



# Gov't may compensate foster-home victims

By [PAUL TURENNE](#), SUN MEDIA  
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A Manitoba cabinet minister says the province may consider a compensation package, a formal apology and a public inquiry for survivors of a "shameful" foster home system the Manitoba government ran up until the 1980s.

One of those survivors, Sam McGillivray, began camping out in front of the Manitoba Legislature Wednesday night.

His presence there yesterday was enough to prompt Liberal MLA Kevin Lamoureux to ask the government to call a public inquiry into the model of foster homes run by the former Children's Aid Society, which moved mostly aboriginal children from their home communities and put them up in group homes where they often performed forced labour.

## 'NO DIFFERENT'

"It's no different than residential school survivors and in a lot of cases it's much worse," said Eric Robinson, Manitoba's culture minister, who has been meeting for more than a year with a group of foster home survivors known as the Warriors of Lost Boys.

"I think that their story is something that is really shocking. Unfortunately, it's an example of the atrocities aboriginal people have faced," Robinson said. "I think that it's shameful."

Although no decisions have been made, Robinson said his government will consider many possibilities for dealing with the dark chapter in the province's history, including an inquiry, a compensation package and a formal apology.

"There are certain obligations that are expected of us and we'll certainly give every consideration to their requests," he said. "There are many options. We've got to listen to what's reasonable at this time."

Meanwhile, McGillivray's lawyer will be in court this morning arguing to have limitations extended to allow McGillivray to sue the province for suffering he endured as a result of his time in the Cathedral Valley Group Foster Home for Boys.