



MINISTRY FOR CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES

Regional Office

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October 14, 1998

Mr. and Mrs. Rodrigues
1876 Fairford Drive
Penticton, British Columbia
V2A 6C8

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Rodrigues:

I am writing in response to your faxes and letters sent to me over the past month concerning your request for Lovaas treatment for your son Jeremy.

As you are aware from the meetings with Lynn Middleton and Darcy Nord, the Ministry for Children and Families and the Ministry of Education are presently reviewing all issues concerning Autism services. One of the issues is regarding individualized funding for families to pay for any treatment options for children and youth with autism such as Lovaas. An Action Plan regarding consistent direction for children and youth with Autism is due this fall.

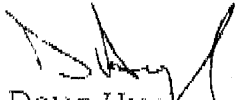
Any recommendations for changes to individualized funding will be coordinated with overall Ministry policies at that time. In the meantime, regional staff have been directed to follow current policy; which does not allow for individualized funding to pay for Lovaas treatment. Staff have also been directed to use a collaborative case management approach to support families explore alternate community and regional supports to meet their needs.

The Ministry does provide a range of supports for families and children/youth with special needs including children with autism, and will continue to do this based on each child/family situation, their support needs and available resources. I understand you are eligible for the At Home Program and Darcy Nord is waiting to hear from you to sign the contract.

Thank you for taking the time to advise me of your situation. I am also enclosing a pamphlet outlining the Ministry's Complaint Process. As I am

the last step in the Regional Complaint process, I am copying the Children's Commission on this letter.

Yours truly,



Doug Hughes, MSW
Community Accountability Manager

cc: Lynn Middleton, Team Leader
Darcy Nord, Social Worker
Janet Donald, Children's Commission
Diane Johnson, ADM
Loreen Pratt, ROM
Rick Childerhose, ROO

DH/ikb

Enclosure