

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
6<sup>TH</sup> COUNCIL, 37<sup>TH</sup> SESSION

RECOMMENDATION TO  
COUNCIL NO. 6-37

TABLED ON JUNE 27, 1968



June 24, 1968

CONFIDENTIAL -

Not for release before  
tabling during the 37th  
Session of Council

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL NO. 6

(Second Session, 1968)

NON-CAPITAL EXPENDITURES  
IN SETTLEMENTS

DISPOSITION

Tabled	To Committee	Accepted as Read	Accepted as Amended	Deferred (to Session)	Rejected	Noted not Considered

## NON-CAPITAL EXPENDITURES IN SETTLEMENTS

For a number of years the Territorial Government has assisted with the cost of usual municipal services in settlements. The amount of money to be made available to each settlement is calculated on an ad hoc basis whereby area administrators submit an estimate of the requirement.

Council frequently questions the financial assistance given to communities. Of particular concern has been the apparently favourable position of some settlements which are better endowed than others because of a larger input of both capital and non-capital expenditures.

Inequities arise where the estimate submitted in other settlements does not cover the services available; for example, the following is the amount of money available to some settlements for operating and maintenance costs, 1968-69:

Aklavik	\$89,106. or \$127. per capita approximately
Fort Norman	53,589. or 206. per capita approximately
Fort McPherson	80,700. or 115. per capita approximately
Fort Rae	62,531. or 75. per capita approximately

If the Territorial Government made money available on a fixed per capita basis, all settlements would enjoy similar improvement opportunities. The per capita method of determining how much is to be available to a settlement could be further modified to allow for differences in costs due to geographical position. The growth pattern of a settlement will still depend to a large extent on an influx of capital, but a planned and fair apportionment of non-capital funds will promote stability during periods of growth.

The purpose is not to curtail expenditures, but rather to ensure that all settlements receive a fair share of the funds available. By calculating in a definite manner the money available each year, settlement councils will be able to plan in advance for program estimates. As the Department of Local Government progresses in its plans to give more decision-making authority to settlement councils, this aspect will assume greater importance. Everyone concerned will know how much money is available to a settlement; the settlement council must then prove its ability to effect control of the funds in a responsible manner.

### Recommendation

The Commissioner therefore recommends that the per capita basis for calculation be considered for implementation after the passing of the new Local Improvement District Ordinance.