

*Interview with affected parent,
and TTC director*



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**Territorial Treatment Centre
CBC Radio, Friday, June 24, 2005, 6:30 a.m.**

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CBC: The NWT government's decision to move the Territorial Treatment Centre to Hay River has parents and workers concerned. They say they believe the new location will not be as good for the children. The centre is for children with psychological and behavioural problems. Children who would normally spend some time with their families may no longer be able to and extra travel time may turn off parents entirely. Adelle Small reports:

SMALL: Jim Lynn's son currently resides at the Territorial Treatment Centre. Lynn's son receives professional care during the week and then returns home to his family for the weekend. But with a plan to move the centre to Hay River in 2007, Lynn worries future parents and their children won't have that luxury.

LYNN: If you take a child away from his home and his parents and people who are most significant to him to dump him off in some community far away where he has no contact with them, that in my mind doesn't create family.

SMALL: While the centre serves the whole territory, most of the children are from Yellowknife. Al Bowerman is the director of the centre and agrees that treating a child far from his family defeats the purpose of the program.

BOWERMAN: The difficulty is when you treat a child in isolation from the family, you aren't really treating the problem or adapting the situation to the best benefit of the child. So the further the child is away, the less likely the parents will be involved.

SMALL: Bowerman says he worries the new location will not be used as much. He says it takes years to establish a functional program and since none of the current staff will be moving, the new program will be starting from scratch. Treatment centre staff are circulating a petition to keep the program in Yellowknife. It will be presented to the government in October. Adelle Small, CBC News, Yellowknife.

CBC Radio, June 24, 7:30 a.m.

