

Indian Affairs  
School Files

(RG 10, Volume 6195)

File 463-5, part 5

Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential  
School - Building Maintenance (Including Plan),  
Supplies, General Administration. 1938 - 1941

File 463-5, part 6

Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential  
School - Building Maintenance, Accounts, Supplies  
and General Administration. 1941 - 1947

File 463-5, part 7

Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential School -  
Building Maintenance, Accounts, Supplies and  
Related Correspondence. 1946 - 1947

File 463-5, part 8

Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential  
School - Building Maintenance, Accounts, Supplies  
and Related Correspondence. 1948

File 463-9, part 1

Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential  
School - School Land - Accounts, Related Correspondence  
(Including Plans Reserve). 1895 - 1938

File 463-14, part 1

Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential  
School - Livestock. 1925 - 1942

File 463-17, part 1

Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential  
School - Cadet Corps & Band. 1930 - 1946

File 463-23, part 1

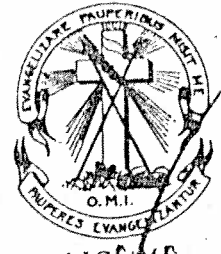
Fort Frances Agency - Fort Frances Residential  
School - Death of Pupils. 1942 - 1953

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

Missions Indiennes des Pères Oblats

127-1-2  
Oblate Catholic Indian Missions

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VICE-PRÉS.: R. P. G. MARCHAND, O.M.I.  
PROVINCIAL, MONTREAL  
SECRÉTAIRE-TRÉSORIER  
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SURINTENDANT GÉNÉRAL  
R. P. J.-O. PLOURDE, O.M.I.  
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT  
619, McDERMOT AVENUE, WINNIPEG, MAN.  
ET-AND  
UNIVERSITÉ-OTTAWA-UNIVERSITY  
ONT.



L.J.C. (S.M.)  
BUREAU DU SURINTENDANT GÉNÉRAL  
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

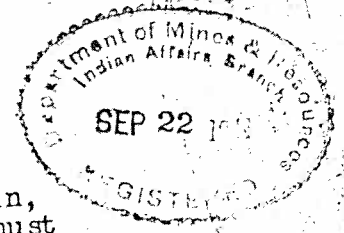
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PROVINCIAL, MANITOBA  
R. P. H. ROUTHIER, O.M.I.  
PROVINCIAL, ALBERTA-SASKATCHEWAN

*[Handwritten signature]*

WINNIPEG, September 19, 19 41  
MANITOBA

The Secretary  
Indians Affairs Branch  
Ottawa

Dear Sir: Attention Mr. Philip Phelan



I am informed by Rev. Father Chatelain, O.M.I., of Fort Frances, that the school roof must be reshingled as it is leaking quite badly. The cost of the material, as per the tender of the North-American Lumber and Supply Co., of Fort Frances, is \$818.25. The Principal offers to supply the labour free of charge.

Father Chatelain is of the opinion that this work should be done immediately so as to avoid serious damages to the plaster in the dormitories during the Winter, but principally next Spring. If the materials were supplied without any delay, the job could be done this Fall as there will be probably no serious cold weather before the middle of November.

Your sympathetic consideration of Father's request is hoped for.

Yours very truly,  
*[Handwritten signature]*

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317.41  
195160

124-1-5-



OFFICE OF THE  
INDIAN AGENT



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

PLEASE QUOTE  
FILE \_\_\_\_\_

Fort Frances, Ont., Oct. 24th. 1941.

Dear Sir:-

Re: Sewage Disposal Residential School.

Enclosed please find account received from John East re work performed on Sewage Diversion at the Fort Frances Indian Residential School.

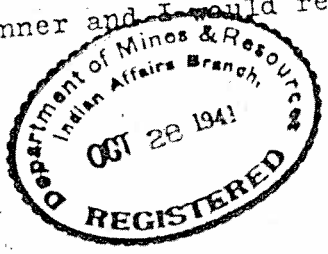
I beg to offer the following explanation regarding several small items of expenditure.

When laying the field tile it was necessary to wrap each connection with tar paper to prevent sand and dirt from getting into the pipes, hence the charge of \$11.70 for this material.

When the plumber installed the soil pipe diverting the laundry water from septic tank to sewer pipe, the concrete floor had to be replaced in the laundry and the items of \$2.00, and \$3.00 cover material used for this purpose. The work was done by Indian labour.

The laying of sewer pipe was also done by Indian labour and we found that it would be necessary to have a boxing made of wood at the outlet to the lake, otherwise the pipe if left exposed would freeze and break. The items of \$6.32 - .30¢ and .12¢ were for material used for this purpose. Also, the item of \$14.40 covers oakum required to pack joints in sewer pipe.

Mr. East's work was performed in a satisfactory manner and I would recommend that his account be paid.



Yours very truly,

*J.F. Lockhart*  
J.F. Lockhart,  
Indian Agent.

The Secretary,  
Indian Affairs Branch,  
Dept. of Mines & Resources.

school files.

Ottawa,  
May 15, 1942.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 11th instant, with reference to reshingling the roof of the Fort Frances Residential School. In the current year's appropriation we included an amount of \$800.00 for this purpose. Please forward a requisition for the materials that will be required. At the same time you should state if the school management is willing to assist in the cost of labour by providing some member of the staff to help do the necessary work. You should also state what other tradesmen are required and the approximate cost of their services.

Yours truly,

R.A. Hoey,  
Supt. of Welfare & Training.

Mr. J.F. Lockhart,  
Indian Agent,  
Fort Frances, Ont.

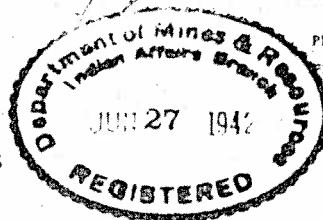
Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
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OFFICE OF THE  
INDIAN AGENT



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH



Fort Frances, Ont. June 23rd. 1942.

Dear Sir:-

Re file No. 124-1-5.

Enclosed please find list of material required to re-shingle the Fort Frances Indian Residential School in the opinion of the North American Lumber & Supply Co. Ltd. Their Manager informs me that they could not supply all No. 1 B.C. Shingles at the present time. He also stated that he would hesitate to estimate on the labour as they were unable to secure competent carpenters.

Also enclosed please find a quotation from the John East Firm to furnish labour and material for a specific amount.

As the whole job will require a lot of scaffolding it is very difficult to estimate accurately the total cost.

With the acute shortage of tradesmen it might be advisable to consider John East's quotation for a complete job.

The eave trough needs replacing and it would be a good opportunity to have this done when the scaffolding is up. I have asked for a quotation of this work and will forward same as soon as received.

Yours very truly,

J.F. Lockhart,  
Indian Agent.

The Secretary,  
Indian Affairs Branch,  
Dept. of Mines & Resources,  
Ottawa.

Encl.

+ 1358  
J.F. Lockhart

532 Dominion Public Bldg.,  
WINNIPEG, November 23, 1942.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 17th with reference to the roofing material for the repair work to be carried out at the Indian Residential School at Fort Frances, Ontario.

As requested in your letter, we inquired of Building Products Limited whether the standard thick butt twin shingles could be made available. After some delay we were informed that they now have available a sufficient quantity of such shingles to meet your order but not of one color. They would have to supply equal quantities of two colors, presumably red and green. They could not say how long the supply would be available or advise as to the prospects of any supply being available after these have been disposed of.

I do not believe the above mentioned shingles could be satisfactorily placed under the weather conditions that now prevail, for they become quite brittle with low temperatures. Furthermore, I believe you will find it difficult to carry out the roofing job on the school with any material during the winter months.

