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OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
CANADA

Yellowknife, N.W.T., XIA 2L9, 31 October, 1977.

Mr. Robert E. Fry,
Executive Secretary-Treasurer,
The Northwest Territories
Public Service Association,
P. O. Box 1116,
YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.,
XOE 1HO.

Dear Bob:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 26th, 1977 concerning consultation with respect to any amendments which might be made in the future to the Public Service Ordinance.

As you may recall, the purpose of the lunch that we enjoyed together was to answer questions you had concerning the intention of the Government of the Northwest Territories with respect to amending the Public Service Ordinance, as there had been rumours circulating at that time that some changes would be made at the October Session of Council. As you will recall, I indicated that it was not the intention of the administration to table a Bill at the October Session and of course none was presented. It is also not our intention to table any Bill amending the Public Service Ordinance at the January Session.

In addition to answering the specific questions which you raised concerning the more immediate issues, I discussed in detail some of my ideas with respect to the direction in which I would hope legislation could be presented in order to strengthen the Ordinance. At that time I indicated that there would be consultation with the Public Service Alliance on any changes to the Public Service Ordinance. I am now pleased, by this letter to put that commitment in writing.

My hope in dealing with such issues as amendments to legislation is that we can proceed on the basis of open consultation on what might be called a "joint planning approach". I think that the objectives of such an approach should be to obtain as much concurrence as possible to measures

to strengthen the role of management in managing and to strengthen the rights of employees as employees, when such are altered in any way by legislative change. It is my hope that both sides will be able to enter such discussions with as much openness and fairness as possible and it is therefore with some dismay that I read in your letter, that in advance of seeing any proposals on the table, you expect there will be "concerns" on your part.

Thank you very much again for writing. The Director of Personnel and his staff will be in contact with you when any proposals to amend the Public Service Ordinance are in their preliminary stages.

Yours sincerely,

Gary Mullins,

Assistant Commissioner.