**

1891            The boarding school opened in 1891, after a period of being operated as a day school by the Presbyterian Church. [PLP-0899]

**Day School:**

1959-63       Classroom space at Portage IRS is rented to Mt. Pleasant School District as Indian children are all integrated into Portage city schools.  
[PLP-0764, 0313]

1957           Residence is used more as a hostel as students attend classes at city Schools.  
[PLP-0074]

1961-70       Students attending city schools are placed in private foster homes, due to a lack of space in the Student Residence [PLP-0104]

**Closing Date:**

1975           School closed 30 June 1975            [PLP-0113]

## MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL

### Dates managed by Church

- 1891-1926 The school was established and administered under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. [PLP-0899]
- 1926-1969 The school was administered by the United Church of Canada's Woman's Missionary Society and from 1965 by the Board of Home Missions of the United Church of Canada. [PLP-0966]

### Dates managed by Government

- 1969-1975 Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development [PLP-3414]

## SCHOOL BUILDINGS

### **Major Renovations:**

- 1962 Regional DIAND Office in Winnipeg coordinates \$20,000 in interior decoration and renovation at the school. [PLP-4178]
- June 1964 Addition to Auditorium and construction of game room lockers. Canteen entrance is modified. [PLP-3493]

### **Dates Owned by Church:**

- c. 1890- 1913 The Presbyterian Church in Canada built the original school with no government support for land or materials circa 1890. The government provided financial support of the students and school building repairs after that date. There was a proposal for a new building to be provided by DIAND in 1912 but D.C. Scott was not in favour of a government owned institution at Portage. [PLP-0899, 0118]

### **Dates Owned by Government:**

- 1913-1975 Order-in Council passed on November 1, 1913 for the reconstruction of the new school. According to one letter, the initial school building was built by the church, but when it was reconstructed in 1913, it became the property of DIAND. [PLP-0045]

**Date Turned Over to Band:**

1980                      The land (and likely the buildings) were turned over to the band as part of a Land Entitlement agreement [PLP-0125]

**LAND**

**Location:**

Land located one quarter mile east of Portage la Prairie town, not on reserve.  
[PLP-0899, 0833]

Crescent Lake Road, Portage La Prairie, Manitoba, comprised of River Lots 50, 51 and 52.  
[PLP-0114, 0116]

**Dates Owned by Church:**

Land was owned by the Church prior to 1914. [PLP-0899, PLP-0118]

**Dates Owned by Government:**

Land was purchased for the school in 1912 from the estate of Margaret Cumming.  
[PLP-0833]

In 1914, DIAND purchased portions of Lots 51 and 52 and title to these lands was vested in His Majesty the King, as represented by the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs. A further area comprising portions of Lot 50 was acquired in 1919.  
[PLP-0118]

Order in Council PC 1977-6/48 authorized that Lots 50, 51 and 52 be transferred to the Department of Public Works. [PLP-0116]

**Date Turned Over to Band:**

Lands were turned over to Long Plains Reserve no. 6 in 1982. [PLP-0132]

**PHOTOS, PLANS and OTHER MEDIA**

Photo of school building on front. Postcard 1965. [PLP-004028]

Photos of School Building (interior) no date. [PLP-00806]



GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME

1941	Actual enrollment hovered around 95
1942	Actual enrollment hovered around 95
1943	Actual enrollment hovered around 95
1944	Actual enrollment hovered around 95
1945	Actual enrollment hovered around 97
1946	Actual enrollment hovered around 100
1947	Actual enrollment hovered around 100
1948	Actual enrollment hovered around 105
Mar-June 1949	Actual enrollment hovered around 103
Sep-Dec 1949	Actual enrollment hovered around 125
Mar-Jun-Dec 1950	Actual enrollment hovered around 110
Sep 1950	135
Mar-Jun-Dec 1951	Actual enrollment hovered around 114
Sep 1951	Actual enrollment hovered around 143
Mar-Jun-Dec 1952	Actual enrollment hovered around 115
Sep 1952	137
1953	Actual enrollment hovered around
Mar-Jun-Dec 1953	Actual enrollment hovered around 125
Sep 1953	152
Mar-Jun-Dec 1954	Actual enrollment hovered around 130
Sep 1954	161
Mar-Jun-Dec 1955	Actual enrollment hovered around 130
Sep 1955	154
1956	Jan-June enrollment hovered around 130 and from Sept to Dec enrollment dropped to 115
1957	Jan-June enrollment hovered around 115 and in September it dropped to 22 enrollment. Residence is used more as a hostel as students attend classes at city schools.
Sep 1957	180
1958	Actual enrollment hovered around 100
1959	Actual enrollment hovered around 100
1960	Actual enrollment hovered around 100
1961	Actual enrollment hovered around 105
1962	Actual enrollment hovered around 110
1963	Actual enrollment hovered around 95
1964	Actual enrollment hovered around 90
1965	Actual enrollment hovered around 90
1966	Actual enrollment hovered around 78
1967	Actual enrollment hovered around 70

1968	Actual enrollment hovered around 75
1969	Actual enrollment hovered around 70
1970	Actual enrollment hovered around 65
1971	Actual enrollment hovered around 65
1972	Actual enrollment hovered around 48
Sep 1973	83
1974	Actual enrollment hovered around 50

### RELIGIOUS GROUPS

- 1891-1926 Presbyterian Church in Canada [PLP-0899]
- 1926-1969 United Church of Canada's Woman's Missionary Society and later by the Board of Home Missions of the United Church of Canada. [PLP-0966]

### WRITTEN AGREEMENTS

- 1962 Agreement outlined responsibilities of both Church and Department in management of the school (The copy of the agreement found for this school was found to be incomplete but it appears to be the standard agreement signed. [PLP-0794]
- 1961-70 Portage Student Residence operates strictly as a boarding home, with all students attending city schools. A joint agreement with the Portage Collegiate school board exists. [PLP-0074]

### DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

#### Incidents (Physical)

- 1949 Allegations of excessive corporal punishment and repressive disciplinary measures were investigated and remedial actions taken by requesting that the principal and staff member concerned resign from Portage la Prairie school. [PLP-0022, 0024, 0024a,b, 0031, 0037, 0042]
- 1969 List of students' complaints concerning ill-treatment by the residence Administrator. [PLP-0088]

## CONVICTIONS

To date, we are unaware of any convictions for abuse at Portage La Prairie IRS or of any convicted abusers present at the school.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### **Health:**

- 1912            Epidemic of measles in 1912, followed by pneumonia. Doctor and two nurses attended children. One child died. [PLP-0908, 0909]
- 1915            Rubella epidemic. Ten children quarantined. [PLP0916a, 0918]
- 1918            School closed and some children sent home due to epidemic of Spanish influenza. There were no cases of the disease in the school. [PLP-0939, 0941]

## PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

W.A. Hendry	Principal	Prior to 1909
Rev. J. S. Millar	Principal	1909-1911
W.A. Hendry	Principal	c.1911-1934
James T. Black	A/Principal	Sep 1931 - Mar 1932
Rev. Wm.R. Wood	A/Principal	Nov 1934-Jul 1935
Rev. Joseph Jones	Principal	June-July 1935-Sep 1942
John A. McNeill	A/Principal	Oct 1942-Dec 1944
Rev. A.C. Huston	Principal	Oct.1944-c. Nov 1946
Rev. Joseph Jones	Principal	Nov. 1947-July 1949
Mr. Lachlan McLean	Principal	July 1949-June 1957
William Warren	Principal	July 1957-May 1958
Mrs. Winnifred Gall	Principal	May 1958
Harry Atkinson	Principal	Sep 1958
Jack O. Harris	Principal	Fall 1958- Feb. 1965 (c. Oct 1958)
J.O. Harris	Administrator	Feb 1965 - June 1970
Charles Greaves	Administrator	July 1970
J. P. Malcolm	A/Administrator	Sep 1974-1975

Research completed: March 2004

Research updated: July 2004

# PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE IRS - DOCUMENTS CITED ON IAP NARRATIVE

DOCUMENT ID NUMBER	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT TYPE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION
PLP-000806		Photograph	Photos of School Building (interior)
PLP-000899		Note	Brief History of School Establishment and Operation
PLP-000900	11/19/1908	Letter	School Attendance
PLP-000908	1/31/1912	Letter	Measels Epidemic and Ensuing Death
PLP-000909	2/6/1912	Letter	Measels Epidemic
PLP-000833	7/3/1913	Land Document	Sale of Land
PLP-000914	4/14/1915	Letter	Appointment of School Nurse
PLP-000916-0000	7/1/1915	Letter	Encloses Nurse's Report
PLP-000916-0001	6/30/1915	Report	Nurse's Report
PLP-000918	8/30/1915	Report	Nurse's Report
PLP-000939	10/22/1918	Letter	School Closure due to Influenza Epidemic
PLP-000941	11/4/1918	Extract	Quarantine due to Influenza Epidemic
PLP-000966	11/14/1934	Letter	Principal's Resignation
PLP-000022	2/9/1949	Letter	Complaint regarding treatment of students at Portage la
PLP-000024-0000	2/21/1949	Letter	Truancy of Four Students and Use of Corporal Punishment
PLP-000024-0001	2/21/1949	Letter	Departmental Policy on Use of Corporal Punishment
PLP-000024-0002	2/21/1949	Letter	Treatment of Children
PLP-000031	3/7/1949	Letter	Investigation at the school and suggests hiring a new
PLP-000037	3/16/1949	Memorandum	Change in principals
PLP-000042	3/24/1949	Letter	Support for teachers and principal at Portage la Prairie and
PLP-000045	5/12/1949	Letter	Ownership of School
PLP-000764	3/8/1960	Treasury Board	Request to Rent Classroom
PLP-000313	7/15/1960	Contract	Lease of Classroom
PLP-000074	6/1/1961	Letter	Integration Program
PLP-004178	2/15/1962	Letter	Provisions for Interior decoration and renovation of Portage
PLP-000794	6/22/1962	Operational	Memorandum of Agreement
PLP-003493	6/9/1964	Memorandum	Addition to Auditorium
PLP-003402	2/2/1965	Letter	Change of School Name and Principal's Title
PLP-004028	6/4/1965	Photograph	Postcard of Portage Indian Residential School
PLP-000088	2/10/1969	Memorandum	List of complaints against administrator of Portage Indian
PLP-003414	11/13/1969	Letter	Increase in Food Expenditures
PLP-000104	7/24/1970	Memorandum	Role of the administrator in the Indian Affairs Education
PLP-000113	2/21/1975	Circular	Closure of Portage Residence
PLP-000114	9/15/1975	Form	Report of Surplus lands and Buildings
PLP-000116	2/17/1977	Letter	Former Indian Residential Property
PLP-000118	10/17/1977	Memorandum	History of Portage la Prairie Residential School
PLP-000125	10/24/1980	Letter	Disposal of Surplus Buildings and Land
PLP-000132	3/23/1982	Letter	Addition of Land to Long Plains Reserve no. 6

REV. A. LLOYD SMITH, D.D.  
CHAIRMAN

# Board of Home Missions

The United Church of Canada

299 QUEEN ST. WEST  
TORONTO 2 B. ONTARIO

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REV. MALCOLM G. MACDONALD, D.  
ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

REV. JOHN R. LENG, B.A., B.D.  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

705

21421

Attention: Colonel B.F. Neary,  
Superintendent of Education

February 9th,  
1 9 4 9.

