

This narrative history of a Residential School was researched and produced by the Government of Canada as part of its response to litigation and the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has not verified the content of this document. It is provided here for reference purposes only. Documented incidents of sexual and physical abuse are based on the documentary record and do not take into account survivor testimony.



You are welcome to contact the NCTR if you wish to add, comment on, or challenge any versions of the history presented herein.

Lapointe Hall (Fort Simpson, N.W.T.) Student Residence
School Narrative
[December 19, 2005]

This School Narrative summarizes documents that provide an over-view of the history and administration of the school.

NAME OF SCHOOL AND VARIANTS

Fort Simpson Roman Catholic Pupil Residence [LHU-000002]
Fort Simpson Roman Catholic Hostel [NWTG-004392]
La Point Hall [NWT-000609, p. 68]

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

- 1960 This is the first year of operation for the Fort Simpson Roman Catholic pupil residence [LHU-000002; NWTG-004392].
- 1961 The government adopts the policy to name the “large hostels” after northern Anglican and Catholic missionaries, and the related day schools after northern explorers. The Roman Catholic hostel in Fort Simpson is named Lapointe Hall after Sister Marie-Adeline Lapointe, “Superior for the first group of Grey Nuns and founder of the first orphanage and school at Fort Providence” [NWT-000614].

We do not have specific information indicating the closing date of this institution. We do know that Lapointe Hall was part of the federal day school/contract residence program from September 1, 1960 to April 1, 1969 [FNU-200601]. We have no direct documentary references to Lapointe Hall after 1969 and therefore have no knowledge of the residence after that year.

MANAGEMENT OF RESIDENCE

From September 1960 to at least 1969, Lapointe Hall was a government-owned student residence managed by the Roman Catholic Church. At this time, we have limited documentation post-1969.

Under the post-1955 education program, the Federal Government was responsible for all aspects of education in the NWT.

- 1955 In 1955 the federal government introduced its new education program in the N.W.T. This program established ‘large hostels’ and adjacent day schools to replace the older mission residential school system and older federal and mission schools in operation in the N.W.T. The goal of the new, integrated program was to provide schooling to children of all ethnicities, within the communities in which the hostels/day schools would be built and for children in isolated communities (who would reside in the large hostels/residences while away from home). The program created nine of these ‘large hostels’ and (initially) seven related schools and was administered by the federal government. It was distinct and separate from the ‘Indian Residential School’ program administered in southern Canada through the same period by Indian Affairs [NWT000539, NWT000088].

Federal authority as a whole was administratively divided in the N.W.T. between two geographic regions: the Mackenzie District (the western half of the N.W.T.) and the Keewatin or (Eastern) Arctic District. Responsibility for Lapointe Hall fell under the jurisdiction of the Mackenzie District. The Roman Catholic Hostel (Lapointe Hall) at Fort Simpson was one of these large hostels, established in the Mackenzie District [NWT-000539, NWTG-002802[003-003]].

Dates managed by Church

CA 1955 An undated article details plans for the 1955 student residence construction program in the N.W.T. It states:

“These hostels will be built and owned by the Federal Government; those intended primarily for Indian and Eskimo children will be operated by the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches, as, virtually all Indians and Eskimos in the Northwest Territories are either of these faiths. All schools operated in conjunction with the hostels will be operated by the Government through the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, which, on April 1st, became responsible for Indian as well as other education in the Northwest Territories.

All the new schools and hostels will be financed by the Federal Government which will pay all costs with respect to the education and training of Indian and Eskimos since they are a federal responsibility. The Government of the Northwest Territories will be asked to finance a share of the cost of construction and operation of the hostels and schools in proportion to the attendance of children who are other than Indian and Eskimo” [NWT-000539].

A document titled “Relationship of Department with Church Authorities and Pupil Residences” states:

“By 1955 many of the residential schools operated by the Roman Catholic and Anglican Missions had reached such a state of disrepair that they needed replacing. Discussions were held at which Church authorities and the Federal and Territorial Governments were represented. As a result of these discussions it was agreed by all parties that the Government should build pupil residences, to be operated by the two Churches concerned but with the schools to be operated by the Federal Government. Agreements between the Churches and the Department were negotiated and signed for the operation of each of the pupil residences as they were constructed” [NWTG-002802[003-003]].

