

Windsor Children's Aid Office attacked by fire bomber

October 26, 2004

WINDSOR, Ont. (CP) - Investigators were trying to find out why a man crashed a burning truck into a Children's Aid Society building on Tuesday.

The blazing pickup slammed into the front of the newly built facility Tuesday morning, just an hour before children and their families usually arrive at the centre. "The truck was on fire prior to its impact," said Sgt. Gerry Corriveau. "In fact, the driver was on fire as well."

The cab of the pickup was loaded with propane tanks, police said.

A man was found outside the truck after it plowed through the extensively damaged front wall.

"We have some indication that the person involved was an ex-employee of the Children's Aid Society," said Sgt. Gerry Corriveau.

"We believe at this point and time that he was attempting to simply set fire to the building."

A 49-year-old man suffered second-degree burns to 20 per cent of his body and an apparent self-inflicted stab wound to the stomach.

He was in critical condition in hospital Tuesday afternoon.

Five employees inside the building at the time, were not injured, police said.

CAS executive director Bill Bevan said a well-respected member of the agency resigned two months ago.

He had been running a group home.

"He was known as a case aide, he looked after kids, here from the agency," Bevan said. "We had no indication of complaints or upsets."