It is possible that some shingles will be available for shipment to dealers before March 31st next but orders for the same must be placed early. I telephoned Mr. Carter and suggested he write his people at the Coast as to the possibility of there being some shingles available by spring. He agreed to do so and I would suggest that you place your order for shingles with Mr. Carter as soon as possible if it is decided not to utilize a substitute material for roofing.

It is possible that you have the men available to carry out the roofing job under winter conditions but I understand the labor situation in your town is such that younger men are not available and accordingly this job with older men only available might be difficult. Should the Ottawa officials desire the work to proceed with composition shingles and you are agreeable to proceeding during the winter, I believe the material will be available. Personally, I would suggest that the work might advantageously be postponed until spring; every effort being made in the meantime to procure B. C. Cedar Shingles. If these are not available by March 1st, they will not be obtainable after that date and I think Building Products Limited could then arrange to supply their product. I do not know whether the Ottawa officials would approve of the use of such material for I believe Cedar Shingles are much to be preferred.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) D. B. Gow

District Chief Engineer.

The John East Estate,  
FORT FRANCES, Ontario.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
Vol. 10. Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

COPY/SF

JOHN EAST  
General Contractor and Builder  
Heating and Sanitary Engineer

FORT FRANCES, Ontario  
November 17th, 1942.

Mr. D. B. Gow  
District Chief Engineer  
Dept. Mines and Resources  
Winnipeg, Man.

Your File No. 28960-M

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of letter from Mr. T. S. Mills, Chief Engineer, requesting price using asbestos slate shingles, if procurable. We have not yet inquired from Johns-Manville whether we could procure them, since in our opinion and experience with these shingles they could not be applied satisfactorily on this particular roof on account of the curve on the lower portion. A year or so ago we did the Court House roof here which has no curve such as the one in question, but found that any slight irregularity in the roof would cause the shingle to break, therefore we would not attempt to apply these shingles on this curved roof.

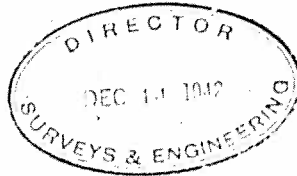
The only substitute for B. C. Cedar shingles would be that standard thick butt twin shingle manufactured by Building Products, Ltd., providing it is possible to procure them. We have not inquired into this yet since we do not know if the Dept would approve, and thought it best to take the matter up with you before replying to Mr. Mills letter. If you believe our suggestion satisfactory would you be kind enough to phone Building Products Ltd., inquiring if these would be obtainable, we would require about 95 sq.

Yours very truly,

John East Estate.

radion Affairs. School Files.

SF



IA1380-3

December 12th, 1942

Memorandum:

Re: Roofing Repairs, Indian Residential School,  
Fort Frances, Ontario

With reference to your notation dated the 13th ultimo on Dr. McGill's memorandum to you of November 12th, 1942, in connection with substituting asbestos slate shingles for cedar shingles on the roof at the above, I may say that this Service communicated with the John East Estate under date of November 14th last, with a view to determining what effect the substitution would have on the Contractor's accepted tender price of \$1481.25 for the work.

In this connection we are now in receipt of correspondence on the matter, copies of which are attached for your information as follows:

- (a) Letter dated November 17th, 1942, from the John East Estate to Mr. D. B. Gow.
- (b) Letter dated November 23rd, 1942, from Mr. Gow to the John East Estate.
- (c) Letter dated November 24th, 1942, from the John East Estate to this Service.

It will be observed that the Contractors are not prepared to use asbestos slate shingles, owing to the difficulty in laying them over the curved surface of the bell cast above the cornice, and state that they consider asphalt thick butt twin shingles, the best substitute for the cedar shingles covered by their contract. Accordingly, they have not quoted on asbestos shingles as requested.

It will be noted that Mr. Gow co-operated with the Contractors in an endeavour to locate asphalt shingles as substitute material, but the available quantity could only be obtained by accepting mixed colours, which would not be satisfactory, and there was no assurance that sufficient stock for our purpose could be obtained at any time. This confirms information furnished by various supply houses to our Architect, of which you were advised in our memorandum dated September 29th, 1942.

Further, the statement by Mr. Gow, with which the Contractors agree, that laying of asphalt shingles in frosty weather may result in damage, is concurred in by this Service.

It appears that at Mr. Gow's suggestion, the Contractors have placed their order for B. C. Cedar Shingles with which to carry out the work, and that they will be advised by the mill regarding the date of delivery.

These arrangements are in accordance with our advice to the Contractor dated October 9th, 1942, a copy of which was attached to our memorandum to you of October 23rd, 1942, and which we consider should be allowed to stand.

J. M. Wardle, Esq.,  
Director,  
Surveys and Engineering Branch,  
Department of Mines and Resources,  
O t t a w a.

*J. M. Wardle*  
Chief Engineer.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(AS 10, Volume 6195, File 53-5, part 6)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES



Ottawa,  
February 16, 1948.

Memorandum:

DIRECTOR

Surveys & Engineering Branch

Re: Fort Frances Indian Residential  
School, Fort Frances, Ontario.

I desire to refer to my memorandum of July 2, 1948, and subsequent communications between your Branch and ours with reference to a new roof for the above building.

I am today in receipt of the following telegram:

FATHER CHATELAIN PRINCIPAL FORT FRANCOIS RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL ADVISES THAT ROOF OF SCHOOL IS IN EXTREMELY BAD CONDITION - stop - WATER SEEPING THROUGH CEILINGS AND WALLS CAUSING SERIOUS DAMAGE - stop - FATHER CHATELAIN AGREES TO SUPPLY MATERIALS AND LABOUR FOR THIS URGENT JOB ON CONDITION DEPARTMENT PAY SUM OF FOUR HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE DOLLARS

*Handwritten initials and signature*

A review of previous correspondence between your Branch and ours indicates that the reason for the delay in completing the roofing of this school was due to the inability to secure the necessary materials. It now appears, from the telegram just quoted, that the Principal is able to secure this material. You will note the damage that is being done to the school owing to the condition of the roof and it would, therefore, be appreciated if you would communicate immediately with Mr. Gow and arrange to have the necessary work done at the earliest possible date.

Director.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
File 463-5, part 6)  
(RG 10, Volume 6195)

124-1-5

OFFICE OF THE  
DIRECTOR



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES

SURVEYS AND  
ENGINEERING BRANCH

February 26th, 1943.

Dr. McGill

Re: Indian Residential School,  
Fort Frances, Ontario.



With reference to your memorandum of February 16th, relative to the above and confirming telephone conversation with Mr. Phelan this morning, I may say that the proposal of the principal of the school has been referred to our Engineering and Construction Service for report.

Mr. Mills points out that he has been advised that there has been an extremely severe winter at Fort Frances with very heavy snow fall and that it would not be unreasonable therefore to assume that the reported serious leakages are the result of thermal action from the interior of the building on accumulated snow and ice on the roof, causing water to back up or at the side walls of the dormers. This action will occur even on a new roof and points at which moisture is evident in the habitable parts of the building are not necessarily an indication of where water is coming in. There is thus no assurance that spot repairs which apparently Father Chatelein has in mind would be effective.

We would recommend the removal of snow and ice deposits from all roof surfaces, this would probably eliminate the trouble and should be carried out immediately on authority of the Indian Agent before any expenditure on spot repairs is incurred.

