

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

**TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 19-37**

**TABLED ON JULY 8, 1968**

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 19

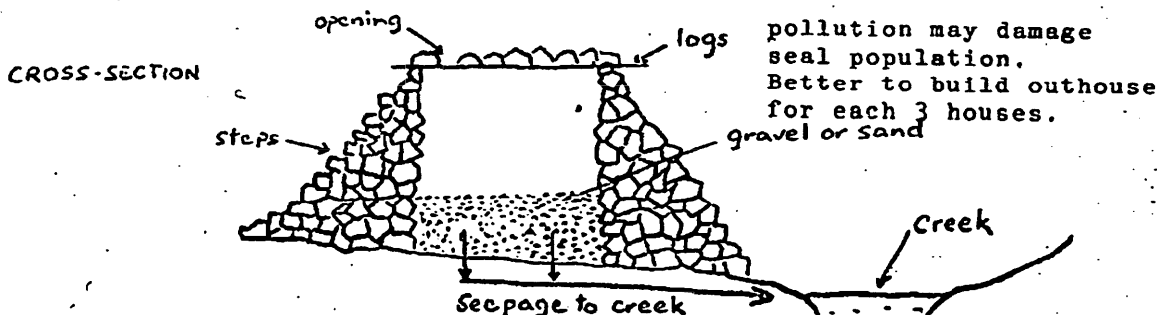
BELCHER ISLANDS ESKIMO COUNCIL

1968-1969

These objectives have been recorded from the minutes arising from the 2nd. meeting of the BELCHER ISLANDS ESKIMO COUNCIL on June 23rd., 1968 in consultation with the local population.

IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES

1. To SERVE THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE ESKIMO PEOPLE OF BELCHER ISLANDS.
2. To COOPERATE WITH THE FEDERAL AND TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS AT ALL TIMES AND TO ENSURE THE LOCAL OBSERVANCE OF ALL GOVERNMENT LAWS.
3. To ASSIST THE BELCHER ISLANDS (METIK) COOPERATIVE WHENEVER POSSIBLE.
4. To ANNOUNCE THE FORMATION OF THE BELCHER ISLANDS ESKIMO COUNCIL to:
  - a) The Northern Administrator, Dept. I.A.N.D.
  - b) The Eastern Arctic Representative, N.W.T. Council.
5. To HOLD PROPERLY CONDUCTED COUNCIL MEETINGS AT NORTH CAMP and SOUTH CAMP ALTERNATELY WHENEVER NECESSARY BUT AT LEAST ONCE EVERY MONTH. (twice in summer)  
(once in fall )
6. To KEEP A WRITTEN RECORD OF ALL COUNCIL BUSINESS.
7. To PERMIT NO WILFUL ABSENTEEISM OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FROM FORMAL COUNCIL MEETINGS.
8. To ESTABLISH GARBAGE REMOVAL SCHEME
  - a) To place garbage container at each dwelling.
  - b) To employ 4 men to empty containers twice weekly. (check every day)
  - c) To build a raft for the removal of garbage to special island.
  - d) To burn garbage on the island once every week.
9. To ESTABLISH SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME
  - a) To select a site by creek for building of disposal pit.
  - b) To build a circular rock wall (9 ft. diam., 10 ft. high) enclosing a 2 ft. deep gravel bottom.



- c) To enforce by council law the removal of all sewage to this pit.
  - d) To encourage the use of proper toilet bags.
  - e) To use quicklime for the disintegration of all remains in the pit.
  - f) To prohibit defecation within the village boundaries.
10. To CONTROL DOGS MORE EFFICIENTLY
    - a) To enforce the law to secure dogs at appropriate site during winter months.
    - b) To make the summer welfare of dogs the responsibility of both the owners and council employees.

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11. To CREATE COUNCIL REVENUES

- a) To properly record and bank all funds in Hudson's Bay Company (Responsibility of Secretary-Treasurer).
- b) To place a 5% tax on earnings from all carvings sold to the Kotik Coop and to use locally-prepared tax forms for its collection.
- c) To control revenues from all council-sponsored recreation such as :

movies  
dances  
bingo  
parties  
sports.

N.B. The Council may grant permission to expropriate a recreation revenue only to a properly organized committee or association.

- d) To establish a community tax for council services at the rate of \$4 per month per dwelling. These rates will pay for essential services such as garbage collection.

dwellings		monthly tax			
		per dwelling			
38	X	\$4	=	\$152	revenue per mo.

c.employees		monthly pay			
		per employee			
4	X	\$15	=	\$ 60	liability per mo.
				\$ 92	balance per mo.

