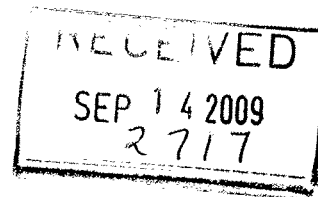




Northwest Territories Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs



SEP 11 2009

Mr. Richard Nerysoo
 President
 Gwich'in Tribal Council
 BOX 1509
 INUVIK NT X0E 0T0

Dear Mr. Nerysoo:

Arsenic Contamination

This will respond to your letter dated August 19, 2009, expressing concerns about the levels of arsenic on Gwich'in-owned land within the Town of Inuvik.

The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA) was not aware of the presence of elevated concentrations of arsenic in the soil in Inuvik. It was first brought to my attention when I received a copy of a letter sent by Chief Herbert Blake, Nihtat Gwich'in Council, addressed to the Honourable Michael Miltenberger, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR), and the Honourable Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment.

I am advised that senior officials with the Town of Inuvik have had a preliminary meeting with officials at ENR and the Department of Health and Social Services to talk about the situation, and to discuss next steps. I also understand that Meridian Environmental Ltd and Risklogic Scientific Services have been retained by the Town of Inuvik to lead a health-based risk assessment and to identify potential remediation options.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED
 BY
 HON. JACKSON LAPPERTY

Robert C. McLeod

c. See Attached List

c. Honourable Michael Miltenberger
Minister of Environment and Natural Resources

Honourable Sandy Lee
Minister of Health and Social Services

Mr. David Krutko
MLA, Mackenzie Delta

His Worship Mayor Derek Lindsey
Town of Inuvik

Mr. Mike Aumond
Deputy Minister
Municipal and Community Affairs

Mr. Gary Bohnet
Deputy Minister
Environment and Natural Resources

Ms. Paddy Meade
Deputy Minister
Health and Social Services

Ms. Sarah Brown
Senior Administrative Officer
Town of Inuvik