

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
6TH COUNCIL, 38TH SESSION**

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 16-38

TABLED ON JANUARY 27, 1969

Tabled Dec 16-38
Tabled on Jan 27, 1949

TABLED DOCUMENT #16

BRIEF. COMMUNICATIONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

If one accepts that communication is a prerequisite of understanding and that understanding is prerequisite to the co-operative inter-relationship that in an ideal situation must exist between an effective government and the people it serves, please consider:

- (a) the desirability of broadening the terms of reference of the Commissioner's Task Force on Radio Communication to include an examination of the present situation of all communication media functioning in the Territories.
- (b) whether the Government of the Northwest Territories in striving to close the communications gap presently existing in the Territories will enlarge its own Information and Printing services thereby duplicating or providing services that are offered by private media enterprises.
- (c) whether the Government of the N.W.T. believes that privately-owned media have an integral and important role in the present and future development of the Northwest Territories.

The writer agrees in general with the points contained in the brief submitted by "News of the North" publisher, Colin Alexander.

With Mr. Alexander, the writer stresses that not one N.W.T. newspaper publisher would say he is anywhere near doing the job of communications that he could or should be doing. Our weaknesses are only too apparent as a brief examination of any N.W.T. newspaper will attest.

Ignorance not isolation is the curse and the greatest threat to the orderly development of our Territories.

(Sgd.) Tom Butters.