

Exhibit P-109

Director,

el

~~780-2~~ Pa

300/5/9

Regional Superintendent, Eastern Region

3 November, 1955

Mentally Ill Eskimos

PROPOSITION:

To gather together mentally ill Eskimo patients who are at present distributed among six different hospitals.

INFORMATION:

We have 13 mentally ill Eskimos in hospital at present, and Doctor Gelpke aboard the "McLean" has one more mental patient arriving at Churchill this week. These patients are distributed as follows:-

Provincial Mental Institute, Edmonton	5 patients
Hospital for Mental Diseases, Brandon	3 patients
Hospital for Mental Diseases, Selkirk	1 patient
Verdun Protestant Hospital, Verdun	1 patient
Nova Scotia Hospital, Dartmouth	2 patients
Mountain Sanatorium Hamilton	1 patient (mentally defective child)

If these patients were centralized to perhaps one hospital in the East and two in the West it would be beneficial not only for the treatment of their mental disease (isolation among Whites surely is not desirable), also would facilitate administration and progress reports to the North.

RECOMMENDATION:

In the West the Provincial Mental Institute at Edmonton should probably be allowed to carry on, while we should choose between Brandon and Selkirk in the Central Region. In the East I must ask you to suggest a mental hospital as I have been in touch with both the Verdun Protestant Hospital and the Nova Scotia Hospital at Dartmouth and neither of them wish to look after Eskimo patients. Probably the mentally defective child at the Mountain Sanatorium could be admitted to the School in Smiths Falls as isolation of this particular girl who had a partial lobectomy in Montreal last year would not be disadvantageous.

DISTRIBUTION: Head Office - 2

Eastern Region-1

John S. Willis, M.D., D.P.H.

H22-
I agree that centralization of these patients is highly desirable. However, it is very difficult to obtain beds for them in any institution. Verdun will take them if they come from Quebec (Quebec, Canada).

PSM
me