A 150-bed pupil residence for Roman Catholic pupils, operated by the Roman Catholic Church was opened at Fort Simpson in 1960 [NWTG-002802[003-003]].

1959 A series of correspondence outlines the relationships between the federal school and hostels opening at Fort Simpson in 1960. The Federal Day School will be segregated according to religion and students will reside at the accompanying hostels run by the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches. The principal of the school will be of the religion of the majority of students in grades 6-9 (integrated classes) and reports to the

Superintendent of Schools at Fort Smith, N.W.T. Roman Catholic children in grades 1 to 5 will be taught by a Roman Catholic assistant principal, while Anglican children in the same grades will be taught by an Anglican principal [NWT-003276[000-002][001-002][002-002]; NWT-006010].

The church is obligated to manage the hostel [Lapointe Hall] and its programs in cooperation with the Principal of the day school and in a manner which complements the day school's programs and includes, "a recreational and extra curricular activity program designed to supplement and support the school program" (p. 2, Clause 8) [FNU-200601E].

The church is responsible for hiring all staff at the government-owned residence (p. 1, Clause 2) [FNU-200601E].

The church is responsible for maintenance of and repairs to the hostel (p. 1, Clause 4) [FNU-200601E].

The management is responsible for providing adequate supervision, food, clothing and care for the resident children [NWTG-000005[001-001]].

1965 A series of documents notes that staff at seven pupil residences in the N.W.T., including Lapointe Hall, are employees of the Churches under contract to the Federal Government [NWTG-002670; NWTG-002596[000-001][001-001]].

The Church Authority is free to recruit its own staff, specify conditions of employment and pay its employees at rates which they, the Church Authorities at their discretion determine. The Department stipulates only that:

1. The Management will operate and manage the pupil residence in a manner satisfactory to the Minister.
2. The Management will employ only such persons who are necessary to operate and manage the pupil residence.
3. The management will pay its employees wages at rates not less than the rates prevailing for similar work in the community in which the pupil residence is situated.

The Department will reimburse the Church Authorities in the amount of the annual salary allotment or the actual expenditure for salaries and wages which is less [NWTG-002596[000-001]].

Dates managed by Federal Government

1959-69 From its opening in 1960 until 1969, the federal government owned and was responsible for Lapointe Hall which was managed by the Roman Catholic Church [FNU-200601E].

The Federal Government establishes selection criteria for the hostel and controls all student admissions to Lapointe Hall (p. 2, Clause 5) [FNU-200601E]. The

government's policy is that all admissions to the church-run student residences are controlled by the secular administration of the adjacent, federal day schools (p. 7) [NWT-000547].

The primary criterion for admission to the hostels was that the parents of the student residents lived outside of the settlement for at least two-thirds of the school year. Correspondence indicates that this be relaxed in Fort Simpson for the opening year as many parents of potential students had relocated to the community to take advantage of the employment offered in building the new school [FNU-001085].

The Federal Government:

Administers and supervises the education system in the Northwest Territories and functions in ... much the same way as a department of education operates within a province. The Education Division offers advice and service to the Minister and to the Commissioner as required on all educational matters. It also renders advice and guidance for the field staff on education (p.5) [NWT-000547].

The day to day administration of schools is carried on by the field staff of teachers, principals, and superintendents of schools... (p.5) [NWT-000547].

The Administration staff, i.e., the Education Division and the Superintendent of Schools at the District and Regional levels are classified [federal] civil servants... (p.5) [NWT-000547].