The John East Estate which has the contract for the repairs to the roof has advised that they have reason to

(over)

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
Vol. 10. Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

believe their order for shingles will be shipped from the Coast early in March and that we can rest assured the work will be commenced just as soon as the weather permits. It is improbable, however, that the work can be completed by March 31st. We would suggest, therefore, that half of the \$1600. allotted to this project be released to your Branch for other purposes and the remaining \$800. be retained for use as a progress payment to the contractors when material is delivered. Kindly advise if this suggestion regarding funds is agreeable to you.

We would also recommend that no action regarding the principal's proposal be taken for the present and that your Branch make no independent arrangements with Father Chatelain.

*J. M. Hardle,*

Director.

Indian Residential School,  
Fort Frances, Ont.

April 30, 1943



Dear Sir:-

As you are aware, the John East Co. is re-roofing the school. I think it will be a good idea, as the scaffoldings are on, to paint the outside windows and mouldings of the fourth story. As a matter of fact, the whole building should be painted, as suggested by the inspector from Winnipeg.

If the Department is willing, to allow me \$200.00, I am ready to do this work as I have at present a painter.

I would appreciate if you would take this matter up with the Department immediately.

Yours very truly,

*P. Chatelain, O.M.I.*  
P. Chatelain, O.M.I.  
Principal.

Mr. J.F. Lockhart,  
Fort Frances, Ont.

*Suggest right letter by air mail.*

Ottawa,  
June 28, 1943.



EX-111  
A

Memorandum:

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TREASURY

76  
809.25

Please transfer to the Surveys & Engineering Branch an amount of \$309.25 to complete the repairs to the roof at the Fort Frances Indian Residential School.

This work was commenced last year but could not be completed as the firm awarded the contract by the Surveys & Engineering Branch was unable to secure the shingles until the latter part of March, 1943. Last year we transferred \$1600.00 to the Surveys & Engineering Branch for repairing this roof, but, as intimated above, the firm with whom the Surveys & Engineering Branch placed the business was only able to secure the shingles in March and at that time payment amounting to \$798.75 was made for the shingles and an amount of \$801.25 was refunded to this Branch.

120  
R.H.

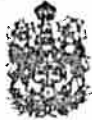
The Surveys & Engineering Branch now advise that the work has been completed and Mr. Gow has personally examined it and is satisfied that the work has been carried out satisfactorily. The amount mentioned in the first paragraph of this letter is required to complete the contract.

*Howell*  
Director.

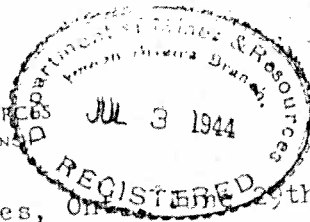
Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

OFFICE OF THE  
INDIAN AGENT

*Schools*



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH



PLEASE QUOTE  
FILE

124-1-5

Fort Frances, Ont. 29th. 1944.

Indian Affairs Branch, Dept. of Mines & Resources, Ottawa.

Re: Water Main to Residential School.

In 1922 the Department of Indians Affairs sold a portion of Agency Reserve No.1 by public auction and summer homes were erected on same. These property owners are very anxious to have the Town of Fort Frances extend their water main to service these homes and the Town has consented to undertake this work providing the Indian Residential School together with the property owners agree to pay a portion of the cost of construction.

The Town is prepared to take the water to the end of the leased portion that was obtained for park purpose, and the other parties would be required to pay the cost from there to the school. The distance from where the Town would stop to the school would be 3650 feet. At a cost of \$2.50 per foot, which covers the laying of a 6" main together with hydrants etc., would be a total of \$9124.00.

The property owners are prepared to pay \$3000.00 towards this work, considering that they only use their summer homes for about three months of the year, they figure that \$3000.00 would be a fair percentage to pay.

I have been requested to bring this matter to the Department's attention and see if they would consider paying the balance, or approximately \$6000.00 to have a good water supply at the school.

The present water supply at the School is obtained direct from the Lake, through a pipe extending some 1800 feet out from the shore. This intake was installed in 1905 and has not been very satisfactory the last few years, as fish get up in the line and have to be removed. It is not a dependable source of supply in case of fire.

I would appreciate an early reply so that I may acquaint the Town and property owners the Department's views in this connection.

*J. J. Vallart*  
Indian Agent.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RC 10. Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

OFFICE OF THE  
INDIAN AGENT



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

PLEASE QUOTE  
FILE.....

124-1-5  
AUG 29 1944

Fort Frances, Ont., August 23rd. 1944.

Indian Affairs Branch, Dept. of Mines & Resources, Ottawa.

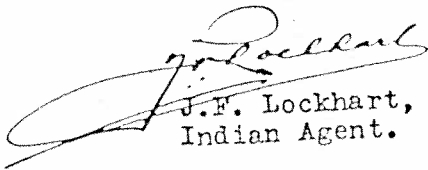
I have just returned from visiting the Fort Frances Indian Residential School. The School Management was busy repairing the flooring in Classroom No.1, which had become heaved and warped.

The desks in this room are very old and broken. They were supplied in 1906 and the Principal informs me that they have been trying to have them replaced for the past 11 years. Since they are repairing the floor and have all the old desks out, would it be at all possible to have new ones put in at this time. If funds are available I would recommend that purchase be made now.

They also require two new charts which are yellow with age and worn out. A new Beacon Phonetic Chart to be used in preparation for work of the New Beacon Primer 1. Also a New Beacon Reading Chart to be used for the work of the New Beacon Primer. These charts are by James H. Fassett and are published by Ginn & Co. London, New York Etc. These charts are yellow with age and torn and should be replaced.

A list of seats required is attached herewith, together with page 6, from Moyer's catalogue No. 58-7, 1942-43.

Please advise the Department's decision in this connection and oblige.

  
J.F. Lockhart,  
Indian Agent.

Encl.

INSPECTOR OF INDIAN AGENCIES

174-1-5  
CANADA  
DEPT. OF MINES NOV 24 1944

INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

212-11 A.R.C.

MINES AND RESOURCES

538 Dominion Public Bldg.,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba,  
November 24th, 1944.

Indian Affairs Branch,  
Department of Mines and Resources,  
OTTAWA, Ontario.

Re: Proposed New Water Line from  
Fort Frances to the Indian School  
Your letter dated July 7th, 1944,  
File 124-15.

During my recent inspection of the Fort Frances Agency I discussed this matter with Mr. Lockhart, Mr. Frank Stewart, (Sec.-Treas. of the Township of McIrvine), Walter Gagnon, John McVey and the principal of the school.

I attach a sketch which will help to make the situation clearer. From the nearest connection to the corner of the land owned by the summer campers is approximately 1500 feet. Fort Frances will bring the water line to that point and the town citizens will be assessed for the cost. The campers are also citizens of Fort Frances so will share in this expense. Then the distance along the camp grounds is as shown on the map - approximately 2650 feet. From that to the school is 1000 feet, or a total of 3650 feet. The proposed cost is at the rate of \$2.50 per foot, or \$9,124.00. The property owners, some of which do not even have a house on their lot, are prepared to pay \$3,000.00 in addition to their assessment on the 1500 feet assessed by the town. This will leave approximately \$6100.00 as our share.

These camp "property owners" can lay a surface pipe line which will meet their needs for a much smaller investment; but are prepared to spend more for a permanent piece of work.

If we were to look ahead over a period of ten years this proposal might pay dividends. At present we have a pipe line into the lake about 1800 feet long. The water is pumped into two large pressure tanks, both of which may be twenty years old. The pipe line has given some trouble, also the pump, and if we were forced to renew the present system the expense would perhaps reach four or five thousand dollars.  
.....

*Write  
to  
Mr. Stewart  
A.R.C.  
Re: mine  
File 124-15*

Indian Affairs. School Files.