Indian Affairs Branch,  
Department of Mines and Resources,  
O t t a w a, Ontario.

Dear Colonel Neary: Re: Portage la Prairie Residential School

The Secretary of The Woman's Missionary Society says that they have received a complaint from certain members of the [REDACTED] about the treatment which the children receive at the Portage la Prairie School, which causes them to run away. I should be glad to know if your Department has received any report about this from Inspector Hamilton, and whether you have a report from the Inspector to communicate to us.

Yours sincerely,

GD.MLT

*Lo. Dorey*

699

583-1 (E)

, February 21, 1949.

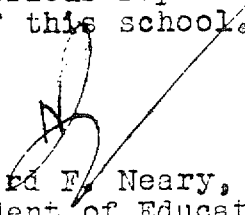
Mr. R.S. Davis,  
Regional Supervisor of Indian Agencies,  
538 Dominion Public Building,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Re: Portage la Prairie Residential School

By now you will have received Mr. Hamilton's report concerning the truancy of four girls from this school. Please find attached copies of the following letters:-

- (1) Instructions to Indian Superintendent Hamilton with regard to corporal punishment at this school. Would you please ensure that any time in future upon which your officials visit this school that this register is carefully examined.
- (2) Letter sent to the Rev. George Dorey concerning the condition of the girls and also advice concerning the instruction sent to Mr. Hamilton.

You will note that I have discussed this matter with the Director, and he feels that it will probably be necessary to move [REDACTED] next year. I would like to have your comments with regard to the advisability of having a complete investigation made of the conditions at this school. I am prepared to dispatch one of our officials from Ottawa if you feel that this is necessary. If these girls are as seriously injured as the medical report would indicate, then we can anticipate serious repercussions with regard to the conduct of this school.

  
Bernard F. Neary,  
Superintendent of Education.

BFN/AM

TO Y FOR: Mr. Davis  
Rev. Dr. Dorey  
File 583-10

-- 700

PA → 583-1 (3)

, February 21, 1949.

Mr. A.G. Hamilton,  
Superintendent, Indian Agency,  
Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

Re: Portage la Prairie Residential School.  
Reference yours of February 1, 1949

Your report has been discussed with the Director, and a copy has been sent to the Reverend Dr. Dorey of the United Church of Canada. The complaints against [REDACTED] have been noted, and it is felt that the repression of these Indian children is, in several instances, inadvisable.

The Department has never approved of corporal punishment for Indian pupils except in the event of complete insubordination. Would you please inform the Reverend Mr. Jones immediately of the following instructions:-


1. That corporal punishment will be used only where all other methods of disciplining a pupil have failed.
2. That corporal punishment will be administered only on the hands with a proper school strap (regulation 15" rubber).
3. That the maximum number of strokes on each hand in no instance exceed four in number for male pupils of over fourteen years of age and in proportion for boys under that age.
4. That all such corporal punishment be administered in the presence of the principal or by the principal.

-- 701

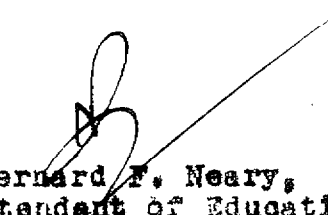
- 2 -

5. That a Corporal Punishment Register be maintained at the school containing the following headings:

- (a) Date.
- (b) Reason for Punishment.
- (c) By whom administered.
- (d) Witness.
- (e) Signature of pupil punished.

6. That this Register be made available for inspection by all Indian Affairs Branch officials visiting the above." 

If such a strap is not available at this school, you may purchase one either locally or through Christie School Supplies in Brandon. We would also like to have an indication from the Reverend Principal as to the rule preventing children from talking at mealtimes. It is understood that the Reverend Principal has his meals apart from the children and can neither see nor hear them, therefore, an explanation of this rule would be appreciated.

  
Bernard F. Neary,  
Superintendent of Education.

BFW/AM



Copy for: Mr. Davis  
File 583-10

702

MA. → 583-1 (3)

, February 21, 1949.

Rev. George Dorey, B.D.,  
Secretary,  
Board of Home Missions,  
The United Church of Canada,  
199 Queen St. East,  
Toronto 23, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Dorey:

Re: Portage la Prairie Residential School

Further to my letter of February 12, please find attached a letter sent to Mr. Indian Superintendent Hamilton today concerning the situation at this school.

The instructions with regard to corporal punishment are the standard ones issued to such principals who might require guidance in this regard. You will recall that similar instructions were sent to the Reverend Mr. Inglis of the Morley Residential School on February 6, 1947.

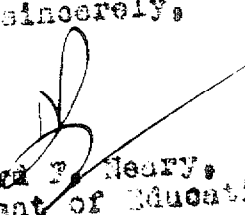
I would appreciate any further information which you or the Secretary of the Woman's Missionary Society might receive from the Indians about the treatment which their children are receiving at this school. Mr. Littlewell has advised Mr. Hamilton that the four girls who ran away are progressing but that the ultimate damage can not be determined at the present time. [redacted] had both feet badly frozen, and there is a possibility that she may lose one or more toes due to gangrene. [redacted] also had both feet badly frozen, and her condition is the least favourable of all the girls. [redacted] had her left foot severely frozen. [redacted] froze only a portion of her left foot, but there are signs of early gangrene in the little toe of the left foot.

703

- 2 -

It may be necessary for the Department to take further action with regard to conditions at this school, in which event, you will be further advised.

Yours sincerely,

  
Bernard F. Heary,  
Superintendent of Education.

B/AM

FIELD SERVICE



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES

INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH  
538 Dominion Public Building,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba,  
March 7, 1949.

PLEASE QUOTE

691

FILE 208-1111.U  
(127)

29591

Mr. D. M. MacKay,  
Indian Affairs Branch,  
Department of Mines and Resources,  
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Major MacKay:

I have just received the enclosed two letters from Mr. Hamilton. These letters were sent to him by the Rev. Joseph Jones, Principal of the Brandon Residential School, and may be of interest to you in further considering my report on my investigation of this school - which was recently forwarded to you.

Mr. Jones has, apparently, [REDACTED]

I have been in touch with Dr. Best of the United Church, and talked the matter over regarding a new principal for this school. At the latest date, Mr. Jones will only be at Portage until June, and I suggested that [REDACTED] who was the Principal of the [REDACTED], and the one who reorganized it and cleaned it up - but had to leave on account of ill health, but has since recovered - be contacted with regards to taking over the Principalship of the Portage School. On Dr. Best's suggestion I got in touch with [REDACTED] and had him interviewed by Dr. Best, who, I understand is taking the matter up with the Church authorities, requesting they recommend this man for the Principalship.

I have known [REDACTED] for quite a few years, as he used to get children from the Carlton Agency while I was

- over -

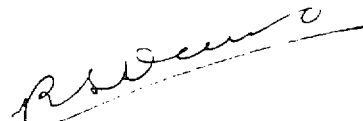
692

2 -

Agent there, and I have heard of his good work and feel that if we procure [REDACTED] services he will certainly clean this school up, as he is a good organizer and up-to-date in his ideas. He is not a minister, but holds a Principal's Certificate for teaching.

In my report I did not mention the fact that the children are not allowed to speak at meals. This is a practice that I believe should be stopped without delay. In Reverend Jones' letter to Mr. Hamilton, he mentions large construction and Lumber and Fishing Camps. Our schools should not be classed or run as a Construction or Fishing Camp, but be a real home for the children.

Yours very truly,



R. S. Davis,  
Regional Supervisor of  
Indian Agencies.

Encls. 2  
RSD/ES



CANADA

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

PLP-0037

PLEASE QUOTE  
583-1  
FILE.....

690

(E)

OTTAWA March 16, 1949.

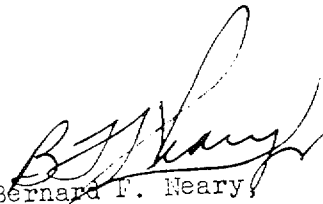
Memorandum:

DIRECTOR

Portage la Prairie Indian Residential School.

Please find attached correspondence from Mr. Davis concerning the situation at the Portage la Prairie Residential School. I am passing this to you for information as I will be writing to Dr. Dorey concerning a change in principals, obviously needed at this school.

Unfortunately, it was necessary for me to insist that the former Principal of this school also resign in November, 1946. I hope that the United Church will be able to nominate a principal this time who can ensure adequate educational progress being made and maintained by the children attending this school.



Bernard F. Neary,  
Superintendent of Education.

REV. A. LLOYD SMITH, D.D.  
CHAIRMAN

# Board of Home Missions

The United Church of Canada

299 QUEEN ST. WEST  
TORONTO 2 B, ONTARIO

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ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

REV. JOHN R. LENG, B.A., B.D.  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

658

Attention: Colonel B.F. Neary,  
Supt. of Indian Education

March 24th,  
1 9 4 9.

Indian Affairs Branch,  
Department of Mines and Resources,  
O t t a w a, Ontario.

3981

Dear Colonel Neary:

Re: Portage la Prairie Residential School

I have your letter of March 17th. The reason that you have not received any reply to your previous letters is simply because I have sent them on to Mrs. Loveys, who has not yet instructed me as to what I am to write to you. I hope that we may have an opportunity of talking this over when you come to Toronto in April, if I am not able to go to Ottawa before that time.

I had a talk with Mr. Jones, the Principal, last week. There are some matters that I should like to discuss with you. I note again that your letter refers to certain disciplinary measures which are now in effect at the School -- the doors being locked, and so on. While we believe that some restrictions in Residential Schools are not wise, yet I believe that if some of the officials of the Department had to manage the Schools, with the difficult children that come to them, the chances are that they would have more rather than fewer restrictive measures. Certainly, under many conditions, doors must be locked. I would not say that the children should be prevented from talking at meals; but the impression which I have gathered is that it might be of assistance -- not necessarily at Portage or at any other School in particular -- if the officials of the Department exercised a little imagination and did not -- as often as is reported to be the case -- accept the word of the children at one hundred per cent. value when they have difficulties with the teachers and the principals. I quite realize that in the present state of public opinion, especially amongst the Indians, it is probably very difficult to admit that the Indians are not developed in social consciousness to the same degree as the people who live in such a sophisticated and highly cultured city as Ottawa, but the fact is nevertheless true.

These are general observations which are prompted by the fact that I think that in some of these difficult cases too much weight has been given to the statement of the pupils, who are more anxious to justify what they have done than that the truth should be brought to light. In this they are no different from any other children.

I note what you say about [REDACTED] Perhaps you would look up the record of [REDACTED], who for many years was associated with [REDACTED] in the conduct of the [REDACTED] and afterwards taught at [REDACTED]

Colonel B.F. Neary-

659

... 2

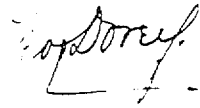
██████████ and then at ██████████ I find it difficult to believe that the reports which we have about her work at Portage la Prairie refer to the same person. Perhaps you will have a talk with Mr. Phelan about this, as he knows ██████████.