1965 A letter, April 2, 1965, and an attached draft Memorandum of Agreement for pupil residences in the N.W.T. [NWTG-002686[001-002]] notes that new sections have been added to the document to ensure and emphasize the following points:

- Closer cooperation between the school and pupil residence;
- Health and safety of resident pupils and the staff of pupil residences; and
- Clearer definitions of parental control of the religious life of resident pupils [NWTG-002686[000-002]]

The letter acknowledges that "the pupil residences... are important integral parts of the schools with which they are associated. Many activities of an educational nature are carried on in them, or if not, call for the co-operation of the residence staff if the school program is to be effective" [NWTG-002686[000-002]].

The Federal Government provides a training program for administrators and supervisors of pupil residences in the Northwest Territories [NWT-000546].

The N.W.T. Council Sessional Paper No. 17 (1965) states:

"In the large pupil residences which are operated under contract ... the Churches recruit their own staff following certain standards established by the Education Division [of the Federal Government]. The Churches are required to operate the pupil residences in a manner which will support the school program". (p. 6-7) [NWT-000547]

Letter, July 15, 1965, notes that seven pupil residences, including Lapointe Hall, are

“...managed and operated for the Department by either of the two Church Authorities according to contracts with the Department. These Church Authorities provide staff for supervision, food, clothing and other necessities to care for and accommodate the pupils. The contracts do not include provision of utilities such as heat and electricity or building maintenance. These are provided by the Department apart from the Contracts” [NWTG-002596[000-001][001-001].

- 1968 In response to a query regarding the feasibility of uniting residences in the same geographic locations in the N.W.T. including Lapointe and Bompas Hall at Fort Simpson [NWTG-001275[001-002]; NWTG-002815], the N.W.T. Council Sessional Paper No. 4, “Hostel Management” (1968) states:

“There are no plans for uniting the separate residences at these (Fort Simpson) locations.

Separate residences were established and are maintained by formal agreement with the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches... when responsibility for the education function is assumed by the Territorial Government, new agreements may be negotiated under contract...” (p. 2) [NWTG-001275[002-002]]

A letter to the Residence Administrator of Lapointe Hall notes the “imminent transfer of the Education function to the Northwest Territories Government” and expresses uncertainty as to the “extent the staff of church-operated pupil residences in the Northwest Territories will be affected” [NWTG-002861[000-001]].

Administrators are requested to attend the training sessions in Edmonton which have been organized to “brief the administrators of Indian pupil residences on the implications of decisions regarding the status of residence employees” [NWT-000243].

- 1969 As of April 1, 1969 the Lapointe Hall Student Residence is transferred from the Federal Government to the Government of the Northwest Territories [NWT-000221; NWTG-001324].

Dates residence taken over by Government of the NWT

Prior to 1969, Lapointe Hall was owned by the Federal Government and managed by the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation. During this time (1959 to 1969), the territorial government was responsible for its share of costs based on the proportion of “territorial” (or “other” [non-aboriginal and Métis]) pupils [NWT-000539].

- 1955 With the implementation of the construction program for the new residence and day school education program, the initial expenditure for the construction (‘capital costs’) and operation of the federal schools and hostels in the NWT is made by the Federal

Government, with the Territorial Government paying its share based on the proportion of 'territorial' (or 'other' [non-aboriginal and Métis]) pupils [NWT-000539].

1968 A package of documents indicates that due to the limited ability of the Government of the N.W.T. (GNWT) to generate financial resources, the Federal Government would continue to provide educational funding and ensure, through supervision, that the level of educational programs, in particular for aboriginal peoples, would not diminish under the GNWT [NWTG-001275 [002-002]].

1969 A memorandum to the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories notes that

... although the terms and conditions under which the Churches will operate the seven pupil residences will remain the same as in the past, it will be necessary to have new Agreements entered into between the N.W.T. Government and the Churches. The only basic difference in the new Agreements will be that they will be signed by the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories rather than by the Deputy Minister [NWTG-001341[000-007]].

The document notes that the Churches have been contacted to make arrangements to complete these agreements [NWTG-001341[000-007]].

On April 1, 1969, the Government of the Northwest Territories assumed control over education in the N.W.T. and responsibility for Lapointe Hall was transferred to the territorial government [NWTG-001324; NWT-000536].