1945  
When the school was built we had no outside fire protection  
and the water main and equipment is inside where the fire is  
most likely to occur. Again the children and their care  
should be protected. I don't know if the Public Health  
Authority will allow time to continue much longer, when  
there is no outside fire protection.

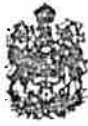
Now, again, this we would pay about \$2000.00 and  
receive a water main, the property of North Bedford and so  
their responsibility and upkeep. We would have a fire main  
main and a hydrant outside the school. This would greatly  
improve our fire protection. We would also have properly  
enclosed water - a safeguard to the health of all. The  
upkeep would be minimized and we would be obliged to pay for  
the water and this brought some objection from the Principal.

The Council promised to submit a price on the water  
but this has not yet arrived. I will forward the same as soon  
as received. I might just add that unless the same conditions  
are agreed to carry on in 1945 it is doubtful if the above  
proposals will receive consideration.

*A. C. Hamilton*

A. C. Hamilton,  
Inspector of Buildings and  
for Mansfield.

OFFICE OF THE  
INDIAN AGENT



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

124 - 1 - 1

PLEASE QUOTE  
FILE

DEC 11 1944

Fort Frances, Ont., Dec. 6th. 1944.

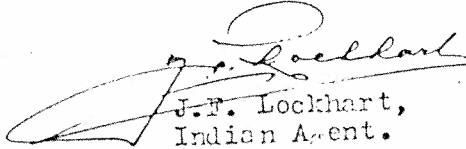
Indian Affairs Branch, Dept. of Mines & Resources, Ottawa.

Father Chateelain, Principal of the Fort Frances Indian Residential School has had difficulty in securing suitable fuel wood the last few years. It has been necessary for him to haul wood a distance of 12 miles, after paying the Indians \$3.00 per cord for cutting. As the Indians can make much more money in bush camps and cutting pulpwood, they are unwilling to cut fuel wood.

The Principal has decided to burn coal this winter and has obtained a price on changing the grates from wood to coal grates, the cost would be \$250.00. He also obtained a quotation on the installation of a stoker which amounts to \$700.00. However, if a stoker was supplied it would not be necessary to put in new grates.

The Principal has requested that I place this matter before the Department with the recommendation that a stoker be supplied.

I do not hesitate in recommending the purchase of a stoker if funds permit.

  
J.F. Lockhart,  
Indian Agent.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(AG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

124-1-5

Ottawa, July 21, 1945.

Dear Father Chatelain:

Reverend Father Plourde has again brought to my attention the water situation at the Fort Frances Residential School. I suppose you are aware of the previous suggestion, which would involve an expenditure of over \$8,000.00, and no funds to this amount are available in the current year's appropriation.

However, we are requesting the Surveys and Engineering Branch to have one of their engineers visit Fort Frances as soon as possible, in order to review the situation and submit a report to us for further consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Phelan,  
Chief, Training Division.

Reverend P. Chatelain, O.M.I.,  
Principal,  
Indian Residential School,  
Fort Frances, Ont.

COPY SENT TO FATHER PLOURDE

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

DEB/GO

532 Dominion Public Bldg.,  
WINNIPEG, September 10, 1945.

Re: - Indian Residential School Water Supply,  
Fort Frances, Ontario.

The writer visited the above mentioned school on August 30th and made inquiries of the Principal and the engineer as regards the water supply. The water supply situation was also discussed with Mr. Lockhart, Indian Agent at Fort Frances.

The present intake consists of a 2" Cast Iron Pipe extending out into Rainy Lake, probably 1500 to 1800 feet. This pipe was laid many years ago before Rainy Lake was raised to its present level and there is nothing to indicate the location of the pipe line. The pump, driven by a 1 H.P. motor, feeds into two pressure tanks and when the school is in operation the pump must be in operation almost continuously throughout the day time. Because of the small sized intake and small capacity of pump, there is very little fire protection afforded the school.

The Principal of the School advised that last spring there were complaints to him from the laundry of dirt and sand in the water, that there was a large deposit of sand in the pressure tanks necessitating frequent cleaning and that the sand scoured the pump cylinders necessitating frequent overhauling. There was also some complaint as to water insects from the taps and also the matter some time previous of the presence of fish somewhere in the water system. The engineer at the school advised that he cleaned the tanks about every second year and there was usually less than 2" of sand and dirt removed from the bottom of the tanks. There appeared to be no complaint as to the quality of water at the time of my visit.

It is quite possible and very probable, that the pipe line is broken at one or more points between the pump and the original intake and that the water supply is being pumped without benefit of any screening. If such breaks exist, it is considered quite possible and advisable to locate the same by emptying one of the pressure tanks and by operation of the air compressor force air into the intake pipe and out through any breaks that may occur. At the time of my visit the men were busy haying but Mr. Lockhart agreed to have the compressed air test made as soon as possible and to advise this office as to the results. If such tests show breaks have not occurred within 1,000 feet of the present shore line, then it should be possible to locate the break and with the aid of a diver affix a new screen and elevate the end of the pipe so as to eliminate the pumping of sand, dirt and insects. This expedient, if successfully carried out, will enable the school to carry on with the same water supply system as at present in use.

T. S. Mills, Esq.,  
Chief Engineer,  
Engineering and Construction Service,  
Department of Mines and Resources,  
Ottawa, Canada.

The proposed new water line from Fort Frances, as outlined in Mr. Hamilton's letter of November 24th last, is worthy of consideration. As pointed out above, the present water supply affords little in the way of fire protection. The sewage disposal system at the school undoubtedly passes the effluent from the septic tank directly into the lake at or about the location of the water intake pipe. While the water intake originally was extended to good water, the situation now may be serious if breaks have occurred within a few hundred feet of the shore line. It is altogether probable that a new intake will be required at the school, also a new pump and some greater measure of fire protection. If it is found that a new intake is required following the making of the tests, then serious consideration should be given to the proposal to connect up with the Fort Frances water system. It is not definitely known what the daily use of water at the school may be but it is probably quite high due to the fact that there has been no necessity for conservation and it might average 8,000 to 10,000 gallons daily. At 25¢ per 1,000 gallons, the yearly cost would be from \$600.00 to \$750.00.

We will communicate further with you with respect to this water supply as soon as a test has been made as to the continued use of the present intake.

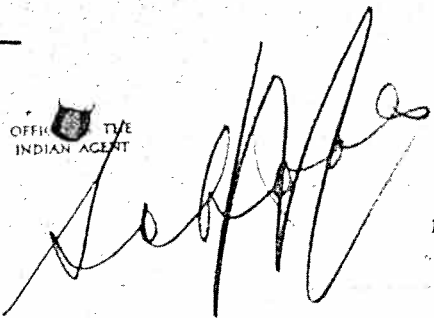
(Sgd.) D. B. GOW

D. B. Gow,

District Chief Engineer.

124-1-5

OFFICIAL  
INDIAN AGENT



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

PLEASE QUOTE  
FILE

Fort Frances, Nov. 9/45.

Indian Affairs Branch, Dept. of Mines & Resources, Ottawa.

I have been requested by the Principal of the Fort Frances Residential School to forward the enclosed requisition.

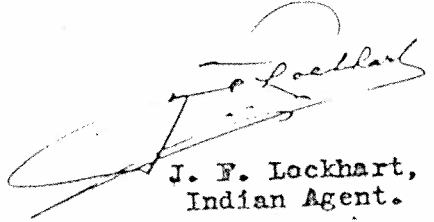
The House occupied by the Farm Manager is very old and needs replacing. However, I do not know if the Department is responsible for this expenditure or not.

