

DR. M.I. deLEVIE INC.

MELVIN de LEVIE, M.D., C.R.C.P.(C)

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October 15, 1998

Mr. & Mrs. Rodrigues
[REDACTED]
Penticton, B.C.
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr & Mrs. Rodrigues:

RE: Jeremy Rodrigues
DOB: [REDACTED], 1994

Thank you for faxing an update on Jeremy's progress. I am very pleased that Jeremy is making breakthroughs in his language and social development. As you pointed out, he is still significantly behind, but it is very encouraging to see how far he has come. Since he is already 4 1/2 years of age, it is essential that you keep up this intense program if he is to be successfully integrated into kindergarten and elementary school.

There are several behaviour programs administered in the United States. None have been more studied than the Lovaas method and none have been as effective.

Unfortunately, there is no therapist trained in the Lovaas method or any other comparable therapy in British Columbia. Behaviour therapy for an autistic child is a very complex, sophisticated science which requires years of study and practice.

The British Columbia Health and Welfare departments must come to grips with autism therapy. Therapy is intense and expensive. There are no short-cuts. Therapy by Gateway, Laurel House or CBI may be well-meaning but is inadequate. Behaviour therapy for autism cannot be performed by psychologists, doctors etc. if they are not sufficiently trained.

Hopefully, soon there will be a program training therapists in British Columbia, however, until that time arises, the consultants are coming from the United States.

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RE: Jeremy Rodrigues

Autism is a developmental, neurological disease of the central nervous system. It should be funded like other medical diseases.

You have my permission to share my letter with the Ministry's representatives.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mel deLevie".

Melvin I. deLevie, M.D., C.R.C.P.(C)

MDL/lis