1970 The Government of the Northwest Territories:

... is responsible for the planning, guidance, and operation of student residences in the Northwest Territories, including those operated under contract with the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches [NWT-000556].

At this time, we have limited documentation post-1969.

MANAGEMENT OF AFFILIATED DAY SCHOOL

The day school in Fort Simpson, Thomas Simpson School (opening date 1960) was always a secular, government-owned and government-managed day school. Documents indicate that prior to the opening of the Thomas Simpson School, a federal day school was built at Fort Simpson in 1955 to accommodate children previously attending St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Mission School [FNU-000001; FNU-000002; FNU-000004].

Dates Managed by the Federal Government

1955-69 The Federal Government is responsible for all federal schools in the NWT:

All schools operated in conjunction with the hostels will be operated by the Government through the Department of Northern Affairs and National

Resources, which, on April 1st [1955], became responsible for Indian as well as other education in the Northwest Territories [NWT-000539].

The “day to day” administration of the schools is carried out by the field staff of teachers, principals, and departmental District and Regional superintendents of schools (p.5). New teachers are annually recruited by the superintendents in March and the salary scale for teachers is fixed by the Federal Treasury Board who “receives advice from the Chief of the Education Division and after consultation with the representatives of the Northwest Territories Teachers’ Association” (p.6) [NWT-000539].

Dates School taken over by the Government of the NWT

Prior to 1969, the Territorial Government’s role in the Federal Day Schools was largely financial.

1958 A memorandum explains that the territorial contribution to education in the NWT is purely financial.

Although the Territorial Government does make a contribution towards the cost of operation in all schools in the NWT where white [and Métis] children are in attendance, and makes a contribution towards the construction of these schools in direct proportion to the number of white children who are attending, nevertheless the schools are still operated by the Federal Government. The Federal Government provides administrative services for these schools, and all the buildings and equipment are owned by the Federal Government [NWT-000714].

1959-69 An undated article (circa 1955) on the post-1955 education program states:

All the new schools and hostels will be financed by the Federal Government which will pay all costs with respect to the education and training of Indian and Eskimos since they are a federal responsibility. The Government of the Northwest Territories will be asked to finance a share of the cost of construction and operation of the hostels and schools in proportion to the attendance of children who are other than Indian and Eskimo [NWT-000539].

1968 Memorandum, November 20, 1957 notes that there is a basic understanding that teachers and principals, whenever reasonably possible are of the same religious faith as the majority of students in the classrooms and schools respectively [FNU-200601].

RESIDENCE / SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Aside from the construction phase (circa 1956/57 to 1959) we have very little documentation discussing additions or upgrades to Lapointe Hall or the related Thomas Simpson School. Information from a selection of the documents discussing the residence and school buildings is provided below.

Construction and Renovations

- 1960 A 150-bed pupil residence for Roman Catholic pupils and a 50-bed residence for Protestant pupils were constructed in 1960 at Fort Simpson and were operated by the Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches respectively [NWTG-002802[003-003]].

The Roman Catholic Hostel at Fort Simpson included 26 dormitories (student bedrooms) [FNU-001094[000-001]].

An inspection of the Food Services was conducted shortly after the hostel opened in 1960. Documents indicate that the kitchen was incompletely equipped at this time. In addition, the tables in the dishwashing room were not stainless steel as they should be [NPC-605595; NPC-605596].

- 1961 Letter, March 27, 1961, outlines major changes and improvements regarding food service and kitchen equipment in Northern Hostels. The document notes that the tables in the dishwashing and vegetable cleaning areas at Lapointe Hall should be replaced with stainless steel surfaces, that a pre-rinse spray was required in the dishwashing area, that the milk dispenser should be changed so that students could help themselves, and that several kitchen items were on order. Additional recommended purchases included a bread mixer and slicer, rotary type toaster, a baker's table and roasting ovens [NWTG-000816].