The shop and laundry are each separate buildings and require shingling.

I understand from the Principal that a grant is being supplied towards a manual training instructor. If such is the case tables and benches will be required for teaching this work.

Kindly advise if this work is contemplated and estimates will be obtained.

NOV 12 1945



J. F. Lockhart,  
Indian Agent.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(AG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

124-1-5

OFFICE OF THE  
INDIAN AGENT



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES  
INDIAN AFFAIRS BRANCH

PLEASE QUOTE  
FILE \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten signature]*

Fort Frances, Ont., March 21, 1946.

Indian Affairs Branch, Ottawa.

When visiting the Indian Residential School two days ago the Principal brought to my attention that the eaves on the rectory and shop were in very poor condition. As this building has recently been re-shingled, I would like to recommend that new eavesdrops be supplied. A quotation has been received from Whiddon & Sons, Fort Frances, amounting to \$100.00 for this work.

Kindly advise if this expenditure will be approved, and oblige.

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten signature: J. F. Lockhart]*  
J. F. Lockhart,  
Indian Agent.



532 Dominion Public Bldg.,  
WINNIPEG, June 20, 1946.

Re: Water Supply, Fort Frances Indian Residential  
School, Fort Frances, Ontario.

The information available in this office relative to a proposed new water line from Fort Frances to the Indian Residential School was limited to the letters of November 24, 1944 and March 29, 1945 from Inspector Hamilton of Winnipeg to the Indian Affairs Branch at Ottawa. Inspector Hamilton's discussions apparently were not with officials of the Town of Fort Frances but rather with officials of the Township of McIrvine in which the Indian School is located.

This correspondence shows that a new pipe line about 5,150 feet in length was necessary. Of this new main, 1500 feet in Fort Frances would be constructed and maintained by the Town of Fort Frances in order to ensure a water supply and fire protection for their buildings in the Tourist Park. For 2,650 feet the line would be in the Township of McIrvine and thence 1,000 feet to the Indian School. The estimated cost of this 3,650 feet was about \$9,000.00 of which the summer camp owners, resident in McIrvine Township, were to pay \$3,000.00 and the Indian Affairs Branch \$6,000. The Township didn't pay any of the cost but would collect 25¢ per 1,000 gallons for all water used and for which they would be responsible for upkeep and maintenance of this portion of the line, that is, 3,650 feet.

Upon calling at the Town Hall at Fort Frances on June 12th to see the Clerk about a possible water supply from the Town, he informed the writer that the Council was just commencing a session and requested that I discuss the matter with the Mayor and Council in person. In the discussion which followed, I found that the Mayor and Council were whole heartedly in favour of any proposal to extend their water supply to the Indian Residential School. They desired to have a 6" main extended in order to provide fire protection to the buildings in their tourist park and also that the permanent residents of Fort Frances with summer homes along the lake in McIrvine Township might enjoy the advantages of an adequate and safe water supply and also because they realized that the Indian Residential School, although situated in McIrvine Township, was a contributing factor in the commercial life of Fort Frances. It was pointed out to the Council that my visit to Fort Frances had not been made with any expectation of discussing this matter with them and that we were merely desirous of obtaining data upon which we could make suggestions to Ottawa as to what might best be done to overcome the rather unsatisfactory water supply situation at the school. The subject was discussed later with the Town Officials and I expressed the view that we would prefer to conclude an agreement with the Town of Fort Frances to build and maintain the new water main and make the levy for water rates which should not exceed a cost of 10¢ per 1,000 gallons used. The officials were also heartily in favour of excluding the Township of McIrvine from any such agreement.

T. S. Mills, Esq.,  
Chief Engineer,  
Engineering and Construction Service,  
Department of Mines and Resources,  
Ottawa, Canada.

Indian Affairs. School Files. (1)



It will, I believe, be possible and advisable for the Indian Affairs Branch to conclude an agreement with the Town of Fort Frances to supply town water to the Indian School. The proposed arrangement must provide for the laying of a new 6" water main, the installation of hydrants in close proximity to the farm buildings and the Indian School. The Town should be responsible for maintenance of the main and hydrants and should collect water rates at an approximate cost of 10¢ to 12¢ per thousand gallons used. While the principle of a Government grant towards such a project is open to question, it must be realized that the agreement cannot be made unless some sizable grant is made and accordingly an amount of \$6,000.00 is suggested. It is impossible for the Town of Fort Frances to get delivery of 6" Anthes pipe or 6" transite pipe before the spring of 1947, even were they to place an order now, so that some agreement should be made so as to ensure delivery of the necessary pipe during 1947.

The water supply situation at this time at the school is decidedly unsatisfactory. An effort will have to be made to locate the 2" intake pipe and to secure water through this line. If such efforts are unsuccessful, then it is advisable to lay a new 2" main at least 400 feet out into the lake and to protect such intake against freezing conditions during the coming winter. Such measures will permit of a water supply being secured until a new main can be laid but it will not provide the school with any more measure of fire protection than they have at present, nor will it ensure a supply of safe water for use.

We would appreciate receiving advice from you at an early date as to whether or not the Indian Affairs Branch are desirous of an agreement being reached with the Town of Fort Frances along the lines above mentioned.

(Sgd.) D. B. Gow,

D. B. Gow,

District Chief Engineer.

532 Dominion Public Bldg.,  
WINNIPEG, June 17, 1946.

Re: Water Supply, Fort Frances Indian Residential  
School, Fort Frances, Ontario.

On June 12th and 13th visits were made by Mr. G. M. Lyon of this staff and the writer to the Fort Frances Indian Residential School and on the 12th the writer met the Mayor and Council of Fort Frances in connection with a proposal to extend the Fort Frances water supply system to the Indian Residential School.

The visit to the school on the 12th disclosed that a few days previously the water supply had failed completely due to the intake pipe being plugged at whatever point water had previously been drawn. As a temporary measure the school engineer had excavated down to the 2" intake pipe in the vicinity of the water's edge and at the location of the relief valve had laid one - 20 foot length of 1" pipe out into the lake in order to secure a water supply for the school. The writer arranged with the Town Engineer of Fort Frances to send their air compressor to the school on the morning of the 13th and it was connected with the 2" intake pipe beyond the check valve at the water's edge. Although over 100 pound pressure was applied, they were unable to clear the intake pipe and because of the rough water on the lake, escaping air bubbles could not be detected. The air compressor would cut in at 90 pounds and cut out at 105 pounds and while it took 70 seconds at first to drop the 15 pounds of pressure, after one hour of operation the interval was fairly steady at about 32 seconds. Pumping tests on the 2" line later showed no suction and so the 1" line had to be again utilized.

The water supply with this 1" intake is being taken from within 100 feet of the outlet from the septic tank that receives the sewage from the school. The septic tank does not discharge into the disposal bed but flows freely from tank to the lake so that there is no septic action in the tank whatsoever. The Principal of the School stated that the situation had been reported to the Indian Affairs Branch Medical Officer at Fort Frances and that he (that is the Principal) had instructed the Sister in charge at the school to boil all water for cooking and drinking. The Indian Agent was absent on treaty payments, the Medical Officer was away visiting the reserves and Inspector Hamilton of Winnipeg is also away until July, but it is expected that the Indian Agent and Medical Officer would be back in their offices over the past week-end and could assume responsibility for the dangerous situation that exists in connection with the present supply. A very simple solution would be to close the Institution now rather than wait until the holiday period commenced on July 1st.

