



**BC Association
for Community Living**

Supporting people with developmental disabilities and their families

January 4, 2010

Hon. Gordon Campbell
Premier of British Columbia
Room 156, West Annex
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Fax: 250-387-0087

Dear Premier Campbell,

The BC Association for Community Living is a federation working with partners to build community and to enhance the lives of children, youth and adults with developmental disabilities and their families by supporting abilities, promoting action and advancing rights, responsibilities and social justice. I am writing to ask your government to do the right thing and recognize the abuse suffered by former residents of the Woodlands institution before August 1, 1974.

The proposed settlement is an important step for former residents of institutions across Canada; however, it is hard for us to celebrate when hundreds of other survivors are being denied compensation based on what is in reality an arbitrary date.

As you know, while the recently announced settlement agreement approves compensation for approximately 1100 former residents, over 500 former residents will be excluded merely because they lived at Woodlands prior to 1974. We understand that Madame Justice Satanove's ruling relieves you of legal responsibility to compensate all former residents. We are writing now to appeal to your moral responsibility, as it is fully within your discretion to include all Woodlands survivors in the settlement despite the Crown Proceedings Act.

Please do the right thing and recognize the abuse suffered by those who resided at Woodlands before August 1, 1974.

Sincerely,

Rory Summers,
President, BC Association for Community Living