A fire inspection conducted at the R.C. Hostel at Fort Simpson recommends the following: fire alarms be tested every six months; the lights in the girls playroom need to operate independently of the emergency exit lights; fire alarm pull stations should be installed in the kitchen and basement; and an intercom system or telephone be installed to aid those responsible in a fire emergency [FNU-001168[002-002]].

- 1962 An Inspection of the Food Services Report, October 3, 1962, indicates that many of the equipment issues noted in the above Food Inspection Report from 1960 were addressed at the time this 1962 inspection was conducted [NPC-605597].

Correspondence indicates the following repairs were required at Lapointe Hall: the tiles and arborite in the boys and girls washrooms were falling down nearly injuring students; the arborite in the kitchen is buckling and in danger of falling down; the laundry room floor required painting; a floor plate is required in the kitchen to catch and drain off spilled water; the cooling unit is not working and required replacement; stainless steel bins are required for storage; the playgrounds are in need of leveling [LHU-000101]. Subsequent correspondence indicates the concerns would be addressed [LHU-000105; LHU-000108].

Associated Day School

Thomas Simpson Day School

- 1950 The "Minutes of the Sub-Committee on Education Northwest Territories Council" held on June 9, 1950 notes a discussion of the building of a federal day school at Fort Simpson. The initial building was destroyed by fire in January 1950 and the school was relocated to temporary rented quarters in the interim. The recommendation is that a one-room school be built rather than attempting to repair any of the existing buildings [NWT-002009[001-001]].

1965 The report by Joseph Katz titled “Educational Environments of School - Hostel Complexes in the Northwest Territories” includes a notation that Eskimo children have been attending the 10 room day school in Fort Simpson from ‘the hostel.’ School facilities include a science lab, home economics room, shop workroom and a large gymnasium [NWT-000609].

LAND

Location

Lapointe Hall is located in Fort Simpson on an island located in the Mackenzie River at the confluence of the Liard River and the Mackenzie (p. 65) [NWT-000609].

1956 Correspondence indicates that the Federal Government engaged in negotiations with the Roman Catholic Church to purchase a lot which would house both the federal day school and the hostels at Fort Simpson [FNU-000887].

1959 Correspondence between the Federal Government and the Roman Catholic Church notes that St. Margaret’s Hall will be rented for school purposes from the church [FNU-001038].

PHOTOS, PLANS AND OTHER MEDIA

Item #	Date	Description
NPC-605596a	October 25, 1960	Plan (Children’s dining room)
NPC-605596b	October 25, 1960	Plan (kitchen, coolers and storage areas)

GENERAL ENROLLMENT STATISTICS OVER TIME

Lapointe Hall Student Residence

Year	Number of Residents
1960	103 children in residence
1961	Not available
1962	125 children in residence (50 boys, 75 girls)
1963	103 children in residence
1964	128 children in residence (48 boys; 84 girls)
1965	156 children in residence (72 boys; 84 girls)
1966	152 children in residence (71 boys; 81 girls)
1967	161 children in residence (78 boys; 83 girls)
1968	151 children in residence (71 boys; 80 girls)
1969	151 children in residence (67 boys; 84 girls)
1970	0 Eskimo, 91 Indian, 50 “other” children in residence

STUDENTS FROM OTHER RESERVES

Attendance in the post-55 hostel / day school program was not reserve-based, as enrolment was not ethnically segregated (both aboriginal and non-aboriginal children lived in residence and attended the associated schools). Attendance was based on geographic proximity to the residence and the associated schools were attended both by students in residence, and by children living in the local community.

Documents indicate that students might have been transported and/or recruited for attendance at the residence and associated schools from the following locations, communities and regions: Fort Providence; Fort Wrigley; Fort Liard; Nahanni; Jean Marie River; Bathhurst Inlet; other small communities along the Arctic coast; Yellowknife; Cambridge Bay; and Fort Smith.

Given that enrolment was not ethnically segregated, documents usually do not identify band names.

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

No documents were located that specifically identify the religious groups associated with Lapointe Hall other than references to the Roman Catholic Church as indicated throughout this report. It does appear that the Oblates were associated with Lapointe Hall throughout its management by the Roman Catholic Church as the Administrators of Lapointe Hall appearing in our collections receive the designation O.M.I.