12. To INTRODUCE COMMUNITY SAFETY MEASURES

- a) To improve community hygiene and health standards and to cooperate with all government measures for this purpose.
- b) To investigate methods for the effective control of vermin and to make inquiries for the acquisition of a simple fumigating machine.  
To discuss the feasibility of enforcing rules to evacuate lice infested dwellings for the purposes of fumigation.
- c) To make and enforce rules controlling the use of firearms within the village boundaries.  
    e.g. to prevent crossfire and firing towards settlement during local whale hunt in the bay.
- d) To organize local fire-fighting measures.
- e) To organize a local rescue system for winter and summer months.
- f) To make and enforce rules for the safety of children.
- g) To discuss rules controlling the local use of alcoholic beverages.
- h) To investigate and communicate to the Northern Administrator any problems relating to the local administration of Federal Government Social Assistance and Medical Welfare programmes.
- i) To investigate individual complaints against the government welfare programmes and to prohibit the sending of personal letters to Ottawa. Communication with government authorities is to be limited to the council only.

13. To INVESTIGATE AND COMMUNICATE TO THE NORTHERN ADMINISTRATOR ANY PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE NONPAYMENT OR INCORRECT PAYMENT OF ESKIMOS HIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR WORK ON A CONTRACT OR CASUAL BASIS.

14. To CONTROL THE FORMATION OF CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS ON BELCHER ISLANDS.

- a) to abolish the Belcher Islands Community Club on the grounds that too many organizations will tend to retard the general progress.
- b) to enforce the rule that council permission is necessary for the formation of any local club or association.

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15. To APPOINT COMMITTEES WHENEVER NECESSARY FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS.
16. To LEND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BELCHER ISLANDS ESKIMOS WHO NEED TRANSPORTATION FOR COMPASSIONATE REASONS, (e.g. Belcher Islands to Great Whale River)
17. To INVESTIGATE AND REPORT TO THE R.C.M.P. THROUGH THE NORTHERN ADMINISTRATOR ANY LOCAL PROBLEM RELATING TO FEDERAL OR TERRITORIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.
18. To INVESTIGATE AND SETTLE AT A PROPER COUNCIL MEETING ANY LOCAL CIVIL DISPUTE OR PERSONAL PROBLEM PRESENTED TO A COUNCIL MEMBER.
19. To ESTABLISH COUNCIL PENALTIES FOR THE NON-OBSERVANCE OF COUNCIL RULES  
Eg. Penalty for minor infractions (e.g. non-observance of garbage disposal rules)  
1st. offence - verbal warning at proper council meeting.  
2nd. offence - \$10 fine and warning at proper council meeting.  
Penalty for major infractions  
1st. offence - \$15 fine and warning at proper council meeting.  
2nd. offence - loss of all community privileges for determined length of time.  
(all culprits to be recorded in offence book)
20. To INTRODUCE SMALL SALARIES FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS AS SOON AS COUNCIL REVENUES PERMIT.
21. To PERMIT NO NON-ESKIMO TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE BELCHER ISLAND ESKIMO COUNCIL OR THE METIK COOPERATIVE AT ANY TIME.  
- NON-ESKIMO ASSISTANCE WILL BE APPRECIATED ONLY WHEN REQUESTED BY THE COUNCIL OR THE COOP.

FUTURE OBJECTIVES

1. To APPLY TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS TO ASSIST IN THE ACQUISITION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS
  - a) community wash house and equipment.
  - b) community hall for council meetings, village meetings and local recreation.
  - c) efficient communication system between N.Camp and S.Camp.  
N.B. Council will discuss these items in fuller detail and advise the government as soon as possible.
2. To BUY FROM COUNCIL FUNDS ANY EQUIPMENT NECESSARY FOR THE EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THIS COUNCIL (e.g. 2 skidoos, canoe and engine, small tractor)
  - a) To request government endorsement of the integrity of this council for the purpose of establishing credit with the Hudson's Bay Company
3. To REQUEST AN ACCELERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT LOW-RENTAL HOUSING PROGRAMME FOR BELCHER ISLANDS.
4. To REQUEST GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE IN THE CREATION OF ONE LARGE VILLAGE FROM THE PRESENT TWO COMMUNITIES TO FACILITATE:
  - a) the general progress.
  - b) the efficient operations of the Cooperative.
  - c) the effectiveness of the council.
  - d) the establishment of a more satisfactory education programme.
  - e) the effectiveness of all health measures.