

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
9TH ASSEMBLY, 7TH SESSION**

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 33-82(1)

TABLED ON MARCH 5, 1982



Canada Post
Corporation

Société canadienne
des Postes

TABLED DOCUMENT 33-82(1)
MARCH 5, 1982.

President and
Chief Executive
Officer

Président -
directeur
général

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0B1

24 February 1982

Ms. Lynda Sorensen
P.O. Box 2348
YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.
X1A 2L9

Dear Ms. Sorensen:

I refer to your letter enclosing information from Mr. John Quirke to the Postmaster at Yellowknife in regard to delays in the exchange of correspondence between Yellowknife and Rankin Inlet.

I am attaching a copy of our reply to Mr. Quirke advising him of the direct despatches which will be established shortly to overcome mail delays in the territories.

Yours sincerely,

R. Michael Warren
President

Enc.

Canada



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directeur -
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Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0B1

Mr. John Quirke
Deputy Minister
Government Services
Government of the Northwest Territories
YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.
X1A 2L9

Dear Mr. Quirke:

Ms. Sorensen has forwarded to me for response a copy she received of your letter addressed to Mr. Norm Achtzener, Postmaster, Yellowknife, concerning postal service in the Keewatin Region.

I will initially refer to postal service between Yellowknife, Rankin Inlet and Frobisher Bay. In 1979 the Canadian Transport Commission (Air Transport Committee) granted Northwest Territorial Airways Limited a temporary licence for a period of two years to provide a commercial air service between the three points. Subsequently, we entered into an agreement with the airline for the conveyance of all classes of mail between Yellowknife and Frobisher Bay on a twice weekly basis. Due to circumstances beyond our immediate control, it was decided to temporarily exclude Rankin Inlet as a mail exchange point on the scheduled service. The situation has improved to the extent that we are prepared to initiate postal service to Rankin Inlet as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

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Canada

Mr. J. Quirke

- 2 -

Additional mail despatches have been established as follows.

Yellowknife - Rankin Inlet
Rankin Inlet - Yellowknife
Rankin Inlet - Frobisher Bay
Frobisher Bay - Rankin Inlet

I am sure the establishment of these direct despatches will overcome the delay in the exchange of correspondence between the above points.

Yours sincerely,

R. Michael Warren
President



Canada Post
Corporation

Société canadienne
des Postes

President and
Chief Executive
Officer

Président -
directeur
général

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0B1

January 7, 1982.

Ms. Lynda Sorensen, M.L.A.
Legislative Assembly of N.W.T.
P.O. Box 2348
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
XOE 1H0

Dear Lynda:

Thank you for remembering us while, as you so
arrestingly put it, you bask in the Hawaiian sun!

I have taken note of each of the Quirke, Setter
and Mailhot letters and have asked my respective
Vice-Presidents of Operational Services and of
Personnel to investigate their interventions. When
appropriate replies are ready, of course I'll forward
copies to you.

Mrs. Manion's letter, on the other hand, has been
responded to, and I am pleased to attach our recent
reply.

Yours sincerely,

R. Michael Warren
President

Att.

*P.S. All the best for 1982. See you
later this month.*

RWW

Canada

P.O. Box 2348,
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
10 December 1981

Mr. Michael Warren,
Chief Executive Officer & President,
Canada Post,
Confederation Heights,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Michael:

Firstly, may I say how disappointed I am at not being able to attend the December board meeting. I will think of you all hard at work while I bask in the Hawaiian sun.

Secondly, I trust you will have a very enjoyable Xmas and I'm sorry to have missed your cocktail party.

Finally, attached are some letters I have received. I would appreciate your relaying them to the appropriate person or department for response.

In addition, would you be so kind as to send me an update on action taken in reply to these letters so that I can keep myself informed.

I look forward to our January meeting. Take care!

Sincerely,

Lynda Sorensen,

- Attached:
1. Letter Dec. 2, John Quirke,
Deputy Minister Government Services;
 2. Letter Oct. 13, Sylvia Setter;
 3. Letter 1981-11-20, F.S. Mailhot;
 4. Letter Dec. 1, Aileen Manion, P.S.A.C.

P.O. Box 2348,
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
10 December 1981

Mr. John Quirke,
Deputy Minister,
Government Services,
Government of the N.W.T.,
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Mr. Quirke:

Re: Your letter Dec. 2 - Postal Service

Thank you for bringing this situation to my attention.

I have referred your letter for immediate response to Michael Warren, President, Canada Post and have asked that I be informed of the action taken.

Sincerely,



Lynda Sorensen,
Board Member,
Canada Post.

P.O. Box 2348,
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
10 December 1981

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Government of the N.W.T.,
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

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Lynda Sorensen,
Board Member,
Canada Post.

Northwest
Territories Government Services

Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2L9

2 December, 1981

Mr. Norm Achtzener
Postmaster
Yellowknife Post Office
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Mr. Achtzener:

Our Regional Headquarters Office at Rankin Inlet reports extreme deficiencies in their postal service.

Apparently, all mail is routed through Winnipeg and/or Churchill, regardless of point of origin. The length of time it takes for mail to reach Rankin Inlet and other Keewatin region communities cannot be reported in days, but rather in weeks or months.

A map of the Northwest Territories is attached to demonstrate pictorially the inadequacies of the present system. For example, mail from Coral Harbour to Chesterfield Inlet must travel all the way to Churchill, Manitoba for sorting and routing back into the Northwest Territories. The routing and carrier used is unclear, but the whole process takes up to a month, and for a distance of only 225 miles.

Mail from Yellowknife is even sent via the Southern route through Edmonton, Winnipeg and Churchill.

Mail from the Yellowknife Post Office to the Government of the Northwest Territories Regional Headquarters at Frobisher Bay and the settlements in the Baffin region, is sent twice weekly by Northwest Territorial Air. The Postmaster in Frobisher Bay sorts and forwards mail directly to settlements. Why can there not be a similar arrangement in Rankin Inlet? After all, the same flight that carries Frobisher Bay mail also stops at Rankin Inlet.

The delay in getting mail to Keewatin region settlements is not only inconvenient, but costly. Invoices mailed to these settlements often

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Northwest
Territories Government Services

Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2L9

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Yellowknife Post Office
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

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reach the 30 day column of the invoicing company before they are even received, and the 60 day column before they are paid.

It is recognized that some delays are caused by poor weather conditions, but surely it should not take a month for mail to be delivered to Chesterfield Inlet from Coral Harbour, 225 miles, or from Rankin Inlet, only 56 miles.

We would appreciate your assistance in correcting this very unsatisfactory situation.



John Quirke
Deputy Minister
Government Services

Attachment:

cc: ~~John Quirke~~
Board Member
Canada Post Corporation

Ralph Goodbody
Rankin Inlet, N.W.T.