I shall ask Mrs. Loveys to let me have her observations on your letter of March 17th and on your other letters just as soon as possible.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

GD.MIT



7/4/1949 - 555-1  
160-6 (E)

May 12, 1949.


Reverend George Dorey, D.D.,  
Secretary, Board of Home Missions,  
United Church of Canada,  
299 Queen Street West,  
Toronto 2B, Ontario.

Portage la Prairie Residential School.

Dear Doctor Dorey:

You will recall our discussion on Easter Monday concerning the ownership of this school. Our old files indicate that the old school was owned by the Church but that the present one was built by the Department. An Order-in-Council was passed on November 1, 1913, awarding the contract for the erection of this school to a Portage la Prairie Construction Firm. In my letter of the same date, you will note that Dr. Edmisson recognized the ownership of this school as lying in the Department.

Yours sincerely,

  
Bernard F. Neary,  
Superintendent of Education.

BFE/EM



J. O. HARRIS  
Principal



PLP-0074

P.O., Drawer 280  
PORTAGE La PRAIRIE,  
Manitoba

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL  
(DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION, INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH)

Under the auspices of  
THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

June 1st. 1961

Mr. R. Bell,  
Agent, Department of Indian Affairs,  
The Pas, Man.

Dear Mr. B ell;

As you are aware the Portage Indian Residential School now operates strictly as a boarding home, with all students thirteen and over, and from Grade six to twelve attending the City of Portage School system. The Department has just completed a joint agreement with the Portage Collegiate School board which will place sixty Indian students this term. We are as you can well imagine receiving applications from many agencies requesting space for youngsters in Portage, so as they ~~xx~~ will be able to take Collegiate ~~or~~ high school training. This has necessitated our moving twenty youngsters from this residence into private homes for the coming term. These youngsters have been picked because of their compatibility to work with others, educational standards and deportment. We list the youngsters in your agency who will be attending school in Portage next term, but who will be living in private homes that have been carefully chosen by the department. We shall inform you of the names and the addresses of these people and the name of the student or students who will live in these homes.

In the meantime will you please contact the parents and inform them of how, why, and where their youngster will live during the 1961-62 school term. Permission by the parent through you must be in this office no later than June 15th. to enable us to complete plans and interviews with the student and home involved.

This is a big step forward in the integration program and is an ambitious one which we know will succeed with the co-operation of all.

Y ours Sincerely,

Indian Residential School

J. O. Harris; Principal

Crest design by

November 1958



# MEMORANDUM 3002

CLASSIFICATION PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL
--

Regional Superintendent of Schools - Manitoba

TO  
AYOUR FILE No.  
Votre dossierOUR FILE No.  
Notre dossier 511/1-13-017FROM  
De

District Superintendent of Schools - Dauphin

DATE  
February 10, 1969

FOLD

SUBJECT  
SujetPortage Indian Student Residence

During the past several months several things have come to light which, although perhaps not requiring immediate action, should be noted.

1. [REDACTED] - In September was placed in the home of [REDACTED] on Educational Assistance. In December she was to move back into the Residence because she got into a dispute with [REDACTED] over attendance in the Glee Club. [REDACTED] complained that she was told to get out if she chose not to stay in the Glee Club. Her parents, [REDACTED], wrote to the writer complaining about the treatment their daughter was receiving and demanding something be done to remove [REDACTED]. After a lengthy interview in Brandon, it was agreed that [REDACTED] would return to Portage la Prairie and be placed in a private home removed from the Residence.
2. [REDACTED] - On February 4 the writer visited the Portage Residence and [REDACTED] were visiting and complaining about the treatment [REDACTED] was receiving and asking that she be allowed to return home and attend school from home. Again the initial dispute arose when [REDACTED] asked to quit the Glee Club. [REDACTED] stated that the other students were afraid to say what they thought because [REDACTED] would lose his temper. The writer was able to witness this temper at first hand and heard statements like "I don't care what your daughter does", "As God is your witness tell your parents whether any student is forced to join the Glee Club."
3. Private Home Placement Program - Several students complained that [REDACTED] had told them they could only go into a private home next year if he granted his permission for such placement. They were advised that such placements were arranged by the Guidance Counsellor with the permission of the parents of the students involved.

Although early in September [REDACTED] did help to find some homes when he had an overflow of students in the Residence, he soon again outlawed students from private homes visiting the Residence and has in any way he can showed his lack of support for the private home placement program. He has not only done this within the personnel of the Department, but with parents, school authorities, and others. He has made charges that were not able to be substantiated concerning students living in the private homes.

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Regional Superintendent of Schools - Manitoba

February 10, 1969

4. [REDACTED] - In December [REDACTED] saw the writer to complain about the way students were being treated in the Residence. [REDACTED] is now living in a private home but felt very strongly about the matter.
5. [REDACTED] - In January [REDACTED] returned to the Residence after the Christmas vacation. He left shortly after and when talked to stated that he wanted to continue in school but would not go back to the Residence in Portage because he did not like the way they were treated by [REDACTED].
6. [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] - This student went home at Christmas. He would not return to the Portage Residence, claiming that they were not treated fairly by [REDACTED]. When the Guidance Counsellor contacted [REDACTED] stated, "I don't care what he does. I can get any number of students to fill the Residence."
7. Nelson House - When the writer visited this Residence in January, the School Committee complained that the students in Portage Residence were not treated properly. They particularly wished more assurance that when students were sent home they would be given more careful travel instructions.
8. Norway House - Mr. J. Soulier, Chairman of the School Committee, asked about Portage Residence. He stated that many parents were not happy about the treatment students received in that Residence.
9. Finance - The whole matter of financial management at Portage Residence is in need of assessment. [REDACTED] often arranges for work to be done or materials to be supplied without getting proper authority.  
  
The most recent was a \$600.00 rug which he bought for his Residence and paid for out of school funds - something that is not allowed. We had to arrange for payment for this rug as we have had to do for several other projects at the Residence in order to clear accounts made in the name of the Department but not authorized.
10. Glee Club - The Glee Club at Portage has a good reputation and travels here and there putting on shows. However, it is not so much a relaxing extracurricular activity for the students as a means of bringing glory to the Residence and its Administrator.

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Regional Superintendent of Schools - Manitoba

February 10, 1969

**Recommendations:**

- a) That [REDACTED] be advised that he is not to enter into direct correspondence with parents but to leave this to the Guidance Counsellor and the District Superintendent of Schools.
- b) That trips taken by the Glee Club outside of the Portage District be limited and subject to the approval of a senior official - either the District Superintendent of Schools or the Regional Superintendent of Schools.
- c) That [REDACTED] be instructed that as an employee of the Department he must support in discussion with parents, school officials, and the general public the program of the Department including the Private Home Placement program.
- d) That [REDACTED] be instructed not to authorize expenditures in excess of a minimal amount without written approval of a senior official.

J.R. Wright

JRW:mbk

Memo to File

511/25-13-017 (1)

District Superintendent of Education -  
Dauphin

July 24, 1970.

Meeting with new Administrator for Portage Student Residence

On Thursday, July 16, 1970 the writer and the Regional Superintendent of Education, Mr. J. Slobodzian, met with the newly appointed administrator for the Portage Student Residence, Mr. Charles Greaves. Mr. Jack Harris, the present administrator, was also present.

A lengthy discussion took place on the role of the administrator in the Indian Affairs Education Program with emphasis on the following:

1. Supervision of Staff and Staff Discipline

Mr. Harris outlined some of the difficulties he was having with certain staff members at the present time and suggested that these staff members would have to be removed as soon as possible. The discipline procedure for the Department of Indian Affairs was outlined and the new administrator was advised to document carefully his reasons for wishing to dismiss any staff members before taking action to do so. It was pointed out that before a staff member could be dismissed for incompetence or other reasons that he must be told why his performance is unsatisfactory and what he must do to improve his performance. It was also stated that, where possible, other means short of dismissal should be used to improve the performance of an unsatisfactory staff member.

2. Discharge of Students

The need for careful documentation of reasons for requesting the discharge of a student was discussed. Mr. Slobodzian pointed out that where possible the cause for the misbehavior on the part of the student should be ascertained. If this was the result of his being enrolled in a class where he could not achieve satisfactory results then school officials should be contacted with the hope that they would work to effect a change in the student's course. In all cases the guidance counsellor should investigate the difficulty thoroughly before making a recommendation for discharge.

3. Integration of Home Placement and Residence Program

The writer emphasized the need for the Home Placement Program and the Residence Program of the Education District to be treated as two parts of the same program with all services integrated where possible. It was suggested that the guidance counsellors and administrators meet together frequently to discuss problems relative to the two programs. The facilities

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2877026183

Memo to File

July 24, 1970.

at the residence should be used not only for the students of the residence but for the students on the Home Placement Program. At the same time, the students in the residence should be able to avail themselves of any or all applicable facilities of the community.

4. Guidance Office

In order to facilitate a more effective integration of the residence and counselling program, it was proposed that the guidance office be located at the student residence. Possible areas within the residence building for this office were discussed but no final decision will be made until the counsellors and the administrator and the District Superintendent of Education have discussed the matter further later in August.

5. Enrollment

The District Superintendent of Education mentioned that next year there would likely be about sixty students in residence or twenty less than capacity. However, a guidance counsellor was being sent to Norway House in the hope that several of the new students from Norway House would agree to transfer to Portage la Prairie rather than come to Mackay School in Dauphin which is presently over-crowded.

6. Inventory

The procedure for transfer of inventory from one administrator to another was outlined and the new administrator was advised to return to the District Office the original copy of the inventory certified by him within one week of his taking over administration of the residence.

7. Swimming Pool

Mr. Harris requested the Department to purchase the plastic cover for the swimming pool. On behalf of the Department, the writer and the Regional Superintendent of Education agreed to do so on condition that the cost of the plastic cover could be deferred for payment until the new fiscal year beginning in April 1971. Mr. Harris agreed to this request. Mr. Harris was also asked to outline all requirements necessary for the safe management of the swimming pool and to forward a copy of these to the District Superintendent of Education as soon as possible.

Original Signed by  
J. R. WRIGHT

JRW:jc

J.R. Wright,  
District Superintendent of Education

c.c.: Regional Superintendent of Education - Manitoba ✓

Administrator - Portage Student Residence



Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 1S3

February 21, 1975.

All Chiefs & Councils

Your file    Votre référence

Our file    Notre référence

501/25-13(E)

Dear Chief & Council:

Over the past several years there has been a declining enrollment in student residences. This has resulted in the closure of all of the residences with the exception of Portage la Prairie, Dauphin and The Pas.

Some of the reasons for declining enrollments are:

- a general desire on the part of Indian parents to keep their children at home
- the establishment of high school grades in Indian communities
- the desire of students to live in private homes as opposed to living in residences.

At present the enrollment and capacities of the three residences are: Portage la Prairie 39 students with a capacity of 80, Dauphin 160 students with a capacity of 200 and The Pas 94 students with a capacity of 120.

As residences are extremely costly to run and as the cost of operating a residence decreases very little when fewer students use it we felt we would have to take a close look at our residences in these times of very limited funding for education programs.