There is no possibility of connecting up the water supply system of this school with the Fort Frances water supply until 1947 at the earliest, due to the inability of the Municipality to obtain the necessary pipe. It is necessary, therefore, to ensure an adequate water supply at this school for September 1st next, and this water supply must be such that it will not be interrupted during the winter. The present intake of 2" pipe is said to extend 1800 feet into the lake and was laid many years ago when the water was about 7 feet lower than at present. Lumbering companies have booming areas nearby and their alligators are thought to have disturbed this line with their dragging anchors. Some very few years ago a test was made of this pipe line by Mr. Smith of the John East Company of Fort Frances. Oil was forced out through the intake line and the test showed that oil came out of the pipe line at a long distance from shore, presumably at the outer end of the line. If at all possible, the existing intake should be located and the intake cleared. The present intake from the school to the water's edge is clear of obstructions and about six feet underground but at the water's edge it dips steeply underground into the lake and to lay a new line at this time under the water at this point would involve considerable coffer dam work. The location of the pipe line is not known but if it is could be located and broken, even as close as 1,000 feet to shore, a diver could affix a new intake screen and thus permit of an adequate water supply until other arrangements could be carried out.

In a following letter the proposal to derive a water supply for this school from Fort Frances is dealt with. It is anticipated that a very satisfactory arrangement can be made with the Town of Fort Frances and it is unfortunate that the inability to secure the necessary pipe line for the extension will not permit of the connection being made during the present year.

(Sgd.) D. B. Gow,

D. B. Gow,  
District Chief Engineer.



Indian Affairs. School Files.

OFFICE OF THE  
DIRECTOR

CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES

124-1-5  
July 18th, 1946

SURVEY AND  
ENGINEERING BRANCH



Mr. Hoey

Re: Water Supply - Fort Frances  
Indian Residential School.

This will acknowledge receipt of your memorandum of July 10th, relative to the above, in which you expressed the opinion that the Town of Fort Frances expects Indian Affairs Branch to pay more than the latter's fair share of the cost of the proposed water supply scheme.

It is thought that in forming this opinion the following points may have been overlooked:-

- (1) The entire scheme, as outlined by Mr. A.G. Hamilton, Inspector of Indian Agencies, in his letter of November 24th 1944, was estimated to cost approximately \$12,900, of which it was suggested Indian Affairs should pay about \$6100.00. Accordingly, the cost to Indian Affairs Branch would be only one-half not two-thirds of the entire scheme.
  - (2) It must be realized that the portion of the proposed water main which would serve the Residential School solely, 1,000 feet in length, can be installed only if the sections which are to serve the town's tourist park and the area occupied by owners of summer cottages, are installed first. For the privilege of making use of these latter sections it is reasonable that a fraction of their cost be paid by Indian Affairs Branch. This
- .....

is particularly the case since the needs of the tourist park and the cottagers could probably be met in a large degree by a smaller than 6-in. main not so deeply buried. It will be recalled that Inspector Hamilton stated that the immediate needs of the cottagers could be met by a surface pipeline, and this might be true of the tourist park also. Accordingly, it is suggested that Indian Affairs' share of the cost of the scheme, based on an estimated cost of \$2.50 per foot, might well be as follows:-

- (a) 1,000 feet solely for the use of the school, at \$2.50.....\$ 2,500.00
- (b) 2,650 feet would be used the year round by the school and presumably very little by the cottagers except for about four months in the summer. It is thought, therefore, that Indian Affairs' share of this would reasonably be \$1.50 per foot, or.....\$ 3,975.00
- (c) 1,500 feet would be used the year round by the school and presumably very little by the town tourist park or the cottagers except for about four months in the summer. It is thought that Indian Affairs' share of this would reasonably be 75¢ per foot, or.....\$ 1,125.00

The total capital cost to Indian Affairs Branch might, therefore, be considered to be reasonably as much as \$7,600.00. This is on the basis of a cost of \$2.50 per foot as estimated in November 1944. If unit prices of material and labour are now higher than at that date, the costs would necessarily be proportionately greater.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(HG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

.....

In addition, of course, the school would have to pay 10¢ or 12¢ per thousand gallons for water actually used. If the school uses 8,000 gallons per day, which is a large amount, the annual cost would be \$300 to \$400 per year. This would be offset by Indian Affairs Branch being relieved by the town of any pumping or maintenance costs.

On the whole the proposal that a 6-in. main be laid to the school at a cost of \$6,000.00 to Indian Affairs Branch, with a water rate of 10¢ or 12¢ per thousand gallons, and the town to be responsible for maintenance, seems to us reasonable. If, after reconsideration, you concur in this view, we would be agreeable to sending Mr. Gow instructions to negotiate as favourable an agreement with the town as possible, but if necessary he could tentatively agree to the foregoing terms.

In this connection we would refer you to correspondence in 1942 and 1943 regarding the water supply to Coqualeetza Hospital at Sardis, B.C. In that case, after very lengthy consideration, we recommended that Indian Affairs Branch contribute \$4200 towards the installation by the Elk Creek Water Company of a 10-in. water main, two and one-half miles in length, and which main would provide service to many other customers of the Company. This \$4200 was approximately one-third of the total cost of the proposed new main. In addition, we recommended that a new 6-in. main, 1600 feet in length, be installed from the 10-in. main to the hospital, at a cost of \$1,575, and the installation of a fire pump at \$1,650, these costs to be borne solely by Indian Affairs. Although this scheme could not be proceeded with at the time since the necessary pipe could not be obtained, it is a somewhat parallel case to that of Fort Frances Indian Residential School, and it may be inferred from it that the proposed agreement with the town of Fort Frances is not unreasonable.

*J. M. Wardle*  
Director.

Indian Affairs. School Files. File 173-5. part 6)

C O P Y.

BG:CO.

532 Dominion Public Bldg.,  
Winnipeg, July 5, 1946.

Dear Mr. Lockhart:

The writer recently met with the Council of the Town of Fort Frances and found them quite agreeable to arranging to co-operate with the Indian Affairs Branch for the extension of the town water supply to the Indian Residential School. It is hoped that the 6" pipe will be available in 1947 to enable this work to be carried out. In the meantime it is necessary to take steps to ensure an adequate water supply to the Indian School until such time as the town supply is available. As you are aware, the present water supply intake is plugged and as a temporary expedient the school have laid a short length of 1" pipe connecting with the old line at the shore line and are utilizing water which cannot help but be contaminated.

We appreciate the fact that the present pipe line has been in place for a long time, that it must be in poor condition and also difficult to locate. However, before abandoning this pipe line entirely and laying a shorter line, we believe another attempt should be made to locate the old line. As you are aware, we have had the town air compressor with crew attempt to clear the line without success. The lake was too rough and unsettled to permit of any attempts being made to detect any air leakage along the supposed location of intake pipe. We believe a further attempt should be made with the compressor, not to clear the line, but to force air into the line so as to observe any air leaks that may occur and thus locate and mark the position of the pipe so that later it can be broken and a new intake screen attached. The test can only be successful when very calm conditions will permit of air bubbles being observed from a boat and should not be attempted otherwise. We are unable to spare an engineer to proceed to Fort Frances and await such a favourable condition. It would be greatly appreciated if you could contact Mr. Henry, Town Engineer, and the School Engineer and arrange for such a test being made when calm conditions do prevail. The school has a suitable boat for observing the results of the test. If the pipe line can be located and marked with a small buoy or float, we can see about obtaining the services of a diver from Port Arthur to break the pipe and affix a screen at some safe distance from the shore line.

