

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
5<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL, 29<sup>TH</sup> SESSION

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL  
NO. 6-29

TABLED ON FEBRUARY 9, 1965

8 January, 1965.

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL NO. 6  
(First Session, 1965)

CENTENNIAL PROJECTS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

At the First Session, 1964, Council gave consideration to a Reference for Advice on the Observance of Canada's Centennial of Confederation in the Northwest Territories. Council accepted the Commissioner's recommendation that the grant of \$250,000 for a Centennial Memorial Programme be funded and the interest revenue be used to encourage cultural performances and entertainment throughout the Territories.

The Centennial Commission has not accepted this funding proposal. Under the terms of the Centennial Memorial Programme grant funds must be used for a specific physical project, preferably to be completed by 1967. Therefore, a new programme must be found. There were other projects which received favourable consideration from Council. One was the establishment of a regional library system in the Northwest Territories and the other was the construction of a tourist reception centre and the welcoming arch on the Mackenzie Highway at the Alberta-Northwest Territories border.

If a Territorial Library to serve this rapidly developing need is to be realized, we have guidance in a number of examples in the country, most notably in our sister Territory of Yukon. The Memorial grant of \$250,000 would be just about right for the establishment of a regional library system including furniture, equipment and some books, without having to use Territorial funds. It was earlier agreed that the library would be financed from the Centennial Grants Programme in which an amount of \$72,000 would be available, (\$48,000 contributed by the Federal Government and \$24,000 by the Territorial Government.) This plan was formulated before the need had been adequately assessed. It is clearly inadequate for the purpose. Changing the library to the Centennial Memorial Programme would provide ample funds.

The amount of \$72,000 is just about right for the tourist reception centre and welcoming arch. The Commissioner recommends to Council:

1. The establishment of a regional library system under the Centennial Memorial Programme.
2. The construction of the tourist reception centre and welcoming arch on the Mackenzie Highway on the Alberta-Northwest Territories border under the Centennial Grants Programme.