

December 20, 1992

Re: Social Assistance Shelter Policy

Dear

In order to ensure that all Social Assistance clients, receive consistent and equitable service, social assistance "shelter" expenses will be re-assessed effective February 1993 Social Assistance cheque issue. Shelter expenses will be assessed in accordance with;

1. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Social Development Policy

4.3 Allowable Shelter Costs

(a) "Rent".... It may, however be issued to eligible Social Assistance recipients....if, (iii) – the amount of the rent is reasonable in terms of family needs, size, and condition of housing and prevailing rental practices in the community."

2. Okanagan Indian Band Definition Council Minutes July 12, 1992

"Prevailing rental practices in the community"

For the purpose of assessing eligibility for social assistance shelter expenses, "prevailing rental practices in the community" will be defined by;

- a. The annual Okanagan Indian Band C.M.H.C Lower end of Market Rents Schedule. This Schedule will be recognized for the purpose of establishing the maximum rental rates for the Okanagan Indian Band accommodation.
- b. The National Housing Association Occupancy Standards. These standards are defined in regards to the maximum number of residents who share accommodation within one household.

Social Assistance clients who presently receive rent/shelter expenses are required to have their individual file reviewed. Therefore, you are requested to contact Mr. Ernst Klassen, (interim) Social Development Worker before January 20, 1993 for purposes of an annual file review. One half hour appointment in office interviews will be scheduled after January 4, 1993.

Yours Sincerely,

Ms. Christine Alexis, B.S.W., R.S.W.  
Social Development Manager

cc. R. Rieder, Executive Director