

APPENDIX V

The following issues were raised during the consultation activities. They have been considered when developing the proposed revision of the 2002 Guidelines (Appendix IV).

Policy Issues

There is an institutional responsibility to develop an appropriate policy environment within which the AHLP operates. Where the general health service policies lack specificity on the role of AHLP staff, specific policy positions need to be developed. Key policy issues that should be considered are:

- study leave entitlements;
- backfill for AHLP staff on leave;
- institutional exemptions under the Equal Employment Opportunity Legislation that allow the health service to recruit an Aboriginal person into AHLP;
- time allocation for attending community activities and cultural events; and
- debriefing arrangements that take account of culturally specific needs.

Planning and Budgeting

The AHLP — like any other program area — should be governed by an annual planning process that is linked to a detailed budget. While each AHLP will have a plan that reflects local needs and circumstances, there are particular issues that need to be detailed in plans and budgets. These are:

- appropriately situated office space that is easily accessible for patients;
- computing, printing and administration support;
- communication aids such as mobile telephones;
- a range of transport options that reflect local circumstances;
- professional development (a minimum allocation of days, criteria for determining the type of activities that are suitable); and
- a budget for the purchase of external cross-cultural training.