

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
9TH ASSEMBLY, 11TH SESSION

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 18-83(2)

TABLED ON SEPTEMBER 8, 1983

A DECADE OF DISCUSSION AND DEBATE CONCERNING THE FORMATION OF A
WESTERN ARCTIC REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

A 1981 draft report, written by Angus MacKay of the Northwest Territories Government's Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat, states that, "the first formal documentation of the concerns the people of the Western Arctic communities had with respect to their dissatisfaction with the lack of control over the delivery of government services and programs can be traced back to the early 1970's." Some of this "formal documentation" is contained within the reports written by land rights fieldworkers on their discussions with the Inuvialuit in their homes and communities. Their findings were included in the "Nunavut Proposal" submitted to the Prime Minister and the Federal Cabinet on February 27, 1976.

The history of the conception and development of a WARM proposal in association with Senior Governments will be shown through a review of the more significant verbal and written submissions and exchanges that have taken place. It has been a decade of discussion and debate.

In Canada the precedent for giving aboriginal people political control over a law-making form of regional government was the James Bay Agreement. The resulting Kativik Regional Government, established under this agreement and by provincial statute, has been

given the authority to pass resolutions and ordinances in matters relating to local administration including standards of construction and sanitation, transportation, communication, justice, police, health services, social services, education, economic development, social development, environmental protection and development.

The initial ideas submitted by the Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic were formally expressed in Inuvialut Nunangat. The opening paragraphs of the Preface to Part Four, concerning a Western Arctic Regional Municipality makes the following statement:

"There is a general recognition within Canada today of the need for decentralization in respect to governmental decision-making and the delivery of services. A Western Arctic Regional Municipality would have limited powers and functions at the outset: education, game management, economic development, and police services, and could be given further powers as considered appropriate by the Federal Government. Laws passed by the Regional Municipality may be disallowed by the Federal Government.

The Western Arctic Regional Municipality will not duplicate, but replace, specific services presently provided by the Government of the Northwest Territories. Services will be provided more efficiently and economically than at present.

The devolution contemplated is consistent with the historical development of local government in southern Canada and consistent with the stated goals of the Government of the Northwest Territories. There are three essential points. First, there must be regional control in respect to law-making as to matters, such as education, that are vital to the people within the region who have a community of interest, but which are not of direct concern to people beyond the region. Second, the essential criterion from both a practical and moral standpoint for effective governmental services is that people have control over the institutions which serve them. Third, it is only through effective participation in government that the Inuvialuit can self-develop."

This intention was expressed in the 1978 Agreement in Principle which concluded by stating the Federal Governments' commitment, "to consider these matters with the Inuvialuit in the future, and agrees that the Inuvialuit shall not be treated less favourably than any other native groups or native peoples as residents of communities and regions with respect to the governmental powers and authority conferred upon them."

The last Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories had negative feelings about the Inuvialuit Agreement in Principle. Even though Commissioner S.M. Hodgson was a party to the signing of the Agreement in Principle the Legislative Assembly saw the matters at hand as being within their prerogative. At their 1979 spring session they expressed strong opposition to the intentions of this Agreement.

In his letter of May 8, 1979 to the President of COPE, Commissioner John H. Parker said, "We remain committed to the settling of land claims in a fashion that will clearly satisfy each of the major ethnic groups represented." This followed the March 1979 expressions when the Legislative Assembly released its "Position of the Legislative Assembly on Constitutional Development in the Northwest Territories." It stated that regional governments were not viable options for constitutional development within the Northwest Territories.

The Special Representative for Constitutional Development in the Northwest Territories, Bud Drury, in a letter to the President

of COPE dated June 19, 1979, articulated the conflict between the WARM proposal, and the then Legislative Assembly's opposition.

"In Part Four of Inuvialuit Nunangat, C.O.P.E. puts forth a proposal for a Western Arctic Regional Municipality or a regional government with particular legislative, administrative and regulatory functions currently being exercised by the N.W.T. Government. In its March 1979 position paper on constitutional development, the N.W.T. Legislature recommended that there are properly three levels of government in the N.W.T. (federal, territorial and local) and that there is no place for a regional level of government with its own law-making powers and administration. This issue received significant debate in the territorial Legislature during its last session."

