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Canadian Reindeer (1978) Ltd.

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March 5, 1979.

Hon. Marcel Lessard, Minister,
Department of Regional Economic Expansion,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

I am very angry. I am the owner of Canadian Reindeer (1978) Ltd., a company bought by my wife and myself, operating the only reindeer herd in Canada.

I have just learned that DREE, without consulting or even informing me, gave Special ARDA funds to an Inuvik organization called COPE to do a study on aspects of my business.

No one from COPE or from any other agency contacted me at any time about this study.

I have now obtained a copy of COPE's report (not provided to me by COPE, but obtained for me by a friend). The report is full of mistakes, misunderstandings, false claims, needless recommendations, and slurs on me and my business.

It is not surprising that there are mistakes, because no one asked me for correct information. The misunderstandings are because people have seen things being done in new ways and have criticized the change without understanding the improvements. (For example, several of my decisions have been based on long-term planning recommendations of Canada Agriculture, whose officials work closely with my company. The "researcher" doesn't know this, and makes it sound as if changes were based on my whim or on mismanagement or bad judgement.) Several recommendations for study are about things my company has already studied and put into effect or discarded as impractical.

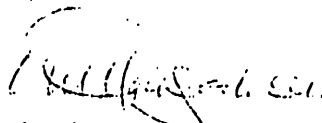
There is no way of knowing who wrote the report, but it is clear that COPE was either badly misled in this project, or else was taking government-funded and deliberate steps to discredit my steadily-improving, employment-creating, food-producing, and tax-paying business.

You should know that an immediate result of my reading this report has been to end all agreements with COPE for the distribution of any reindeer products. This cancellation was a hard, but necessary business decision, because I cannot have people coming into my herding and slaughtering operations pretending to be collecting meat and by-products while looking and listening for ways to undermine my hard work and investment.

So, I ask you to take a long hard look at the damage created with your \$15,000. It has destroyed a co-operative project, brought slurs on my Company, made bitterness among people, and made your Department look foolish and meddlesome.

It is difficult forme to know how many people will have received the COPE report, but I am asking that you give a copy of this letter to those who have received it, so that the record can be set, to some extent, straight.

Yours truly,



William Nasogaluak,
President

cc.

Mr. Joe Clark
Mr. Hugh Faulkner
Mr. Jack Horner
Mr. Eugene Whelan
Mr. Wally Firth
Mr. Stuart Hodgeson
Mr. Tom Butters
Mr. John Steen