



COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE CIRCUMSTANCES
SURROUNDING THE DEATH OF PHOENIX SINCLAIR

Commission Disclosure 1802

the children residing in Samantha's care at this time. Therefore this matter is being closed at CRU until further information or a request for services is brought to the Agency's attention."

No contact was made with the couple and no home visit was done to determine first hand how the couple was doing.

The case was again closed on December 7, 2004.

March 5, 2005

A complaint is received from [REDACTED] who had received the concerning information from a previous foster child. The foster parent refused to provide the name of the original source of information.

The source of referral stated that she suspects that 'Phoenix is being abused by Samantha and also that Phoenix is being locked in her room'. The case was assigned within CRU for a worker to make a home visit to assess the situation. As an address was not known calls were made to collateral Agencies. Employment and Income Assistance did not have an open file but it was later determined that the name given to E & IA was wrong and that Samantha was active and an address was provided. A call was made to Winnipeg School division #1 but Phoenix was not attending school at that time although she had been registered in September 2004 and did attend Wellington School for a time. This in itself was not concerning as Phoenix was only four years old and nursery school attendance is not mandatory.

March 9, 2005

CRU workers attended Samantha's residence. Samantha answered the door but would not allow workers into her apartment as she had company. Workers informed Samantha that they were there as a result of a community complaint that she was abusing Phoenix. Samantha responded that she yelled at Phoenix a few days before but denied abusing Phoenix. Workers also asked her if she locked Phoenix in her room. Samantha admitted that she had a lock on the outside of the bedroom door. Workers cautioned her on this practice, as it was not safe in case of fire. Samantha briefly went into the apartment and got [REDACTED] and brought her out into the hall. The baby looked healthy and well cared for. Workers at no time saw Phoenix. In addition there is no recording to detail that any Social Worker has seen Phoenix since January 21, 2004 when the Stephenson's was caring for her. Samantha declined the offer of Agency supports and the file was closed with the following comment:

"Workers did not note any protection concerns and so this matter can be closed to the Crisis Response Unit at this time."

Case is again closed March 9, 2005.

This is the last contact with this family until the notification from RCMP in March 2006 of Phoenix's death. Case notes from the file of *DOE #3* place Karl McKay in Peguis(?) as of April 2005. If this is accurate Samantha and Karl moved to Peguis (Fisher River) shortly after workers attended the home in response to the abuse allegations regarding Phoenix in March 2005.