Our first consideration was for the students who use the residences. As Portage la Prairie is a small residence and as it was operating with only half an enrollment we looked at this residence very closely. We found that satisfactory educational alternatives are available for students in that residence.

For students who wish to continue their education in Portage la Prairie accommodation can be found in private homes in that town. Other possibilities for placement are available to them at Dauphin and Guy Hill residences, in Cranberry Portage, Teulon and Winnipeg. As the majority of students come from Norway House many of them may wish to remain at home as high school grades are operating in that community.

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All Chiefs &amp; Councils

- 2 -

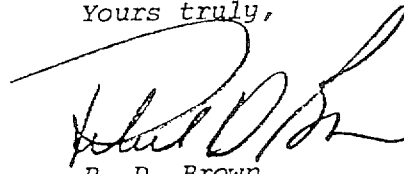
February 21, 1975.

We have met with the chiefs and councils of the bands who provide most of the students for Portage la Prairie and they have not objected to the closure of the Portage Residence. We have also met with Dr. Spence of the Manitoba Indian Brotherhood and his concern was that we talk to the main bands who send students to Portage la Prairie. He was especially concerned about Norway House as over twenty of the students are from that community. Two meetings have been held at Norway House--one with Chief and Council and the other with band members. Norway House people do not object to the closure as long as the students in the residence are given educationally sound alternatives.

It is our intention to make certain all residence students do have the opportunity to continue their education in satisfactory surroundings.

I wish to announce therefore that the Portage la Prairie Student Residence will officially close on June 30, 1975.


Yours truly,



R. D. Brown  
Regional Director  
Indian & Eskimo Affairs.

cc: A. Spence



	Public Works Canada	Travaux publics Canada	<b>REPORT OF SURPLUS LANDS AND BUILDINGS</b>	<b>RAPPORT DE BIENS EXCÉDENTAIRES TERRAINS ET BÂTIMENTS</b>	DATE September 15,
TO: PUBLIC WORKS CANADA, PROPERTY SERVICES BRANCH, PROPERTY DISPOSAL SECTION, SIR CHARLES TUPPER BUILDING, RIVERSIDE DRIVE, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, K1A 0M2			À: TRAVAUX PUBLICS CANADA DIRECTION DES SERVICES IMMOBILIERS SECTION DE LA DISPOSITION DES BIENS IMMEUBLES IMMEUBLE SIR CHARLES TUPPER PROMENADE RIVERSIDE OTTAWA (ONTARIO) K1A 0M2		
1. DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY / MINISTÈRE OU ORGANISME Indian Affairs & Northern Development 1100-275 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 3A3			2. REFERENCE 501/25-13-082 501/36-4 Portage la P.		3. ORIGINATOR'S REPORT NO. NO DU RAPPORT DE L'INITIA- 75-227
1. CUSTODIAN OFFICER & PHONE NO. / NOM ET NO DE TÉL. DU GARDIEN G.T. Ross Assistant Regional Director - Education 985-2442			4. LOCATION OF ASSETS / EMPLACEMENT DES BIENS Crescent Lake Road, Portage-La-Prairie, Manitoba (Just outside S.W. Boundary of Portage-La-Prairie, Manitoba)		
DATE <u>16 Feb 75</u> AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE / SIGNATAIRE AUTORISÉ <u>[Signature]</u>			7. DPW (CODE) DU MTP LB-1	8. FOR DPW USE / À L'USAGE DU MTP 400-LB-2669 DPW SERIAL NO. / NO DE SÉRIE DU MTP	
1. DESCRIPTION: LAND - BUILDINGS - OTHER INSTALLATIONS / TERRAIN - BÂTIMENTS - INSTALLATIONS DIVERSES Parts of River lots 50, 51 and 52. Land consists of 45.24 acres with the following improvements: a) two-story students' residence 7,500 sq. ft. b) auditorium, 6,000 sq. ft. c) day school, one story, 4,200 sq. ft. d) hockey hut, 800 sq. ft. e) new workshop, 575 sq. ft. f) implement shed, 2,300 sq. ft. g) principal's residence, 750 sq. ft. h) duplex residence, 1,800 sq. ft.					
2. ORIGINAL COST (LAND) / COÛT INITIAL (TERRAIN)			IMPROVEMENTS / AMÉNAGEMENTS \$		ANNEX / ANNEXE
1. APPRAISED VALUE / VALEUR SELON EXPERTISE			\$ 352,500.00		1
2. SCHEDULE OF BUILDINGS OR OTHER IMPROVEMENTS / LISTE DES BÂTIMENTS ET DES AMÉNAGEMENTS					1
LEGAL DESCRIPTION & TITLE DOCUMENTS 3. DESCRIPTION NOTARIÉE ET CERTIFICATS DE TITRES			LEGAL DESCRIPTION / DESCRIPTION NOTARIÉE TITLE DOCUMENTS / CERTIFICATS DE TITRES		2
4. SITE PLAN OR SKETCH / PLAN OU CROQUIS DES LIEUX					1
5. SERVICE AND OTHER PLANS / PLANS DES SERVICES ET PLANS DIVERS					1
6. PHOTOGRAPHS / PHOTOGRAPHIES					1
7. LEASES, LICENSES, OR OTHER AGREEMENTS (TO BE ATTACHED) BAUX, PERMIS ET CONTRATS DIVERS (À ÊTRE ANNEXÉS)					1
8. INVENTORY OF INSTALLED EQUIPMENT / RÉPERTOIRE DU MATÉRIEL INSTALLÉ					1
9. LIST OF INTERESTED PARTIES / LISTE DES ACQUÉREURS ÉVENTUELS					3
10. SITE RESTORATION & ESTIMATE OF COST (WHERE APPLICABLE) REMISE EN ÉTAT DES LIEUX ET COÛT APPROXIMATIF (S'IL Y A LIEU)					
11. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS ET PRÉCONISATIONS  For immediate disposal (To be transfered to D.P.W.)					
12. AUTHORITY (FOR DEPT. USE) / AUTORITÉ (RÉSERVÉ AU MINISTÈRE)			IMPORTANT SEPARATE REPORTS REQUIRED FOR EACH LOCATION.		REMARQUE IMPORTANTE ÉTABLIR UN RAPPORT DISTINCT POUR CHAQUE EMPLACEMENT.
PW/MTP 1115					OVERLEAF / VERSO



501/6-1-067

OTTAWA, Ontario  
K1A 0H4  
February 17, 1977

Your file    Votre référence    T2503-2-4  
Cui bis    Notre référence    T3135/A2559

Mr. M.F. Track  
Head  
Material Support Services  
Special & Administrative  
Services Division  
Indian and Eskimo Affairs

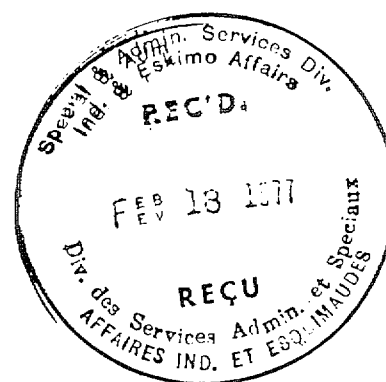
Dear Sir:

Re: Former Indian Residential Property,  
Lots 50, 51 & 52, Portage La Prairie, Man.

This is to advise that under Order-in-Council PC 1977-6/48 dated January 13, 1977, authorization was given to transfer the above noted properties to the Department of Public Works.

for: C.C. Johnson  
Chief, Materiel Management  
Engineering & Architecture Branch

ADE/MP



501/36-4-PORTAGE  
PRAIR.Indian and  
Northern AffairsAffaires indiennes  
et du Nord

2238

A/O

OTTAWA, Ontario K1A 0H4  
October 17, 1977.

A/Director of Operations,  
Indian and Eskimo Affairs,  
Manitoba Region.

Your file    Votre référence

Our file    Notre référence    501/36-4-067

Portage la Prairie Residential School

This is further to telephone conversation of October 13, 1977,  
(Byrne/Sizer) concerning the acquisition of lands for the above  
mentioned school.

The following is a brief summary regarding the establishment of this  
school.

In 1890, the Presbyterian Church opened a day school on about one  
acre of land located within the municipality of Portage la Prairie.  
The Church received no contribution from the Government towards the  
construction of this school building or the purchase of the land.  
The first Indian children to attend the school were Sioux, and in  
1909, some students from the Long Plain Reserve were in attendance.  
The school which was then an Indian boarding school was administered by  
the Presbyterian Church who received Government grants on behalf of the  
Indian students.

By 1910, the school buildings were found to be unsatisfactory and the  
Department of Indian Affairs proposed that a new school should be built  
in a more suitable locality. In 1914, the department purchased portions  
of Lots 51 and 52 as a site for an Indian Industrial School Building.  
Title to these lands were vested in His Majesty the King, as represented  
by the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs by virtue of Certificates  
of Titles Nos. 24138 and 24278, dated February 9, 1914, and March 20,  
1914 respectively. A further area comprising portions of Lot 50 was  
acquired in 1919. (Certificate of Title No. 30280, dated November 7,  
1919).

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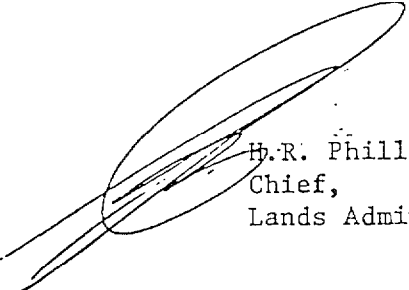
A/Director of Operations

- 2 -

October 17, 1977.

The status of these lands was always considered to be Crown Lands of Canada, and at no time were they considered for Indian Reserve purposes. No reference has been found in our records of a promise or commitment by the Department of Indian Affairs concerning the utilization of these lands when they were no longer required for school purposes.

As you are aware, these lands have been declared surplus to the requirements of this Department and transferred to the Department of Public Works for disposal.



H.R. Phillips,  
Chief,  
Lands Administration.

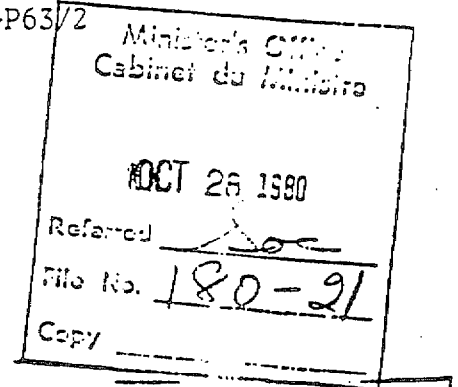
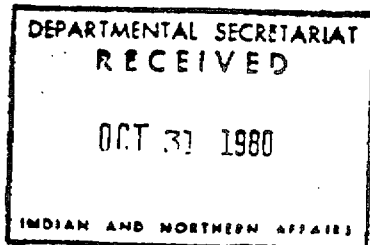


Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0M2

October 24, 1980

Our File  
9075-P63/2

The Honourable John Munro, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Indian & Northern Affairs  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6



My dear Colleague:

Re: Portage La Prairie, Manitoba

The subject property was transferred by Order in Council from your department to the Department of Public Works in January 1977 to be dealt with in accordance with the Federal Land Management Policy.