The Drury's letter was written in relation to a meeting he had arranged for June 21, 1979 between C.O.P.E. officials and the Territorial Government's Executive Committee. It concerned "the Inuvialuit Land Rights Agreement in Principle and outstanding proposals for constitutional reform as presented by C.O.P.E. in Part Four of Inuvialuit Nunangat and the N.W.T. Legislature in its March, 1979 position paper on constitutional development in the Northwest Territories." In regards to this meeting, Mr. Drury anticipated that there eventually would be, "collaboration between the G.N.W.t. and C.O.P.E. on the future constitutional development in the Northwest Territories."

Following the meeting, the President of COPE drafted a document which included the following:

At the outset of the meeting the Government of the N.W.T. took the position that the principles of the Inuvialuit proposal were for a Western Arctic municipality were in conflict with the principles of the Legislative Assembly for Constitutional Development. After examination of the principles of both documents it was resolved that the fundamental objectives were the same and that indeed there was no conflict in principles between the Government of the N.W.T. and those expressed in Part 4 of 'Inuvialuit Nunangat'. It was agreed that the Inuvialuit proposal bears re-examination and development by both COPE and the Government of the N.W.T. cooperatively.

To that end it was agreed that COPE would identify the objectives and the study plan and the help required from the Government of the N.W.T. as soon as possible. The following is a preliminary draft;

Study Plan for the Constitutional Development of the Western Arctic Region

Purpose

To elaborate and articulate a realistic, concrete recommendation from the Inuvialuit for constitutional and political development of the Western Arctic Region to be presented to the Legislative Assembly and the Prime Minister's Special Representative on constitutional development in the fall of 1979.

Objectives

- 1.) To ascertain again and in greater detail the views of the people of the Western Arctic Region about the institutions of government and decision making.

2.) To confirm whether the published position of the Legislative Assembly is supported by the people of the Western Arctic Region.

3.) To examine the rationale and premises of the position of the Legislative Assembly as it relates to the Western Arctic Region Municipality proposal.

4.) Based upon the findings of the above to develop the details of a model for Democratic Decision-making, problem solving and the organization and delivery of programs and services. This is seen as a governmental unit representative of a particular community of interest and deriving its capabilities from Federal and/or Territorial Legislation. Its authority at the local and regional levels would be used by groups of citizens of the Western Arctic to solve problems of mutual concern. It would address fiscal structures, organizational flexibility and relationships to other governments.

Principles governing the conduct of the Study:

The study shall be conducted with the advice and support of the Government of the N.W.T.. In accordance with this spirit of cooperation it is suggested that on July 20 COPE and the Executive Committee shall together review the study to determine what support is required which can be provided by the Government of the N.W.T. and decisions as to how and who should provide it. We suggest at that time that the Executive Committee enter into a Memorandum of Understanding on this joint undertaking with COPE.

Sam Raddi,
President

June 25, 1979

Its intent and purpose were discussed at a second meeting held with the Executive Committee on July 24, 1979. Following this meeting, COPE's President wrote the following letter:

August 2, 1979

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

Dear Mr. Parker:

On behalf of the COPE representatives I would like to thank you and your colleagues for taking so much of your time to discuss the matters of Land Rights and Constitutional Development. We are anxiously awaiting copies of the minutes as well as the tapes of the meeting.

We were of course somewhat disappointed that the Executive Committee did not support our view as to the issuing of the Joint Press Release. However we were pleased to find through these discussions that there are not any matters of substance that stand between us.

We therefore anticipate that the Executive Committee's review of our Agreement, promised within a month, will mark the beginning of a new era of mutual co-operation and support.

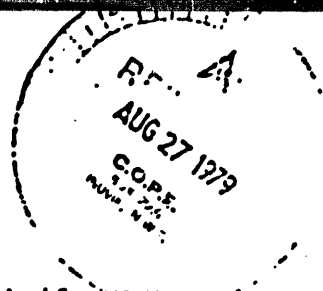
Sincerely,

Sam Raddi
President

The reply came from the Minister responsible for Land Claims and Constitutional Development. It put a different interpretation on the outcome of the July 24, 1979 meeting.



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
CANADA



Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2L9
AUG 24 1979

*Read to Sam
August 27, 1979
oz*

Mr. Sam Raddi,
President,
Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement,
P. O. Box 2000,
INUVIK, N.W.T.
XOE OTO

Dear Mr. Raddi:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of August 2, 1979, and at the same time enclose herewith copies of eight of the nine tapes of the meeting between the Executive Committee and representatives of your organization. The ninth tape, the conclusion of the July 23 session, will follow, as soon as it is available. Through an oversight it was not duplicated with the others and I apologize for the delay.

I am rather surprised at the statement in your letter of August 2nd, "We were pleased to find through these discussions that there are not any matters of substance that stand between us." You will recall that the Executive Committee made it clear to you and your representatives that the four principles put forward by the Legislative Assembly must be reflected in all N.W.T. claims settlements. Until such time as these principles are realized in the Inuvialuit Land Rights Settlement, the support of the Executive Committee will not be forthcoming and the matters of substance which are addressed by these principles will continue to stand between us. That was the final position taken by the Executive Committee on July 24th.

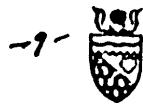
Yours sincerely,

A. J. McCallum,
Minister Responsible
for Land Claims and
Constitutional Development.

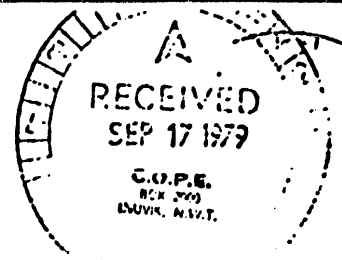
Enclosures

A second letter from Mr. McCallum arrived on September 17,
1979.

Sept. 17/79
16



OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
CANADA



Yellowknife, N.W.T.
X1A 2L9

Mr. Sam Raddi,
President,
Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement,
P. O. Box 2000,
INUVIK, N.W.T.
XOE OTO

Dear Mr. Raddi:

I am writing to confirm the offer of assistance which was made by the Executive Committee to you and the other COPE representatives during our meeting on July 24, 1979, regarding your constitutional development study.

We stated that your organization should contact the Government of the Northwest Territories on this matter, through one contact person. Mr. Phil Airhart, the Executive Director of Land Claims Secretariat will fulfill this function. Through Mr. Airhart you will have access to the advice of the Executive Committee and the technical expertise of the Government of the Northwest Territories on matters related to your study.

As was stated on July 24, the Government of the Northwest Territories does not wish to enter into a joint study with your organization, but we are happy to have the opportunity to provide assistance on a request basis.

Yours sincerely,

A. J. McCallum,
Minister Responsible for
Land Claims and Constitutional
Development.

With the election of a new Legislative Assembly, the mood from not wishing "to enter into a joint study" changed to one of participation.

The new MLA for the Western Arctic, Nellie Cournoyea, as part of her election platform, had committed herself to seeing the formation of a Western Arctic Regional Municipality of the status proposed in 1977 in the Inuvialuit Nunangat.

In this regard she wrote the Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, James Wah-Shee, on August 12, 1980. His reply affirmed that "the Executive Committee supports the development of regional forms of government in areas of the NWT where it is definitely what the residents want." The new position of the Executive Committee is outlined in his letter.

SEP 2 1980

27/1-62

Ms. Nellie Cournoyea, MLA,
Box 1184,
Inuvik, N.W.T.
XCE OTO

Dear Nellie:

I am pleased to reply to your letter of August 12th requesting that we begin the process for developing a Western Arctic Regional Municipality.

The Executive Committee supports the development of regional forms of government in areas of the NWT where it is definitely what the residents want. We have not defined the precise nature of regional forms of government at this time as we are moving into a new area and would not want to unnecessarily or unwisely restrict options. We do recognize the need to be flexible and innovative, at this time in our history, in searching for models of government that will better serve the unique needs of the various areas of the Northwest Territories.

I have read the proposal for WARM contained in part 4 of Inuvialuit Nunangat and the Report on Community Consultations and Recommendations dated September, 1979. As I read this material I find that there is much in it that I can agree with. However, I can't reply to specifics in a letter such as this but I do support the concept of a regional form of government in the Western Arctic and am prepared to enter into a process which would lead to the creation of a regional government deriving its powers from the NWT Legislature.

I recognize the importance that the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement would play in such a process as a representative of the majority of residents. However, as the new form of government would be a public institution its creation and operation would have to be based on non-ethnic lines. Existing community councils would also have to be included in the process.

I intend to discuss this with COPE when we meet in Yellowknife on September 4th and am prepared to begin work immediately.

Yours sincerely,

Original Signed By
JAMES J. WAH - SHEE

James J. Wah-Shee

c.c.: Sam Raddi
President, COPE.

The principles emerging from this letter are significant:

- support for the development of regional forms of government;
- won't restrict options;
- needs to be flexible and innovative;
- searching for models that will best serve the unique needs of the various areas;
- "prepared to enter into a process which would lead to the creation of a regional government during its powers from the NWT Legislature";
- "would be a public institution";
- "its creation and operation would have to be based on non-ethnic lines";
- "existing community councils would also have to be included in the process";
- "am prepared to begin work immediately".

(These GNWT principles were compatible with those of the Inuvialuit as approved things in their recent proposals. This set the stage for the passage of the motion by the Legislative Assembly on October 30, 1980 -

Motion 66-80(2): Development Of A Western Arctic Regional Municipality

MS. COURNOYEA: Motion 66-80(2), Development of a Western Arctic Regional Municipality:

WHEREAS the Government of Canada and the Legislative Assembly have supported the principles of devolution of power and responsibility to regional and local levels;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Canada has agreed to negotiate a form of political self-determination for the Western Arctic;

AND WHEREAS the Western Arctic expressed the desire to develop a Western Arctic regional municipality;

NOW THEREFORE, I move that this Legislative Assembly recommend to the Executive Committee that the Department of Local Government, under the direction of the Minister and in co-operation with the MLA from Western Arctic, commence work immediately with the community councils and COPE to develop the details for a Western Arctic regional municipality in accordance with the obligations of government under section 18 of the Inuvialuit agreement in principle;

And further this Assembly recommend that a comprehensive and detailed proposal be presented to the fall 1981 session of this Assembly and to the federal government at the same time.

Moved by myself and seconded by Mr. Butters.

This action was to result in "a comprehensive and detailed proposal" to be "presented to the fall 1981 session of this Assembly and to the Federal government at the same time".

The Minister for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, the Honourable James Wah-Shee, initiated the process "for developing details" in his February 17, 1981 letter to COPE's President. Here he expressed a new set of principles devised by the Government of the Northwest Territories as conditions for its participation.

1. It is the position of the Territorial Government not to promote a regional government in the Western Arctic but, rather, to respond to requests from the community level to participate in the development of such an entity.
2. Any regional entity shall derive its powers from the Legislative Assembly.
3. Regional structures should develop based on the common interest of communities as expressed through their community governments.
4. The main point of contact of this government in the development of a regional entity will be the local community governments.
5. In choosing regional government representatives, all residents within the region shall have the right to vote and run for office (subject to age and residency requirements).
6. Regional government bodies, as public institutions, must make services available on an equitable basis to all residents.

Again the Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic through its MLA and its COPE President found no difficulty in accommodating these principles in "developing details for their Western Arctic Regional Municipality".

The Minister's letter also detailed a four phase action plan which he described as, "an initial plan of action ---developed and adopted as the approach to be taken by the Territorial Government on this issue at this stage". This action plan of four phases was outlined.

The first was to be "a fact finding place". He stated that, "this phase is felt to be necessary since there are a number of basic questions that require answers before this government can proceed with the development of a regional type government in the Western Arctic." He identified some of the questions to be answered during this "fact finding phase".

- a) Do the people of the Western Arctic communities want some type of regional government?
- b) Which communities should make up a Western Arctic regional government?
- c) Who will decide which communities will be part of any regional government?
- d) How many communities have to be in agreement to have a clear mandate to develop a regional entity?
- e) Who would be the official contacts and who would represent the residents of the Western Arctic on any working group that may be established?
- f) What functions, in general terms, do people feel a regional entity would serve?

The second phase in the Minister's Plan would "deal with the mechanics of developing an appropriate model for regional government".

The third phase "will see the development of an implementation plan".

The fourth and final phase, "the implementation and fine tuning of a regional type of government in the Western Arctic".

There are some underlying conditions imposed on this process by the Minister for Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development:

- the process is to be coordinated by the staff of the Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat;
- the Territorial Government's principles are to be respected;
- the Territorial Government's plan of action should govern the process;

- proceeding with the development of a regional government will be dependent upon a consensus being reached among the community governments of the Western Arctic at the end of first phase.

This approach was amended at an April 2, 1981 meeting in Inuvik involving the Minister, the MLA for the Western Arctic and COPE representatives. In the Minister's draft summary of this meeting he stated, "some concensus was reached on an approach to the development of regional government in the Western Arctic." This approach included the following steps:

1. The Minister would analyze the WARM model already developed by COPE in consultation with the Inuvialuit and he would outline his concerns in respect to this model and its principles;
2. Further meetings would be held involving the Minister, the MLA for the Western Arctic and COPE to discuss the concerns of the Minister and the Executive Committee;
3. Community input on the model would be solicited through consultation with community governments and through the possible appointment of community government representatives to a working group;
4. The Minister would keep the Executive Committee informed on WARM developments and concerns;
5. The Community governments would decide the question of if and how a referendum on the proposal would be held;
6. The purpose of a referendum would be to see if a Regional Government was needed and if the proposed model was acceptable;

7. A positive outcome of a referendum would result in the preparation of a final model, an outline of its principles, a history of its development, its participants, and an implementation strategy. This would be reviewed by the Minister, by the Executive Committee and tabled at the 1981 fall session of the Legislative Assembly.

In July 1981 a plan to achieve this was developed "from the coordinated and cooperative efforts of the GNWT and COPE representatives and of the MLA for the Western Arctic. This action plan included the development of an Ordinance, a community involvement strategy and a time frame for the development and implementation of the ordinance.

In August 1981 the Executive Committee through the Minister aborted the implementation of this action plan.

The next initiative was taken in February, 1982 by the Government of the Northwest Territories through its Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat. It published a proposal for coordinating concerns for Constitutional Development in the Northwest Territories. It involved the structuring of three Constitutional Forums. One was to be a Western Arctic Constitutional Forum which "would be made up of representatives of the NWT Legislative Assembly and the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement (COPE)." An aspect of its mandate was "to coordinate the development of northern position on political and constitutional change".

At the same time initiatives were taken by COPE and the MLA for the Western Arctic to get the parties on track again in respect to the 1980 directive of the Legislative Assembly concerning the development of the details for a Western Arctic Regional Municipality.

The following letters affirm this:

15 February 1982

Mr. John Parker
Commissioner
Government of the Northwest Territories
Yellowknife, N.W.T.
XOE LHO

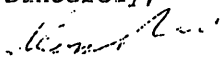
Dear Mr. Commissioner:

I am disappointed that I was not able to attend the meeting of the Executive Committee on February 12 following the Constitutional Conference.

I understand however that the meeting re-established the understandings we had last July with respect to the process to develop cooperatively the determination and implementation of the Western Arctic Region Municipality.

I look forward to establishing a new timetable for our joint effort.