If this test, made under favourable conditions, shows negative results then it will be necessary to lay a new 2" pipe line from the shore line check valve location out about 400 feet into the lake. This line will have to be laid so as to be safe from freezing conditions in winter and also with an anticipated lowering of Rainy lake by two feet below its present level. We would also appreciate it if you would contact Mr. Smith, Contractor, formerly the John East Estate, and secure from him as close an estimate as he can give of the cost of 400 feet of 2" pipe, the expense involved in laying and connecting such a pipe line and also the cost of covering such line in the vicinity of the shore line so as to ensure it being safe from frost action for the coming winter. It is realized that any such estimate as may be given by Mr. Smith can only be approximate. It will, however, serve our purpose for requesting a suitable amount of money.

Yours very truly,

D.R.Gow, District Chief Engineer.

Indian Residential School,  
Fort Frances, Ont.

Aug. 19th. 1946.



Dear Sir:-

Due to increasing difficulties to obtain manual labors, it becomes more difficult to secure help of a night watchman at the salary paid in the past by the Indian Department. Nobody will work for \$40.00 a month any more.

I am therefore requesting the Department to increase this salary to \$75.00 a month. Otherwise, I am afraid that this school will be left without a night watchman in the future.

Wishing that necessary steps will be taken to straighten up this matter, I remain, Sir,

Yours very truly,

*P. Chatelain, O.M.I.*  
P. Chatelain, O.M.I.  
Principal.

Mr. J.F. Lockhart, Indian Agent,  
Fort Frances, Ont.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES

POOL COPY



CANADA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
MINES AND RESOURCES  
Surveys and Engineering  
Branch.

File 28960-M

532 Dominion Public Bldg.,  
WINNIPEG, August 24, 1946.

Re: Temporary Water Supply, Fort Frances,  
Indian School, Ontario.

The writer has just returned from Fort Frances where the matter of the above mentioned project was discussed with local plumbing firms, the Town's Works Superintendent, the Principal of the School and Indian Agent Lockhart.

It appears hopeless to attempt to locate and utilize the existing intake placed some 41 years ago and so a new shorter intake is necessary now. It is proposed to lay 400 feet of 2" pipe from the shore line out into the lake and connect same to the existing line at the point where it dips at a 45° slope under the lake bed and the location of the check valve. Some years ago, to protect the foreshore from erosion, broken stone rip-rap was dumped along the bank in considerable quantity. This rip-rap is composed of large pieces of broken stone extending from above the present water line to about 25 feet into the lake where there is a present depth of 5 feet of water. The present lake level is very high, being only 0.5 feet below the maximum summer regulated limit. This rock must be removed sufficiently to permit of the laying of a new line along the lake bottom and its removal will involve considerable effort and expense as it is entirely under water. Rainy Lake will undoubtedly be drawn down over two feet during the coming winter and ice will form to a depth of 2 feet so that it is going to be difficult to protect the intake from freezing through out the 100 foot length extending from the connection to the old intake. The proper method of protection would involve construction of heavy timber cribwork with boarded sides and earth fill. The exposed shore line and heavy ice shove would necessitate very heavy protection. We are interested in a water supply for one year only and propose to eliminate such type of protection. The 2" pipe line will be laid along the lake bottom and will be covered with earth, sand gravel and rock until a depth of 4 feet of water is reached. To prevent the intake freezing, it is proposed to operate the pump in the pump house continuously. This will be accomplished by connecting one of the pressure tanks to the existing drain in the pump house and inserting a relief valve to open at 60# pressure or just below the pressure at which the pump now cuts out. The present pump is operated by a 1/3 H.P. Motor and when the school is in operation this pump is going almost continuously during the day. Provided no break-down occurs in connection with this pump, it is considered that continuous flow of water from the intake will prevent freezing. There is a large pump in the pump room which is also used for pumping water and in case of emergency this can be utilized to continue the continuous pumping.

The labour and material situation at Fort Frances at the present time is very difficult. I was unable to locate any supply of 2" Black or Galvanized Pipe and from inquiries made, I am confident that none will be available in time for this job. Mr. Henry, Superintendent of Works at Fort Frances, advises me that he could release 200 feet of

T. S. Mills, Esq.,  
Chief Engineer,  
Department of Mines and Resources,

(p.t.o.)

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(AG 10, Volume 6195, File 63-5, part 6)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES

2" steel pipe; his total available supply. This pipe would cost 70% more than Black or Galvanized Pipe. The plumber whom it is proposed to engage, assured me that he could secure 200 additional feet of this steel pipe. As for the labour situation, I was not impressed by the ability of the firm of Whiddon & Sons to perform a satisfactory job and so was guided by the advice of Mr. Henry, Works Superintendent at Fort Frances, in contacting Mr. August Kivimaki of Fort Frances, a plumber and steamfitter whom he strongly recommended. This man is willing to undertake the job of clearing the rocks, installing the pipe line and is assured of the co-operation of the Superintendent of Works of the Town of Fort Frances in getting pipe and the loan of equipment such as tractor and etc. However, Mr. Kivimaki wants to do the job of rock removal before the water gets cold as the work will involve working under water to above the waist line. No plumbing outfit in Fort Frances will or can quote a price on the work involved. They are all very busy and have more work now than they can handle and are handicapped by labour and material shortages. Accordingly the work cannot be done on a contract basis. Roughly I would estimate the cost of the work as follows:

Labour of rock removal and protection .....	\$150.00
Laying and connecting pipe .....	75.00
Miscellaneous valves, fittings and screen.....	50.00
400 feet of 2" pipe .....	300.00
Total:.....	<u>\$575.00</u>

If we are able to secure a supply of Black or Galvanized Pipe the cost of the pipe would be about \$120.00 less.

I would strongly recommend that the Indian Affairs Branch advance Mr. Lockhart, Indian Agent at Fort Frances, Six Hundred dollars (\$600.00) and authorize him to engage Mr. August Kivimaki to lay the 400 foot intake out into the lake from the shore line and make the necessary changes in the pump room. The work involved is as follows:

Clear right-of-way pipe line by removal of rock rip-rap; providing 400 feet of 2" pipe, black or galvanized, if available, or steel if the other makes are not available, together with all necessary foot valves, check valves, relief valves, screen and etc. The connection of the new line with the existing intake at the present check valve on the shore line and the extension of the line 400 feet into the lake. Backfilling of all excavation and protection of pipe insofar as is possible out to a depth of 4 feet of water. The installation of a drain pipe from the pressure tank to the existing drain and placing of check valve and relief valve on this line so as to permit of continuous operation of the pump.

Admittedly there is some element of danger in depending upon such a source of water supply for the following two reasons:

- (1) There is danger of an interruption to the electric power - a danger which may be considered as rather remote and less likely to happen than a break-down of the small pumping plant.
- (2) There is a danger of contaminated water after ice forms inasmuch as the intake will be only about 500 feet removed from the present outlet from the aseptie tank. To overcome this last danger, it will be essential that the Medical Health Officer for the Indian Affairs Branch at Fort Frances secure frequent samples of water in use and have same tested .....

(See page 3.)

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
 RG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

and if contamination exists, he should insist upon water chlorination throughout the school.

It is essential that the work of clearing the rock be proceeded with forthwith and Mr. Lockhart should be authorized to have this part of the work undertaken immediately. Unfortunately, we are faced with a severe staff shortage for the next six or eight weeks due to resignations and the carrying on of field survey work and so will not be able to give this project direct supervision. We will, however, arrange to inspect the same upon its completion.

(Sgd.) D.B. Gow

D.B. Gow,

District Chief Engineer.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

ARCHIVES

Indian Residential School,  
Fort Frances, Ont.  
Oct. 8th. 1946.

