

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
7TH COUNCIL, 53RD SESSION

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 23-53

TABLED ON JUNE 27, 1974

Tabled June 27, 1974

Commissioner S. Hodgson,
Government of the N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Mr. Hodgson:

In our meeting in Rae, June 4, 1974, it was agreed by both parties (the Dog-rib Band and the N.W.T. Government) that:

1. No liquor would be sold in liquor stores to members of the Dog-rib Band, run by Gov't
2. Pressure would be applied to refrain from selling liquor to Dog-rib people by privately-owned liquor outlets. Privately-owned liquor stores would also be pressured to stop the sale of liquor to our people.
3. In co-operation with the R.C.M.P., severe control of bootlegging would be enforced, which included making special laws to prohibit the transportation of liquor to Rae.

Two weeks after our meeting we are sorry to say that none of these three resolutions agreed upon are held firm.

Resolution number one which includes selling no liquor in government operated liquor stores - I.D.s are still not being checked in the Territorial liquor store and few questions are asked.

Resolution number two regarding privately-owned liquor stores - these outlets are still operating in the same way as before.

Resolution number three regarding the R.C.M.P. - this force have still not received any recommendation from headquarters regarding bootlegging and stiffer enforcement of laws.

Following our June 4th meeting, we also learned that due to the abuse of alcohol, a young man shot himself in Ft. Franklin, one drowned in Yellowknife, and a third seriously injured himself in a car accident in Rae.

We, the responsible leaders of the Dog-rib people cannot stand by as silent witnesses to the destruction of our people. We repeat, we do not want liquor in Ft. Rae. The agreement passed June 4th in Rae was not made on the spur of the moment and was not made by one man only, as was falsely reported in the newspaper. It was the result of two years of meetings held publicly in the communities of Snare Lake, Rae Lakes, Lac La Marte, Ft. Rae and Yellowknife.

A petition regarding rejecting the sale of liquor was signed by 450 people.

Therefore, we, as the Chief and Councillors want to state again that:

1. No liquor be sold to Dog-rib people, in Territorial Liquor Stores, and when in doubt, these stores should check I.D.s.
2. Pressure be applied in privately owned liquor outlets in order to stop the sale of liquor to our people.

3. The R.C.M.P. be given proper authority and power to stop bootlegging and be given enough staff to enforce it.

We, the Chief and Council of the Dog-rib peoples are asking your help in order to stop the main cause of disruption of normal life in our communities. We thank you for understanding our problems and your co-operation in helping us solve them will be in taking immediate action on these matters to which we both agreed.

Signed,

Alexi Arrowmaker,	Chief
Alec Charlo	Councillor
Philip Huskey	"
Ed Lafferty	"
Joe Miqui	"
Alphonse LeMouel	"
Ed Camille	"

Fort Rae, N.W.T.

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