WRITTEN AGREEMENTS

1960 Formal written agreement between Her Majesty the Queen and the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Mackenzie for the operation of a pupil residence at Fort Simpson commencing on September 1, 1960 [FNU-200601E].

1960 & 1968 Given that the residence / day school system, of which Lapointe Hall was part, was unique to the NWT, the *Indian Affairs* field manuals used to supplement the management of southern-Canadian residential schools were not employed. Instead, the following two manuals applied to hostels in the NWT:

Supplementary Instructions for the Management of Hostels Owned by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources and Operated Under Contract, Effective January 1, 1960 [NWT-000006].

Supplementary Instructions for the Management of Pupil Residences in the Northwest Territories Owned by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and Operated Under Contract, Revised Edition November 1968 [NWTG-001154].

As of December 3, 1968, a copy of this manual was forwarded to Father H. Possett, Administrator of Lapointe Hall [NWTG-001233].

1969 Letter, April 3, 1969, notes that the terms and conditions of the Church agreements for the operation of pupil residences in the NWT will remain the “same as in the past” although the agreement is being transferred from the Federal Government to the N.W.T. Government [NWTG-001341[000-007]]. An unsigned copy of this agreement between the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories and the Roman Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Mackenzie for Lapointe Hall is attached [NWTG-001341[005-007]].

DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO SCHOOL INCIDENTS

To date, we are unaware of any convictions for abuse at Lapointe Hall Student Residence or of any convicted abusers present at the hostel.

We do not have any documents with information about incidents at Lapointe Hall.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Curriculum

1965 The curriculum used in the Mackenzie District schools resembles the Alberta school curriculum (p. 10-11) [NWT-000547].

Diet and Nutrition

1961 An Inspection of the Food Services was conducted shortly after the hostel opened in 1960. Documents indicate that the kitchen was incompletely equipped at this time. Food preparation is noted as very organized, and the quality of food is noted as good. The kitchen and dishwashing rooms are described as “fairly clean.” It is recommended that children be given fresh fruit daily and that the girls in the kitchen should be required to wear hair nets [NPC-605595; NPC-605596].

Letter, September 22, 1961, from Director, B.G. Sivertz to Administrator Lize at Lapointe Hall notes concerns regarding Eskimos who have died of trichinosis caused by eating walrus and polar bear. Hostel administrators are cautioned that children should not be exposed to this risk and asks that Lize respond regarding the potential implications of discontinuing the practice of serving raw food, if it is, in fact, occurring at Lapointe Hall [NWTG-000776[003-003]]. The Administrator of Lapointe Hall responds that the only raw foods served in the institution are carrots and fruits [LHU-000081].

1962 An Inspection of the Food Services Report, October 3, 1962, provides an overall favorable report of food services at Lapointe Hall, although it is recommended that cheese be served three times per week. However, the document also notes that the garbage is not picked up as regularly as it should be although this has been corrected, the women should wear hairnets, and that stainless steel tables need to replace the wooden tables in the kitchen as they cannot be kept clean [NPC-605597].

1964 A chart outlining sanitation ratings for establishments in the N.W.T. notes that the cafeteria at the Roman Catholic Hostel at Fort Simpson uses piped water and sewage and

has a staff washroom. The facility is rated as “generally satisfactory” although the document notes that “major deficiencies” as a lack of fly screens and the fact that food spoils in the hot basement storeroom [NPC-620596b].