Mr. B. F. Neary,  
Ottawa.

Dear Sir:-

I have recourse to you, to help me solve the difficulties I encountered with the putting up of a new house here at the Indian School.

First it was decided that the house would be for the farmer instructor, but the building we now occupy is more like a home for a family. So, it was agreed with Rev. Father Provincial and consent from the Indian Agent that we would build the new house for the Fathers, thus satisfying the farmer, the Fathers and school's staff. It will give more space to the farmer, more rooms for classrooms; children are really too crowded. The Principal will take his quarters in the new building instead of at school.

It was agreed that the Department would pay for the material used and the Principal would pay labor.

There came a shortage; I had to buy more lumber etc. Actually I have in hand a bill of \$1,220.22 not paid. I enclose the list of the items.

I already paid \$1,322.43 of salary to the workers. In view of all this, I beg the Department to help me. At least, in my opinion, all material should be paid by the Department. So, will the Department prefer to pay directly the different Companies or give me the authority to do so with the assurance of reimbursement.

May I have a prompt answer, Sir, to this letter. I have the hope that you will be able to settle this matter advantageously to all concern.

Thanking you in advance, I remain, Sir,

Yours very truly,

*P. J. Chatelain: O.M.I.*  
P. Chatelain, O.M.I.  
Principal.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(AS 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

INDIAN AFFAIRS ARCHIVES

124-1-13 (W T)

Ottawa, January 29, 1947.

Memorandum:

DIRECTOR, SURVEYS & ENGINEERING BRANCH  
Fort Frances Indian Residential School

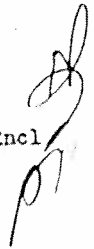
W.B.D.

The nutritionist employed by the Nutrition Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare and engaged in conducting a dietary service for our Indian schools has reported upon unsatisfactory conditions at the above school. I attach for your information pertinent extracts from her report. Could you have an estimate prepared of the work involved in

- (a) moving the hot water pipes,
- (b) providing better lighting in the kitchen,
- (c) providing adequate ventilation in the kitchen.

We would also appreciate your Engineer's comments upon the enlarging of the dining room and kitchen and the re-location of the store-room in the event that (a) above is not satisfactory.

Encl

  
Director

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
File 463-5, part 6  
(RC 10, Volume 6195)

DIIRIC ARCHIVES

Mr. Hoc

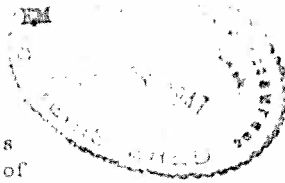
For your information, please. With reference to the last paragraph of this memorandum, will you kindly advise us of your wishes with respect to arranging for an Agreement with the Town of Fort Frances.

17/2/47

MEMORANDUM

R.J.M.W.

I.A.1380-3



Ottawa, February 13, 1947

Re: Water Supply  
Fort Frances Indian Residential School

Referring to your notation on a copy of a memorandum of July 23, 1946 from Indian Affairs in connection with the above Water Supply, we are now in receipt of further information from Mr. Gow under date of February 11th:

"Following the forwarding of our letter of June 20th last, the water supply situation at the Indian School became quite serious. The intake line into the lake became plugged; we were unable to clear the same and later efforts to locate the line were futile. It was necessary to lay a temporary short line of 400 feet out into the lake in order to secure an emergency water supply for the winter months. This emergency water supply line was laid at a total cost for labor and material of \$374.42. We are hopeful that this temporary line will not fail because of freezing before next spring. However, the outer end of this short intake is only 500 feet from the sewer outlet and the present intake can only be considered an emergency measure until some other safe water supply is available.

There are the two alternatives for a water supply for this school, namely, the laying of a new 4" intake out into the lake or an agreement with the Town of Fort Frances for extension of their water supply to the school. The laying of a new intake with the necessary protective crib-work against freezing and etc., would probably entail an initial expenditure greater than the proposed payment to the Town of Fort Frances. The water supply would be contaminated and also would provide no appreciable measure of fire protection. The advantages of reaching an agreement with the Town are so apparent that the building of a new intake could not possibly be justified and apparently the officials of the Town of Fort Frances are quite aware of this situation. Our negotiations with the Town of Fort Frances with respect to the proposed extension of their water supply to the Indian School were as outlined in our letter of June 20th last and since that date we have had no further contact with them with respect to the proposal. However, a letter from Mr. Lockhart, Indian Agent at Fort Frances, in which he stated that the property owners held a meeting a few days previous with the Town officials and agreed to pay \$3,000.00 in cash towards laying of the water main to the school over their respective lots. The letter also advised that the Town of Fort Frances had placed an order for sufficient pipe and expected delivery early in 1947. Mr. Lockhart now advises, under date of February 5th, that Mayor B.V. Holmes, Fort Frances, had informed him that they had received the necessary pipe

J. M. Wardle, Esq.,  
Director,  
Surveys and Engineering Branch,  
Department of Mines and Resources,  
O T T A W A.

(over)

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
File 463-5, part 6  
(CG 1), Volume 0195,

to install the town water to the school and intimated that as soon as the money agreed upon was paid by the Department that the work would be commenced. Presumably, the Town Officials, knowing the situation with which the Indian Affairs Branch is faced as regards a water supply for this school, have proceeded on the assumption that an agreement will be reached. However, it will be necessary for the Indian Affairs Branch to announce their desires with respect to the agreement and authorize this office or someone to reach an agreement with the Town of Fort Frances as to the amount to be paid towards the construction and maintenance of the line and also as to the rate to be paid for the water furnished."

We would appreciate further advice as to the wishes of the Indian Affairs Branch and particularly if they desire us to proceed with arrangements for the drawing up of an agreement with the Town of Fort Frances in order that the installation can be completed this year and before the opening of the fall term.

*J. J. Mill*  
Chief Engineer.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)

Extracts from letter from A.G. Hamilton,  
Inspector of Indian Agencies for Manitoba.  
Letter dated February 19th. Original on  
File 124-1-1

File 124-1-5

The Principal stated he expected arrangements to be made for enlarging the kitchen and the children's dining room. I understand the change was suggested by Miss A. McCready, Department of National Health and Welfare.

The senior teacher requested that the following two bookcases be purchased from Moyer's catalogue, #58 and #43. I am advised that both have been discontinued. I think Father Chatelain could perhaps have these made in the Carpenter's Shop, if the materials were supplied. I would request authority to purchase shelving, ply board, moulding and stain, to a total of perhaps \$35.00.

The boy's playroom has practically no sports equipment. A request was made for a punching bag. I recommend that same be supplied.

The temporary water line appears to be meeting our requirements. However, I do not think we should delay too long - either renewing the line or arranging with the town of Fort Frances for water from their supply. I am convinced the cheapest way of meeting our need, especially extended to the School, even at a cost of around \$6,000.00. I am told a new pipe line into the lake will probably exceed this cost and the water would still not be chlorinated. The pressure for fire fighting would be inadequate and, in addition, there would be repair and upkeep.

I gather the town council might consider proceeding with the installation shortly - if definite authority was issued from Ottawa. I understand money was provided for this work in the 1946-47 estimates and if it is still available the work might even yet be completed if authorized at once.

Mr. Gow, District Chief Engineer, Surveys and Engineering Branch, is familiar with the water situation and

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RC 10, Volume 6195, File 463-5, part 6)



I recommend that he be authorized to proceed with the  
matters of the final arrangements as to the cost of con-  
struction and also the cost per gallon for water. This  
school is well operated and the children are fortunate  
in having excellent teachers.