



# CHILDREN'S COMMISSION

September 1, 1999

File #: 199823427

Barbara and Joe Roderques

[REDACTED]  
Penticton, B.C.  
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr. And Ms. Roderiques:

**Re: Jeremy Rodriques**

I am writing to advise you that I will be assuming conduct of your complaint to the Children's Commission against the Ministry for Children and Families (MCF) in regard to MCF's decision not to provide individualized funding for the Lovaas method of therapy for your autistic son Jeremy. Nancy Bell who was previously handling this matter for the commission will be away on an extended education leave and therefore unavailable. Accordingly, all future correspondence and contact with our office should be addressed to me.

I hope to provide you shortly with a report that outlines the issues in your complaint, relevant background and factual information, what efforts have or are being made to resolve the issues and the views and perspectives of each of the participants to this complaint. This report will be shared with you and the other participants for comment and then provided to the Children's Commissioner. The Commissioner will consider the report and then make a decision whether to refer the matter to the Complaint Review Tribunal Division for review, or to dismiss the complaint and close the file.

For your information, Section 18 of the *Children's Commission Regulation*, states that the Children's Commission may dismiss a complaint, if the Children's Commission determines that any of the following apply:

- (a) the complaint should have been refused under section 11 of the Act;
- (b) the complaint has been withdrawn or abandoned by the complainant;
- (c) if the complainant is not the child, the child requests that the complaint be withdrawn;

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- (d) the law or existing administrative procedure provides or has already provided a remedy adequate in the circumstances of the complaint or the substantive issues relating to the complaint are already before a court;
- (e) no apparent benefit or reasonable prospect of benefit to the child will be obtained by proceeding with the review.

I expect to be in contact with you further as I finalize the report, however, if you have any questions or concerns or further information that you wish to provide, please contact me at our toll free number 1-800-859-1441 or in writing to PO Box 9207 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria BC V8W 9J1.

Sincerely,



Lauri Balson,  
Complaint Resolution Officer  
Children's Commission

cc. Rick Childerhouse, Regional Executive Director, MCF  
Office of the Child, Youth and Family Advocate