At the time of the transfer, the property consisted of a three storey building, formerly used as an Indian Residential School on a 45 acre site. There were also some other ancillary buildings including three residential units. The property at that time had a value of approximately \$ 360,000.00.

Since 1977, two housing units have been returned to your department and turned over to the Indian Band for removal. The property has also subsequently been re-appraised at a value of \$ 193,000.00.

Since the transfer in 1977, studies have been carried out by my department which indicate that the interests of the Federal Land Management Policy would best be served by disposing of the property to either the Province of Manitoba, the Rural Municipality of Portage La Prairie or to the private sector. However, prior to this being done, it was decided in January, 1979, to canvass other federal government departments to determine if they had any foreseeable requirement for the property. Your department advised that it might be interested in exchanging this property for a 29 acre parcel of provincial land adjacent to the Dakota Tipi Indian Reservation near Portage La Prairie.

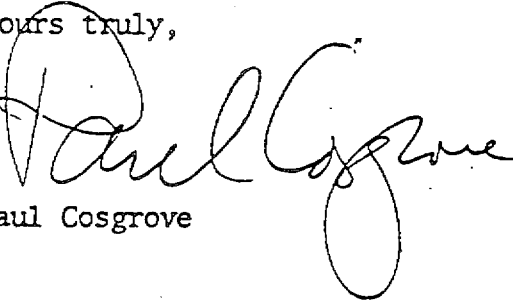
Since that time, we have held the disposal of this property in abeyance because of representations made by the Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council and your office on their behalf. I feel that this matter should now be resolved and unless you advise me that your department wishes to assume the responsibility for this property, I will instruct my officials to dispose of it in the normal manner when the current "hold" expires in November, 1980.

. . . / 2

Incidentally, several groups including the Portage Christian Academy have expressed an interest in acquiring the property and have made representations to this effect.

I would appreciate your early attention to this matter.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul Cosgrove". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Paul Cosgrove



A/Regional Surveyor, Manitoba  
Surveys and Mapping Branch  
305-275 Portage Avenue,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3B 2B3

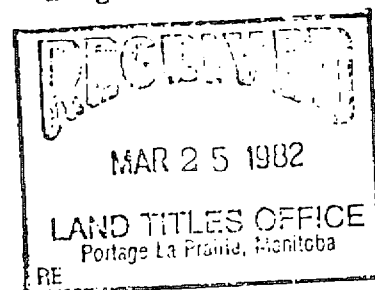
Your file    Votre référence

Our file    Notre référence

5207-L4-6 (Brown File)  
Long Plains No. 6

March 23, 1982

The District Registrar  
Portage La Prairie Land Titles Office  
25 Tupples Street North,  
Portage La Prairie, Manitoba  
R1N 1W7



Dear Sir:

Re: Caveat No. 32007 - Certificates of Title Nos. 24138, 24278 & 30280

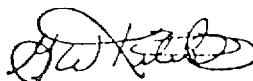
As you are no doubt aware, the lands held by Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada (Represented by the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs) under the above referenced Certificates of Title, have now been set aside by Order-in-Council as an addition to Long Plains Reserve No. 6.

We have in our possession photocopies of these Titles upon two of which (24138 and 30280) is indicated being subject to a hydro caveat No. 32007.

Our research of this caveat indicates it affects a 50 foot strip of land South of and adjacent to the Canadian National Railway Plan No. 327. It is our understanding the lands affected by caveat 32007 do not affect any of the lands remaining in C.T.'s 24138 and 30280. Should this be the case, the memorial on these titles should be removed?

Would you kindly investigate this matter and advise of your findings.

Yours truly,

 m.s.

for: David K. Nielsen, C.L.S.  
A/Regional Surveyor, Manitoba

GWK/sps

in duplicate this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July 1960.

BETWEEN

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN in right of Canada,  
represented herein by the Minister of  
Citizenship and Immigration,  
hereinafter called the "Lessor".

OF THE FIRST PART

AND The Board of Trustees of Mount Pleasant  
School District #50,  
hereinafter called the "Lessee".

OF THE SECOND PART

WITNESSETH that in consideration of the rents, covenants  
and agreements hereinafter reserved and contained on the part  
of the Lessee to be paid, observed and performed, the Lessor  
hath demised and leased and by these presents doth demise and  
lease unto the Lessee, one classroom containing an area of approx-  
imately 850 square feet in a building forming part of Portage  
la Prairie Indian Residential School, Portage la Prairie,  
Manitoba, (hereinafter called the "premises") the said area as  
shown outlined in red on the plan hereto attached;

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD for the term commencing the first (1st)  
day of January, 1960, and ending the Thirtieth (30th) day of  
June, 1961;

YIELDING AND PAYING therefor unto the Lessor the monthly  
sum of Sixty (\$60.00) dollars, payable in advance at the beginning  
of each and every calendar month during the term of the lease,  
provided however, that no rent will be payable by the Lessee for  
the months of July and August, 1960;

The Lessee covenants with the said Lessor as follows:

1. That it will pay the rent reserved at the time or respective  
times hereinbefore limited for the payment thereof without any  
deduction whatsoever;
2. That it will not, during the continuance of this lease,  
transfer, assign or sublet the premises;



3. That it will pay all taxes, rates and assessments that may be legally charged as a result of its occupancy of the premises;

4. That it will use the premises for providing instruction to school children only and for no other purpose;

The Lessee will indemnify and save harmless the Lessor from and against all claims, demands, loss, costs, damages, actions, suits or other proceedings, by whomsoever made, sustained, brought or prosecuted, in any manner, based upon, occasioned by or attributable to, any injury or damage arising or resulting from any act or omission of the Lessee its servants or agents in using or occupying the premises;

The Lessee shall be entitled to use the premises between the hours of 8 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon during each day of the week, except Saturday and Sunday;

The Lessor covenants and agrees with the Lessee to provide classroom furniture, heat, light, toilet facilities and outside play space, and that upon the Lessee paying the rents and performing the covenants herein contained on the part of the Lessee to be paid and performed the Lessee shall and may peaceably and quietly enjoy the said premises without molestation, hindrance or disturbance from or by the Lessor or any person or persons claiming through or under Her;

The Lessee covenants and agrees to provide janitor service and cleaning accommodation and to keep the premises in good and tenantable repair, reasonable wear and tear only excepted;

If the premises are at any time during the said term wholly or partially destroyed by fire or otherwise so as to render them untenable the rent shall forthwith become payable up to the time of such destruction;

- 3 -

That these presents and everything herein contained shall respectively enure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto, their executors, administrators, successors and assigns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this lease on the day, month and year first above written.

EXECUTED IN THE PRESENCE

of:

Hilda M. Gray  
Witness

Ann MacKay

Don. M. Gray Chair  
Don. M. Wallace Sec

George D. Ward  
Deputy Minister  
of Citizenship and Immigration

T.B. CODE

AUTHORITY TO RENT  
CROWN-OWNED PREMISESDEPT CITIZENSHIP AND  
IMMIGRATION

FILE 127/25-1 (E3)

DATE March 8, 1960.

DETAILS OF REQUEST TO THE HONOURABLE THE TREASURY BOARD

**PURPOSE:** To provide urgently needed school facilities for some non-Indian school children in the neighbourhood of Portage La Prairie, Manitoba.

**PREMISES:** One classroom having an area of approximately 850 square feet in a building forming part of the Crown-owned Portage La Prairie Indian Residential School. The classroom became surplus to ordinary Indian school purposes after arrangements were made for some of the Indian residential pupils to receive classroom instruction in schools in the City of Portage La Prairie.

**LESSEE:** The Board of School Trustees of Mount Pleasant School District No. 50 in the Province of Manitoba.

**USE:** For ordinary school purposes on prescribed school days between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

**RENT:** Sixty dollars for each month during which the lessee conducts instruction of pupils on the premises for any part of such month.

**TERM:** January 1, 1960 to June 30, 1961.

**CONDITIONS:** The Crown provides classroom furniture, heating, lighting, toilet facilities, outside play space, and ordinary maintenance. The lessee is responsible for cleaning and for repair of damage exceeding ordinary wear and tear.

RECOMMENDED

APPROVED BY THE TREASURY BOARD

T.B.

DATED

PP&amp;S CAT NO 3600

F.J.F

Your copy

J.F

PLP-0794



DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP & IMMIGRATION  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT MADE THIS 22nd DAY OF June, 1962.

BETWEEN:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN THE RIGHT OF CANADA  
represented herein by the Minister of  
Citizenship and Immigration hereinafter  
called "the Minister"

OF THE FIRST PART

AND

The United Church of Canada  
hereinafter called "the Management"

OF THE SECOND PART.

WHEREAS all right, title and proprietary interest in the Portage la Prairie Indian  
Residential School..... (hereinafter called "The School") situated at  
Portage la Prairie, Manitoba... is vested in Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada;

WHEREAS the Management has agreed to operate and manage the school for children of Indian  
status in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement;

AND WHEREAS the Minister has been authorized by Order in Council  
P.C. 1961-2/1487 of October 19, 1961, to enter into this Agreement pursuant to Section  
113 of the Indian Act;

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH that in consideration of the premises and of  
the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained the parties hereto, hereby covenant and agree each  
with the other as follows:

1. The Management shall nominate a person for appointment as principal or officer-in-charge of the  
school, (hereinafter called "the principal") who shall, upon appointment by the Management, be re-  
sponsible to the Management for the operation and management of the school, but no such person  
shall be appointed principal by the Management without the prior approval of the Minister in writing.
2. The Management shall
  - (a) operate and manage the school in accordance with such rules, regulations, directives and in-  
structions that may be made or issued by the Minister from time to time, and
  - (b) provide to the pupils enrolled in the school the standard of food, clothing, accommodation,

supervision and other requirements and necessities established by such rules, regulations, directives and instructions made or issued by the Minister from time to time.

3. The Management may

- (a) provide for the spiritual and religious welfare of the pupils enrolled in the school, and
- (b) include in the time-table for classroom instruction a period of not more than one-half hour a day for religious and spiritual instruction.

4. The Management shall be responsible to the Minister for the operation and management of the school.

5. The Management shall consult with the senior teacher at the school in matters pertaining to classroom instructions.

6. The Management shall employ in the school a competent domestic staff.

7. The Management shall not admit any pupil for permanent enrolment at the school unless the admission of such pupil is approved by the Minister in writing.

8. The Management shall endeavour to ensure that the pupils attend the prescribed classes.

9. The Management shall not require or permit any pupil to engage in any activity which may interfere with the attendance of such pupil at class.

10. Where any pupil has left the school or is absent from the school without the permission of the principal, the Management shall notify the local Indian Agency Superintendent, and the principal and the said local Indian Agency Superintendent shall endeavour to locate the pupil and return the pupil to the school.

11. (1) The Management shall, upon notice in writing by the Minister, release or discharge from the school any pupil referred to in the notice.

(2) The Management shall not release or discharge any pupil from the school unless the release or discharge of such pupil has been approved by the Minister in writing.

(3) Where the Management is of the opinion that the circumstances warrant the immediate suspension of any pupil, it may suspend such pupil provided, however, the Management has made satisfactory arrangements for the care of the pupil.

(4) Where a pupil is suspended, the Management shall make a full report to the Minister.

(5) The Minister shall decide if a pupil who has been suspended is to be returned to the school.

(6) The Management shall not be required to accept any pupil for enrolment in the school who is known to the Management or the Minister to be incorrigible.

12. The Management shall instruct the teaching and domestic staff and the pupils in the observance of safety and fire prevention.

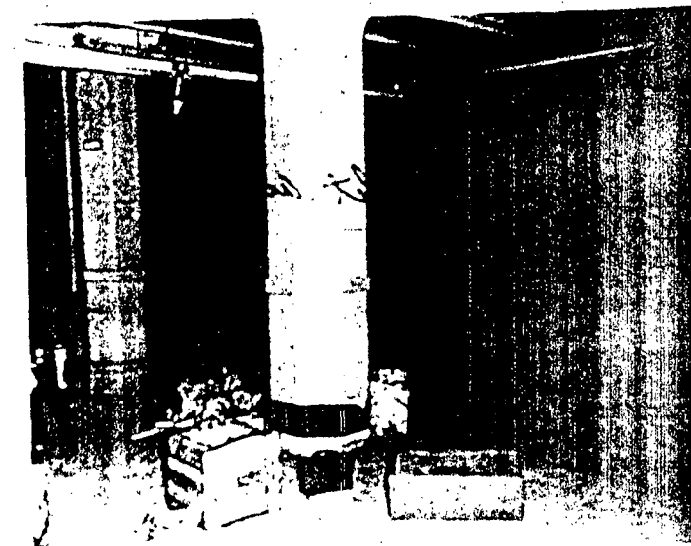
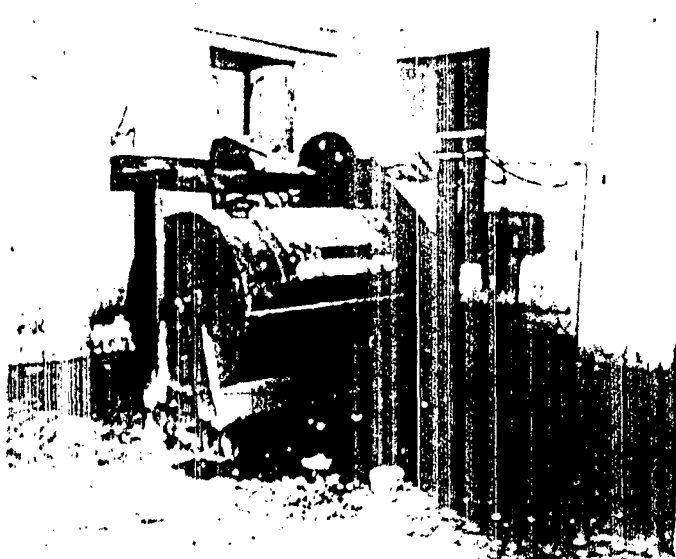
13. The Management shall
- (a) conduct fire drill at the school at least once a month,
  - (b) maintain the school in an orderly, neat and sanitary condition,
  - (c) take reasonable care of the textbooks and other school supplies, furnishings and equipment furnished by the Minister under this Agreement, and shall account for same when required to do so by the Minister, and
  - (d) keep records and submit reports on such matters pertaining to the operation and management of the school as may be required by the Minister.
14. The Management shall
- (a) conduct the financial operation of the school in accordance with such regulations, instructions, directives and rules as may be made or issued by the Minister or Treasury Board from time to time,
  - (b) keep proper books, accounts and records, and
  - (c) establish an account in a chartered bank in which the moneys advanced by the Minister under this Agreement shall be deposited.
15. The Management may make expenditures for the purposes provided for in this Agreement and in accordance with the rules, regulations, directives and instructions referred to in paragraph 2 hereof.
16. The Minister shall forward in writing to the Management all rules, regulations, directives and instructions referred to in paragraph 2.
17. The Minister shall consult with the Management from time to time with respect to all matters pertaining to the operation and management of the school.
18. The Minister shall not issue a financial directive with respect to the operation and management of the school with a retroactive date.
19. The Minister may enter and inspect the school from time to time.
20. The Minister shall advance to the Management from time to time such funds which, in the opinion of the Minister, are required for the operation and management of the school.
21. The Minister shall, at the end of each school fiscal year, cause the books of account to be audited and for this purpose an auditor appointed by the Comptroller of the Treasury is entitled to have access at all convenient times to all records, documents, books and accounts of the Management relating to the operation and management of the school and is entitled to require from the Management such information and explanations as he deems necessary.
22. A statement prepared by the Auditor showing the expenditures properly made by the Management under

this Agreement during the school fiscal year shall determine the cost of operating and managing the school for that fiscal year.

23. Where the total of the moneys advanced by the Minister during the school fiscal year exceeds the cost of operating and managing the school for that school fiscal year as determined pursuant to paragraph 22, the Management shall credit the excess to the Minister, and where the total of the moneys advanced by the Minister during the school fiscal year is less than the cost of operating and managing the school for that fiscal year as determined pursuant to paragraph 22, the Minister shall pay the deficit to the Management.
24. In this Agreement the expression "school fiscal year" means calendar year or such other period as may be mutually agreed upon by the parties hereto from time to time.
25. The Minister shall, subject to consultation with the Management, assign a teaching staff to the school.
26. (1) Where the Management is of the opinion that the circumstances warrant a suspension of any member of the teaching staff, it may suspend such teacher.  
(2) Where a teacher is suspended, the Management shall make a full report to the Minister.  
(3) Where a report is made to the Minister with respect to the suspension of a teacher, the Minister shall determine what action is to be taken.
27. The Minister shall, at the request of the Management, provide for the use of the Management any textbooks and other school supplies, furnishings and equipment which, in the opinion of the Minister, are necessary for the operation of the school, but such textbooks and other school supplies, furnishings and equipment shall remain the property of Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada.
28. The Minister shall be responsible for the cost of repairs, erections, renovations, alterations or additions made to the school but no repairs, erections, renovations or additions shall be made by the Management without the prior consent of the Minister in writing.
29. (a) Where an officer or servant of the Management has the care and control of a vehicle belonging to Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada in the course of his duties hereunder, the Minister agrees except as hereinafter provided to indemnify the Management and the said officer or servant against any liability for death, personal injury or property damage arising from the use or operation of the said vehicle.  
(b) Where a claim is made against the Management, or an officer or servant of the Management, and the Minister is liable under sub-paragraph (a) to indemnify the Management or the officer or servant of the Management in respect thereof, the Management or officer or servant of the

- Management shall not, except at his own expense, assume liability therefor, execute any release or otherwise settle the claim, but shall forward the claim forthwith to the Portage la Prairie Agency.
- (c) The provisions of the attached Claims Regulations, P.C. 1960-11/944, shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the procedure to be followed where a claim is made for which the Minister has agreed to indemnify the Management or the officer or servant of the Management under sub-paragraph (a).
- (d) The Management agrees to pay to the Receiver General of Canada on behalf of Her Majesty any amount which the driver of the vehicle, if he were an officer or servant of the Crown within the meaning of the Claims Regulations, would have been required to pay to Her Majesty pursuant to the provisions of the said Regulations.
30. (a) Where an officer or servant of the Management has the care and control in the course of his duties hereunder, of a vehicle belonging to Her Majesty which sustains damage, the Management shall forward forthwith to the Portage la Prairie Agency the material referred to in Section 18 of the attached Claims Regulations.
- (b) The Management agrees to pay to the Receiver General of Canada on behalf of Her Majesty the amount which the driver of the said vehicle, if he were an officer or servant of the Crown within the meaning of the Claims Regulations, would have been required to pay to Her Majesty pursuant to the provisions of the said Regulations.
31. The Management shall not assign this Agreement without the written consent of the Minister.
32. This Agreement may be terminated on the 30th day of June in any year by either party hereto giving to the other party twelve months' notice in writing.
33. It is understood and agreed that upon the execution of this Agreement the parties hereto hereby release each other from all prior agreements relating to the specific matters set forth in this Agreement with respect to the management and operation of the school.
34. The parties hereto agree that all the provisions hereof shall bind and enure to the benefit of the parties hereto, and their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors and assigns.
35. The Minister may authorize any officer of the Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration to perform and exercise any of the duties, powers and functions that may be or are required to be performed or exercised by the Minister under this agreement.
36. The Management may authorize the principal or any of its officers to perform and exercise any of the duties, powers and functions that may be or are required to be performed or exercised by the Management under this Agreement.





## THIS INDENTURE,

made (in duplicate) the third day of July in the year of

Our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirteen;

In Pursuance of The Act Respecting Short Forms of Indentures;

BETWEEN:-

THOMAS A. NEWMAN, Merchant,  
THOMAS CUMMING, farmer, and  
MARGARET CUMMING, Spinster, all of the City of  
Portage la Prairie, in the Province of Manitoba  
(the executors and executrix of the last Will and  
Testament of Margaret Cumming, late of the City  
of Portage la Prairie, in the Province of Manitoba,  
now deceased,)

The original of this Document has been  
removed for retention in the Records of  
the Indian Land Registry.

- hereinafter called the parties,

of the FIRST PART, and

HIS MAJESTY, the KING, represented herein by the  
Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs,

- hereinafter called the party,

Of the SECOND PART.

WHEREAS MARGARET CUMMING, late of the City of Portage  
la Prairie, in the Province of Manitoba, departed this life on  
or about the second day of June A.D. 1912, having duly made her  
last Will and Testament and Codicil thereto, whereby she appointed  
the parties of the first part as the executors and executrix of  
her said Will; and

WHEREAS Letters Probate of the said Will and Codicil  
of the said Margaret Cumming were granted to the parties of the  
first part by the Surrogate Court of the Central Judicial District  
of the Province of Manitoba, on the thirteenth day of September  
A.D. 1912; and

WHEREAS the said Margaret Cumming deceased, was, at the  
time of her decease seized and possessed of the lands hereinafter  
described; and

WHEREAS by the said Will, the parties of the first part are directed to sell all of the Real Estate of the said deceased, as soon after her demise as they deem expedient, and to convert her estate into money and divide the proceeds as directed by the said Will and Codicil; and

WHEREAS the parties of the first part, as such executors and executrix, have bargained and agreed to sell the land hereinafter described, to His Majesty, The King, for the price hereinafter mentioned;

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH that in consideration of the premises, and of the sum of Four Thousand Two hundred and Thirty-one 30/100 (\$4,231.30) Dollars of lawful money of Canada now paid by the said party of the second part to the said parties of the first part (the receipt whereof is hereby by them acknowledged) the said parties of the first part do grant unto the said party of the second part, his successors and assigns forever

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying, and being in the City of Portage la Prairie, and being composed of all of that part of Parish Lot Fifty-one (51), according to the Dominion Government Survey of the Parish of Portage la Prairie, in Manitoba, bounded on the south by the northerly limit of the Slough Road, as now located and ~~occupied~~ <sup>used</sup> across said Lot, and on the North by the southerly limit of the Right-of-Way of the Canadian Northern Railway Company (Rossendale Branch) as said Right-of-Way is shewn on Plan thereof filed in the Portage la Prairie Land Titles Office as Plan Number 327.



excepting thereout and therefrom, all that portion of the said Lot taken and now used as a public Road or Highway as said Public Road or Highway is shown on a Plan thereof filed in the Portage la Prairie Land Titles Office as Plan No. 303;

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD unto the said party of the second part, his successors and assigns, to and for his and their sole and only use forever;

SUBJECT, NEVERTHELESS, to the reservations, limitations, provisos, and conditions expressed in the original Grant thereof from the Crown.