- 1965 A Food Services Inspection Report, March 2, 1965, notes that milk consumption should be encouraged amongst the children, that menus should be carefully reviewed to ensure two portions of fruit and vegetables (in addition to potatoes) should be served daily; whole grain cereals should be served daily and cheese and eggs should be served three times per week [LHU-000209[001-004]].
- 1966 A Food Services Inspection Report, March 10, 1966, notes that the kitchen is well organized and staff are well supervised, that milk consumption should be encouraged amongst the children, that all salt used should be iodized and that more time should be allotted for the dishwashing cycle [FNU-173218D].
- 1967 A series of correspondence describes the use of local fish at Lapointe Hall. Documents indicate that with the exception of canned fish, the residents do not enjoy consuming fish. Recently trout was purchased as an experiment but Administrator Possett was not optimistic it would be well received by the children [NWTG-002757; NWTG-002851[000-001][001-001]].
- 1968 A memo regarding the “Interrelation of Religious Organizations and the Northern Education Programme” indicates the agreement at Fort Simpson “stipulates that the school must consist of two wings, one for Roman Catholic students taught by Roman Catholic teachers and the other non-Roman Catholic. The principal must be a Roman Catholic and the assistant principal a non-Roman Catholic” [NWT-000026].

Health and Sanitary Conditions

- 1960 Letter, May 31, 1960, notes that there were no Northern Health Services nurses in the Fort Simpson area at that time [NWT-000934].

Memorandum, May 4, 1960, lists equipment and furniture to be supplied to the Fort Simpson Hostel infirmaries [NWTG-000649].

A series of correspondence notes that a registered nurse is required at all hostels with a capacity of 200 or more children and those hostels in isolated areas with less than 200 children. A decision regarding the situation at Fort Simpson is pending. It is recommended that an outpatient service will be set up in the Roman Catholic Hospital to provide services to the resident children [NWTG-000653; NWTG-000655; NWTG-000698].

- 1961 A letter, January 4, 1961 outlines problems in providing dental services to the hostel children in Fort Simpson [NWTG-000758]. A follow-up letter recommends the issue be taken up with the regional office of Northern and Indian Health Services at Edmonton [NWTG-000773].

1963 A report from Indian and Northern Health Services, April 4, 1963, notes 43 admissions to hospital due to influenza epidemic at Fort Simpson. The school was allowed to open after Easter vacation as the infection was generalized in the community. Although the hostels are not specifically mentioned in this document it seems likely that the epidemic included students who resided at the hostels [NPC-600531].

Several reports from Indian and Northern Health Services note cases of infectious hepatitis have been diagnosed in R.C. Hostel children at Fort Simpson. Instructions regarding hygiene have been provided to hostel and school personnel and gamma globulin was given to 45 close contacts at the R.C. Hostel [NPC-600559; NPC-600560].

Pocket Money

1968 Memorandum, June 20, 1968, notes that personal allowances of one dollar per week are given to students 15 years of age or over [NWTG-002791[000-003]].

Student Activities

1961 Audit Report from 1961 notes that reimbursements were made for the following extracurricular items: hockey equipment and sleighs [LHU-000083[002-006]].

1962 Audit Report from 1962 notes that reimbursements were made for the following extracurricular items: hockey and other sports equipment; musical items; films; arena tickets; bicycles; toboggans; theatre fees, boat trips and boards for the outdoor skating rink [LHU-000034[003-007]; LHU-000035[000-005]].

1963 An Audit Report from 1963 notes that reimbursements were made for the following extracurricular items: hockey skates and sticks; record albums, books and subscriptions, film rentals, games, toys, dolls, pocket knives; roller skates; theater tickets; projector rental; trophies and crests; Indian drum; and scout supplies [LHU-000037[002-005]].

PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

Administrators

Name	Position	Tenure
Father Lize, O.M.I.	Administrator	1960 to 1963
Father Henri Possett, O.M.I.	Administrator	1963 to at least June 1969

List of Principals¹

Name	Position	Tenure
Mr. F. Frey.	Principal, Thomas Simpson School	1965

¹As Lapointe Hall was a pupil residence rather than a residential school, this list refers to principals of the Federal Government operated Fort Simpson Day School (Thomas Simpson).

Mr. G. Watsyk	Principal, Thomas Simpson School	1967
---------------	----------------------------------	------

Narrative Completed: November 6, 2005
Narrative Updated: November 10, 2005

The original school narrative document produced by Canada also contains a number of records that have been separated pending review.



National Centre for
Truth and Reconciliation

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA