

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
9TH ASSEMBLY, 8TH SESSION**

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 37-82(2)

TABLED ON MAY 21, 1982

ST. COMM NWTGOV YK.



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Tabled May 21, 1982

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THE HONOURABLE TOM BUTTERS, M.L.A.
MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
TOURISM
GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.
YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.
X1A 2L9

DEAR MR. BUTTERS:

RE: CANADA/NORTHWEST TERRITORIES SPECIAL
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT (SPECIAL ARDA)

FOLLOWING OUR FEBRUARY 24, 1982 TELEPHONE
CONVERSATION DURING WHICH WE DISCUSSED THE SPECIAL ARDA
PROGRAM, I AM PLEASED TO ADVISE YOU THAT I HAVE BEEN
AUTHORIZED TO EFFECT A TWO-YEAR EXTENSION TO THE SPECIAL
ARDA AGREEMENT.

ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE AUTHORIZED THE RELEASE OF
THIS INFORMATION TO THE MEDIA AT 4:00 PM, EDT ON
MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1982.

IN REACHING THIS DECISION, CABINET CAREFULLY
CONSIDERED THE PROPOSED FIVE-YEAR AGREEMENT THAT HAD BEEN
DISCUSSED. HOWEVER, MY COLLEAGUES WERE CONCERNED THAT WE
NOT PROCEED WITH A LONG-TERM AGREEMENT AT THIS TIME IN
LIGHT OF CURRENT DISCUSSIONS ON THE NEED TO IMPROVE
OVERALL DELIVERY MECHANISMS FOR NATIVE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT. IN WEIGHING THESE CONSIDERATIONS AGAINST THE
FIRM CONVICTION THAT SPECIAL ARDA HAS BEEN A HIGHLY
SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM WHICH SHOULD BE CONTINUED, THE OUTCOME
WAS TO SEEK A TWO-YEAR EXTENSION TO ALLOW THE PROGRAM TO
PROCEED WITHOUT DISRUPTION.

I AM HOPEFUL THAT OUR OFFICIALS CAN ACT QUICKLY
TO FINALIZE THE NECESSARY DETAILS OF EXTENDING THE CURRENT
AGREEMENT.

I TRUST THAT YOU SHARE MY PLEASURE IN WELCOMING
THIS ACTION TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS NO INTERRUPTION OF OUR
CONTINUING JOINT EFFORTS TO SUPPORT NATIVE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES THROUGH THE MEANS
OF THE SPECIAL ARDA PROGRAM.

YOURS SINCERELY.

THE HON. HERB GRAY, P.C., M.P.

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