The said parties of the first part covenant with the said party of the second part that they have the right to convey the said lands to the said party of the second part, notwithstanding any act of the said parties of the first part.

And that the said party of the second part shall have quiet possession of the said lands free from all incumbrances.

And the said parties of the first part covenant with the said party of the second part that they will execute such further assurances of the said lands as may be requisite.

And the said parties of the first part covenant with the said party of the second part that they have done no act to encumber the said lands.

And the said parties of the first part release to the said party of the second part, all their claims upon the

said lands.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the said parties hereto  
have hereunto set their hands and seals.

SIGNED SEALED AND DELIVERED  
by T.A. Newman & Thos. Cumming  
in the presence of

*T.A. Newman*

By Margaret Cumming  
in the presence of

*Charles L. Newman*

*T.A. Newman*

*Thos. Cumming*

*Margaret Cumming*



## Portage La Prairie Boarding School

The school is situated about one quarter of a mile east of the town of Portage La Prairie. The buildings are frame on a stone foundation and are heated with hot air and lighted by electricity.

It is a Presbyterian School. The children attending the school are Sioux. There is accommodation for forty pupils.

This school was built by the Presbyterians and the Govt contributed nothing, either for land or for the cost of erecting the buildings. (See Dr. Moore's letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> Jan/90 on file no 58244)

This school was first opened as a Day School in 1890 with 26 pupils enrolled & an average attendance of 10. The Dept paid a grant of 300<sup>00</sup> per annum for salary to the teacher of the Day School & 12<sup>00</sup> per capita for each pupil over the number of 20. The Day School continued to be paid at this rate till the end of the June quarter 1893, when it ceased to be run as a Day School. It is now conducted altogether as a Boarding School.

The Boarding School was first started during the year 1891 and was run in connection with the day school till the end of the June quarter 1893.

A grant was given by the Dept towards the support of the Boarding School in 1890 which

accounted to \$1000.<sup>00</sup> being for 20 pupils  
 at \$50.<sup>00</sup> per capita. The same amount was  
 paid this school in 1892. (See Annual Reports  
 for 1891-92 in the statements respecting Indian Schools)  
 At the beginning of the March quarter  
 1892, the Grant was raised to \$72.<sup>00</sup> per  
 capita for 20 pupils (see Letter of Rev Prof Baird  
 on file no 94.600 <sup>man</sup>)  
 This school has been paid on the same  
 basis viz: (\$72.<sup>00</sup> per capita for 20 pupils) since  
 the above date.

Two teachers are supported by the  
 Presbyterian Church and are paid \$300.<sup>00</sup> each  
 from the funds of the Church.

For all particulars regarding the size,  
 dimensions & construction of the Portage  
 La Prairie School see Messrs. McElbenna  
 report thereon, Dated March 22<sup>nd</sup> 1897 on  
 file no. 119.469<sup>6</sup>

The Land in connection with this school  
 comprised four small lots equal to about  
 one acre in all

119403  
OFFICE OF THE  
Inspector of Indian Agencies.

LAKE MANITOBA INSPECTORATE.

Portage la Prairie, Man.,

November 19th; 1908

333507

Sir,

I beg to draw the Department's attention to the following matter. Ever since the Treaty was made, the Indians of the Long Plain reserve in the Portage la Prairie Agency, have resisted all efforts to place a Missionary or Day-school on their reserve. Neither would they consent to ~~the~~ their children being sent to a Boarding or Industrial school. But lately a change has apparently come over ~~them~~ a few of them and Principal Hendry of the Portage la Prairie Sioux Boarding School, assisted by Indian Agent Logan has succeeded in getting four pupils of school age from that reserve, very much against the wishes and efforts of the old Indians there. He also has four Sioux children of school age at the school over and above the number allowed, for which he does not receive any grant.

This school under Mr Hendry's management has kept out of debt, and I would be glad to have any Official of the Department visit there without warning. They are always ~~xx~~ ready and up to the mark, and the Pupils from that institution are a credit to them.

Mr Hendry remarked to me lately that he found the expense of keeping eight extra children was more than he could finance for without going into debt, on his present grant, and he was afraid that after all his trouble he would have to send the four children back to the Long Plain Reserve.

The Secretary

Department of Indian Affairs

Ottawa.



333507

reserve. The school being for the Sioux he supposed he should give them the preference. But I asked him to keep them for a short time until I wrote the Department to see if I could not get a grant for the extra pupils.

Mr. Henry says the two eldest pupils in the school will be leaving this winter, which will leave him with six extra children on hand and I would be very pleased if the Department could arrange to allow him a grant for that number over and above the 25 at present allowed.

It seems too bad altogether to allow children to go back to the Long Plain Reserve after trying for so many years to get them, and if these are kept at the school it will probably lead to others being sent in the future.

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant

*H. Swinford*

Inspector.

119469  
INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE,

Portage la Prairie, Man.

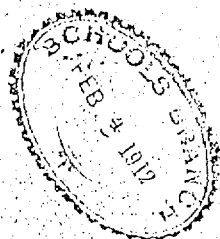
31st/Jan/1912., 191

IF YOUR NAME APPEARS TO  
112.  
ALSO  
TO DATE OF THIS LETTER.

404295  
Sir,—

I beg to advise of a severe epidemic of a bad type of Measels, in the Portage la prairie, Indian School, which has led to five or six cases of Pneumonia, one child died this morning at 1 O'clock A.M.

The Doctor attending secured two trained Nurses from Winnipeg. I am sure that all possible is being done for them. Dr. Hazzard is paying very close attention.

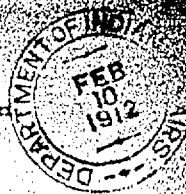


Your obedient servant.,

*R. Logan*  
Indian Agent.,

The Secretary.,  
Department of Indian Affairs.,  
Ottawa. Ont.,

119469-1  
 Indian Boarding School,  
 Portage la Prairie, Man.  
 Feb'y, 6th, 1912.



Department of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa, Ont.,

Dear Sirs,-

404885  
 I beg to report to the Department that during the second week in January we were visited by a epidemic of measles of a very virulent type which was followed pneumonia. There were five cases of pneumonia and on January the 31st a little girl seven years old succumbed to the disease. We engaged a trained nurse and another officer on the staff to take Mrs. Hendry's work so that she could give all her time to the sick children as she is a graduate nurse but our best efforts was not enough to pull them all through.

Dr. Hasshard has been very kind and has visited the school almost daily since the outbreak. The little girl who died, Edith Chaske, had only been in school a month, but her mother was with her the week before her death.

We are still struggling along as best we can as many of the children do not seem to recover their normal condition ~~and we are~~ and we are not yet safe with all our pneumonia cases.

Your obedient servant,

W. A. Hendry  
 Prin.

The Secretary,

Department of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa, Ont.,

119469-1

Ottawa, 14th April, 1918.

Sir:-

I beg to say that the Department has learned from the Rev. Andrew S. Grant, Superintendent of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, of the appointment of Miss R.A. Bolton a graduate nurse, to the Portage La Prairie Boarding School. I may say that the Department will be glad to receive from Miss Bolton at the close of each month a report dealing with her work at the School on behalf of the pupils. She should give information as to the health of the children, and an outline of the treatment afforded. The report need not be exhaustive, but should furnish any information which, it is thought, may be of interest to the Department bearing on her work. Kindly see that the reports are forwarded regularly.

Your obedient servant,

J. D. McLean

Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

The Principal,  
Portage la Prairie Boarding School,  
Portage la Prairie, Man.

Indian Boarding School,

Portage la Prairie, Man.,

July 1st, 1915.

Sirs,-

I beg to herewith enclose the Nurse's report for the month of June which I trust is satisfactory.

481191

I am,

Your obedient servant,

*W. A. Hendry*

Principal.

The Secretary,

Department of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa, Ont.,

481191

June's Report

Postage La Prairie Indian School,  
June 30<sup>th</sup> 1915.

Another case of Tubercula developed during June but recovered speedily; we have had also one case of Influenza, one of Inflammatory Rheumatism one of Stomach Trouble one of Follicular Gonorrhoea and one with a growth on his eye, he will be under the Doctor's care for some time yet; the others are recovered having been treated with Sprays, Liniment, Tonics Anti-toxin & Ointment.

There is always the administering of Lavatives & Tonics, dressing infected fingers and airing & disinfecting Lavatories.

The work would be much more effective and convenient if we had two cupboards, one at each end of the building supplied with a few instruments, so would like to ask the Department if it would be possible for them to supply: Sterile Forceps, Dressing Forceps, Probes, Spatulas, Scalpels, Dressing basins, Pins basins and wash basins that the children may be kept separate.

Rose Anna Bolton.



Quarterly Report of Portage La Prairie Indian School.

Indian School  
Portage La Prairie  
Aug 30th 1915.

Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa.

Dear Sir

I beg to present the following report:

The children of the Portage La Prairie Boarding School are as a whole in good health; on returning from their vacation they were all treated for Radicals and bathed. Three are still under treatment for Tubercular Glands. One child had an infected hand treated with moist dressings for a week but is quite recovered now; there has also been numerous minor treatments for Granulated Eyelids, Tooth ache, Colds etc. The water is very hard too making it necessary to use antiseptics for the prevention of Scrophula.

I am instituting sanitary bags for the older girls, & superintending the cleaning of Bathrooms & Lavatories.

One of the children while playing dart with an accident & had to have three sutures in a wound over her eye, but is playing again as usual. I have also one case of Whooping Cough & am endeavouring by isolation to prevent its spread through the school.

Rose Anna Bolton

PLP-0939

## INDIAN AGENTS' OFFICE

Portage la Prairie, Man.

IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO

No. ....

ALSO

TO DATE OF THIS LETTER

22nd. October 1918

51617



Sir,—

re your telegram of the 19th instant, I beg to say that in suggesting closing of the Indian School here it was only a precautionary measure, there are some 76 pupils in this school and if the influenza broke out it would be impossible to take care of these children with the present help and it would be impossible to get out side help, there are several cases of influenza in the City and is spreading, several doctors are down with it, [REDACTED] our own doctor is down with the disease and seven of the nurses in the Hospital

I consulted the Mayor and Medical Officer of the City and both advised sending the children home for a short time until the danger was over as the children would have a better chance in the open than they would closed up together.

The influenza has not broken out in the school yet but will be only a short time until it does as it is spreading very fast in the City, there were 10 new cases reported last night and Mr. Mendry the Principal is very anxious to be relieved of the responsibility of the serious situation and the parents of the children are very anxious to have the children home.

I



cannot see it is a serious matter to close the school for a short time as the pupils will return when the danger is over, in any case it would be better to close the school for a short time than to have the disease break out and lose a number of children then the Indians would blame the authorities for not allowing their children to come home.

