

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
5TH COUNCIL, 29TH SESSION

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL
NO. 10-29

TABLED ON FEBRUARY 9, 1965



February 3, 1965

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL NO. 10
(First Session, 1965)

AVAILABILITY OF OVERPROOF RUM

At Frobisher Bay in November, 1964, Council discussed the unavailability of overproof rum at the Inuvik and Frobisher Bay Liquor Stores. Council asked that overproof rum be available at all outlets. At one time o.p. was sold in the Inuvik Liquor Store but the Council of the Northwest Territories, in January, 1958 directed that this be discontinued at Inuvik. The Votes and Proceedings do not contain the reasons for this decision, but Council officers recall that it was because of problems resulting from rapid intake of high-concentration alcohol. Delta Indians and Eskimos apparently did not realize that the greater potency of o.p. rum meant incapacity twice as fast.

Council members are aware of the problems the Administration has been having in recent years in connection with the sale of liquor at Frobisher Bay. For this reason the sale of overproof rum has not been introduced there. The possibility of increased revenue may be more than offset by increased social problems.

The Commissioner recommends that the present policy of not providing overproof rum at the Inuvik and Frobisher Bay Liquor stores be continued, and favours applying the same principle to all stores, i.e., discontinue stocking o.p. on the grounds that it is an alcohol concentration so high that it is unsuitable for drinking without heavy dilution.

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