

SENT VIA FAX AND DOUBLE REGISTERED MAIL

Monday, July 6, 1998

Mr. Doug Hughes, Community Living Services Manager
#400-1726 Dolphin Avenue
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 9R9

Dear Mr. Hughes:

My social worker, Darcy Nord, indicated to me that she would ask her team leader, Lynn Middleton about our request for full reimbursement for “medically necessary” autism treatment for our son and our request that partial reimbursement of Ministerial Agreement #7930208 not be impeded by the Government. Since we have not heard back from her, we are considering our request for full reimbursement to have been denied by them and the Government to have reneged on our **six-month** Ministerial Agreement. Their decision to deny our son this treatment is deemed to have been made with full knowledge of the harm done to his health, well being and future independence.

We are again enclosing our original letter which clearly states our position, outlines our program/therapy budget and lists what it is that we require for the well being and future for our son.

Please consider this letter our formal request for the **full benefits** available to our child from any and all programs that you have available.

I am also enclosing our recent FEAT of BC newsletter for you, which chronicles the fact that the knowledge of this treatment program was intentionally kept from my husband and me. The article adequately describes my feelings concerning this, one of many abuses, done to my child by those involved with your Ministry.

Currently the Ministry of Health has delegated the **treatment of autism** to the Ministry of Children and Families. Until this can be corrected, we look forward to full reimbursement for our child’s treatment program from you.

Please confirm in writing that full reimbursement by MCF and that the Ministerial Agreement #7930208 will be honoured to maintain the current level of partial reimbursement of treatment cost.

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In the absence of written confirmation by July 13, 1998, we will deem the Ministry at this level to have reneged on Ministerial Agreement #7930208 made on behalf of our disabled son and our request for full reimbursement to have been denied. We will also deem your decision to have been made with full knowledge of the harm done to the health, well being and future independence of our son.

Thank you in advance for your immediate attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Barbara Rodrigues
Joe Rodrigues

cc: Mr. Rick Thorpe, Member of the British Columbia Legislative Assembly
Dr. Sabrina Freeman, Director of F.E.A.T. of BC
Mr. Mark McDonald, Ombudsman of B.C.
The Children's Commission
Child, Youth and Family Advocate