Your obedient servant,

*A. G. G. G.*  
Indian Department.

D. C. Scott, Esq.,

Deputy Superintendent General,

Department of Indian Affairs,

Ottawa.

*by [signature]*  
Extract from letter from W. A. Hendry, Principal  
of the Portage la Prairie Boarding School, dated November  
4, 1918. Original on 427041/27.

When the Department's order came saying that  
we could let the children out until the Flu was over nearly  
all the Reserves were under quarantine and only 21 of the  
small children were let go home on reserves where there  
was no Flu. So far we are free while all the institutions  
in Portage have the disease, the Provincial School for  
boys has 65 cases and the institution had to be managed  
by help from Winnipeg. We put a quarantine on before any  
cases came to Portage and I am the only one who leaves  
the building.

127-17

REV. D. C. MACDONALD, D.D.  
CHAIRMAN

## Board of Home Missions

The United Church of Canada

229 QUEEN ST. WEST  
TORONTO 2, ONTARIOREV. ROBERT B. COCHRANE, D.D.  
SECRETARYREV. COLIN G. YOUNG, D.D.  
ASSOCIATE SECRETARYREV. KENNETH J. BEATON, B.A.  
ASSOCIATE SECRETARYThe Secretary,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Ontario.November 14th, 1935  
1 9 3 4

Dear Sir:

Re: Portage la Prairie Indian Residential  
School.

I am sorry to have to advise you that Rev. W. A. Hendry, who for over thirty years has been engaged in Indian educational work, has been forced to retire suddenly on account

It is the intention of the Executive Committee of our Women's Missionary Society in the near future to nominate a permanent Principal by promoting a man from one of their other Residential Schools to succeed Mr. Hendry in this important position. In the meantime, they wish to submit the name of Rev. W. R. Wood, of Austin, Manitoba, as Acting Principal of the School until June 30th, 1935. Mr. Wood was Principal of the School at Ahousaht at one time, and they are hopeful that he will be able to administer the School at Portage la Prairie to the satisfaction of the Department of Indian Affairs during the interim until the permanent appointee can arrive.

Trusting that this will meet with your approval,

I am

Yours sincerely,

Kenneth J. Beaton

KJB:MLT

J. O. HARRIS,  
Administrative Principal



P.O. Drawer 280  
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE,  
Manitoba

**PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**  
(DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION, INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH)

Under the auspices of  
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

February 2, 1965.

Mr. R. F. Davey,  
Director (Education),  
Department of Citizenship & Immigration,  
Indian Affairs Branch,  
Bourque Building,  
Rideau & King Edwards Streets,  
Ottawa, Canada.

*Walter  
make necessary  
corrections & file site*

Dear Mr. Davey:

We wish to advise as per our discussion in Ottawa relative to the Indian Residential School here at Portage la Prairie that the change of name will go into effect February the 15th, 1965 as approved at the Portage Presbytery Meeting, Monday February the 1st, 1965.

The change of name will be as follows: "Portage Indian Student Residence", "J. O. Harris, Administrator, J. A. Earle, Assistant Administrator."

We hope by this change of name that the function of the residence will be an easier one to identify by Business Houses and by Houses of Learning, such as schools, etc.

We were very pleased with the response that we received from the Portage Presbytery in this area and also the response that has been received by churches and schools in this area. The Advisory Committee has whole-heartedly endorsed this change.

We wish to thank you also for your kind consideration while the writer was in Ottawa and Toronto, and a letter furthering this will be going out to you at our earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Portage Indian Student Residence,  
J. O. Harris, Administrator

Student, November 1958

c.c. All Agencies.

Department of  
Indian Affairs and  
Northern Development



Ministère des  
Affaires indiennes et  
du Nord canadien

559/25-1

Mr. David Orlikow, M.P.,  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

Ottawa 4, November 13, 1969.

our file 559/25-1  
your file 559/25-1

Dear Mr. Orlikow:

I refer to your letter of October 1, 1969 requesting that the Department investigate the increase in the price of food supplied to the Portage Student Residence since the change in administration from the United Church to the Department. You expressed particular concern that higher prices are preventing children from getting sufficient milk.

I have now received a report of the investigation into the food services at the Portage Student Residence. The reference in your letter to the price of \$1.03 per gallon for milk is for whole milk, and .50¢ per gallon was for skim milk. The special price on skim milk is available from the Campbell Soup Company in Portage la Prairie only when cream of mushroom soup is being processed at their plant. The price of skim is now 75¢ per gallon, and normally skim milk is used at the Portage Residence. The eighty resident students are receiving the same total daily milk intake this year as in the previous year. Our records indicate that in September 1968 the residence used twelve gallons each day for eighty students, which provided a daily milk intake of 3.6 cups of milk per student. Similarly, in September 1969 twelve gallons of milk was provided for eighty resident students. In addition, each student is provided with one pint of chocolate milk per week this year.

The Department endeavours to maintain nutritional standards as established by the Medical Services Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare. The standards are outlined in Canada's Food Guide, which recommends a daily milk intake of 3.5 cups for school-age children. Skim milk is acceptable if the vitamin A content of the butterfat lacking in skim milk is provided in other food such as fortified margarine. The nutritionist's report of October 1, 1969, as released by Dr. DeKoven of the Medical Services Branch, indicates that the food services at the Portage Residence meet the requirements of Canada's Food Guide. Through the co-operation of the Medical Services Branch, an inspection of food services is made at least once a year in all student residences operated by this Department.

With regard to the price of eggs, these can be purchased locally for about 45¢ per dozen on a year round basis which is less than the government



...2

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Mr. David Orlikow, M.P.

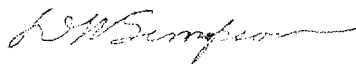
- 2 -

November 13, 1969.

contract price. In view of this we are arranging for the residence administrator to purchase eggs locally.

I hope this letter has clarified the issues you raised concerning food services for Indian students living at the Portage Student Residence.

Yours sincerely,



D.W. Simpson,  
Acting Director,  
Education Branch.

## INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION



## DIRECTION DES AFFAIRES INDIENNES

MINISTÈRE DE LA CITOYENNETÉ ET DE L'IMMIGRATION

Semans Plumbing and Heating,  
F.W. Sawatzky Construction  
Bird Construction  
B.F. Klassen Construction  
Surety Construction Co.  
MacLean Building Reports  
Sanford Evans

OUR FILE NO. 127/6-1-576  
Notre dossier n°.....

344 Edmonton Street,  
Winnipeg 2, Manitoba.

June 9th, 1964.

Dear Sirs:

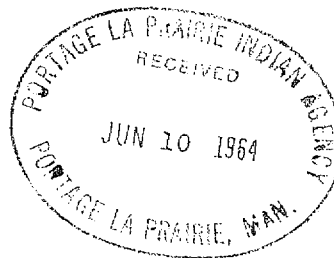
RE: Addition to Auditorium,  
Portage la Prairie Indian Residential School,  
PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, Manitoba.

Please be advised of the following addendum to plans and specifications for the above noted project.

Relocate all heating equipment in present auditorium to facilitate use of doorways to new addition. Radiators will be located on dressing room dividing wall, or as decided by Departmental representative.

The water supply line as noted is to be revised to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " , connected to present supply line in the canteen; take off to be made below floor in service well.

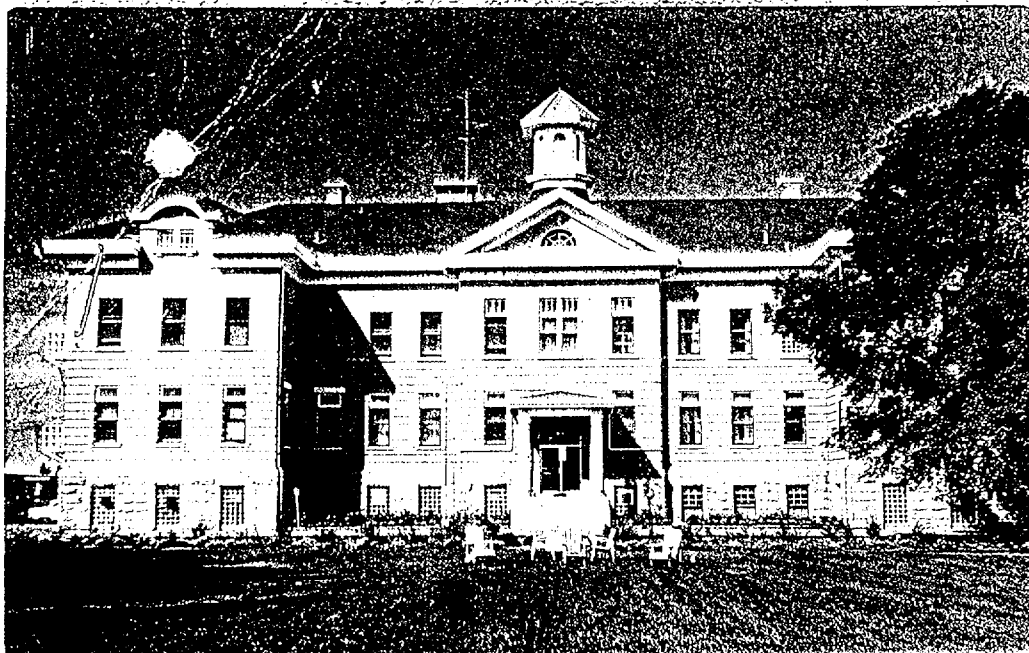
Yours truly,



*[Signature]*  
J.D. Minnis,  
Officer in Charge.

Also to: (1) W.J. Gato, 142 Tupper St. N. Portage  
on June 10/64 (2) W. & H. Belwood, 30-74 St. N. cd., Portage  
(3) J. Arneson, 31 Wilkinson Cres., Portage.

c.c. Mr. D.Nield - copies for your use. ✓



PORTAGE INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL  
Owned by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration (Indian Affairs Branch), under the auspices of the United Church of Canada. J. O. Harris Administrative Principal.

Crescent Rd. West,  
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File 501/25-2-082, Vol. 2  
DIAND, RSRO



127/25-13-583 (K1) A1  
EJR

OTTAWA, February 15, 1962.

J.O. Harris, Esq.,  
Principal,  
Portage La Prairie Indian Residential  
School,  
P.O. Drawer 280,  
Portage La Prairie, Manitoba.

Dear Mr. Harris:

I acknowledge your letter of February 12. I regret that I overlooked advising you of the work to be undertaken at the Portage La Prairie School during the next fiscal year.

We have provided an amount of \$20,000 to undertake interior decoration and renovations. This work is being handled through the Regional Office in Winnipeg and you should contact the Regional Supervisor for more details and you might discuss what you feel are the specific requirements.

With regard to the possibility of a station wagon or a twelve passenger bus, in view of the fact that one bus is already supplied to the Portage La Prairie School, it would not be possible to supply another even though it might be of a smaller size.

It has not been our policy to supply dictaphones or stenorets to residential schools. However, we are prepared to review our policy in this regard and I will write you at a later date in respect to this item.

Yours sincerely,  
ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
P. DEZIEL

R.F. Davey,  
Chief, Education Division.

cc. Regional Supervisor, Manitoba.

24985 FEB 1962