

## JOINT NEWS RELEASE

July 26, 1996  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### CEC Occupation Ends

HALIFAX -- This morning representatives of Human Resource Development Canada (HRDC) and the CEC\Black Community Work Group (CEC\BCWG) reached agreement on the provision of HRDC services to the community.

CEC-BCWG spokesperson Carolann Wright said, "We are pleased to announce that we have reached agreement on how we will work together to ensure HRDC client services are available in the Halifax North community". Ms Wright continued that this was a very positive outcome for the community. She thanked Reverend Lionel Moriah and the Council of North End Churches for the role they had played in bringing together the CEC/BCWG and HRDC to find a solution.

Dennis Earle, Manager of the Halifax HRCC, stated he was pleased that agreement had been reached so they could rebuild and strengthen their relationship with the Halifax North community. Mr. Earle was also pleased that HRDC would again be providing services to clients from a location in the Gottingen Street area.

Both parties confirmed that they would be working together to identify possible partners for a new service arrangement in the area and undertake a joint community needs assessment. The assessment will help identify the existing strengths and capacities of the north end and what services might be required to further enhance the strengths of people in the community.

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"The most important thing now," said Ms Wright, "is to get back to working together to develop a new partnership and to ensure that services are available in our community." Mr. Earle agreed and added, "The immediate priority of HRDC is service delivery. We want to get our services up and running, as well as to prepare for our new partnership arrangements."

On July 29, 1996 HRDC staff will return to 2089 Gottingen Street and will provide services in the community during the summer while partnership arrangements are being developed.

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Spokespersons:

Dennis Earle  
Manager, Halifax HRCC  
426-5607

Carolann Wright  
Black Community Work Group  
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Attachment: Highlights of the Agreement

## Backgrounder

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE AGREEMENT

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The following outlines the highlights of the agreement reached by Human Resource Development Canada (HRDC) and the CEC/Black Community Work Group (BCWG):

- The long-term goal of CEC\BCWG is to have HRDC services delivered in the community from the proposed multi-purpose centre on Gottingen Street.
  - In the short-term, HRDC will work with the CEC/BCWG to identify partners and a suitable location through which HRDC and the other partners may provide their services. The goal is to have the new arrangements finalized no later than September 30, 1996.
  - HRDC staff will return to 2089 Gottingen Street to provide services in the community while the partnership arrangement is being developed.
  - HRDC and the CEC/BCWG will work together to finalize a community needs assessment during the fall of 1996. The assessment will build on the strengths and capacities of the community and identify services required to further enhance the strengths of people in the community.
  - The parties are committed to rebuilding the relationship between HRDC and the community and to strengthen the CEC/BCWG. Strategies to integrate the various forms of community interest and support will be developed, as well as ways to strengthen the consultative process within the partnership between HRDC and the community through the CEC/ BCWG.
  - On August 2 an open-house will be organized at 2089 Gottingen Street to update the community and to recognize the return of HRDC services in the community.
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