Sincerely,


Sam Raddi,
President

c.c. Honourable James Wah-Shee
Minister, Aboriginal Rights and
Constitutional Development



COMMITTEE for ORIGINAL PEOPLES ENTITLEMENT

Post Office Box 2000

Inuvik, N.W.T.

XOE 0T0

19 February 1982

Honourable James Wah-Shee
Minister, Aboriginal Rights
and Constitutional Development
Government of Northwest Territories
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear James:

I regret that I was unable to personally attend the meeting last Friday with you and the Executive Committee to discuss the WARM process.

I was pleased to learn from COPE's representative and the MLA for the Western Arctic that the process which we had worked out last year with you would be followed. We are encouraged that the Executive Committee sees merit in our approach.

I have detailed what I think are the important elements of the previously agreed process. I have also suggested a timetable which I believe is realistic.

In view of the upcoming Constitutional Alliance meeting which will be dealing with process, we suggest that it would be advisable to have clear confirmation of the WARM process by the time of that meeting. We are suggesting this confirmation might best be handled through a memorandum of understanding along the following lines. We would like to deal with you on this upon our arrival Monday afternoon.

Sincerely,

Sam Raddi,
President

Attachments

The letter to the Minister included a draft for a Memorandum of Understanding about the WARM Process and a timetable that would lead to the presentation of a report to the 1982 May Session of the Legislative Assembly.

The Executive Committee met on March 5, 1982 to discuss this. The MLA for the Western Arctic presented herself but was not invited to attend the meeting or to participate in the discussions. The Minister promised to outline on paper for the MLA the concerns of the Executive Committee. This he did in his letter of March 9, 1982.

The status of the Memorandum of Understanding was articulated by the President of COPE in his March 17, 1982 telex to the Minister.

DEAR JAMES:

AS YOU ARE AWARE THE PURPOSE OF THE MEMORANDUM IS TO CLARIFY AND FINALIZE A PROCESS TO IMPLEMENT MOTION NO. 66-60(2). THIS MEMORANDUM WAS INTENDED TO OVERCOME THE DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED IN INITIATING AN INFORMAL PROCESS LAST YEAR.

ON FRIDAY FEBRUARY 12, COPE REPRESENTATIVES MET WITH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN AN EFFORT TO REINITIATE THE ABORTED INFORMAL PROCESS STARTED IN JUNE 1981. ON FEBRUARY 22, WE SUBMITTED TO YOU A DRAFT MEMORANDUM WHICH YOU CIRCULATED AMONG THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. ON THURSDAY FEBRUARY 25 WE MET WITH THE EXECUTIVE TO DISCUSS THE MEMORANDUM AND THE PROCESS INVOLVED. A DECISION AND A SIGNING WERE PROMISED THE FOLLOWING WEEK. THE INTERVENING TIME WAS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION AND CLARIFICATION PARTICULARLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF EXECUTIVE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT. SINCE WE WERE NOT CONTACTED DURING THAT TIME EITHER FOR QUESTIONS OR DISCUSSION, AS WAS AGREED IN OUR MEETING, WE ASSUMED THAT THE EXECUTIVE WOULD SIGN THE AGREEMENT ON MARCH 5 AS PROMISED. NELLIE COURNOYEA, THE M.L.A. FOR THE WESTERN ARCTIC AND ONE OF THE PROPOSED SIGNATORIES FOR THE MEMORANDUM WAS AVAILABLE TO SPEAK DURING THE EXECUTIVE MEETING ON MARCH 5 BUT WAS NOT CALLED IN. AFTER THE MEETINGS YOU ADVISED NELLIE THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAD NOT MADE A DECISION TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

- 1) UNSURE ABOUT LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF SIGNING MEMORANDUM,
- 2) WISHED TO CHANGE PROCESS AS FOLLOWS:
 - (A) ADD LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO B(1) COMMENT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE ADDED TO AND INCLUDED WITHIN B(2) WHICH WAS INTENDED TO FLOW FROM AUTHORITY OF TASK FORCE IN B(1)
 - (B) ANNEX 'A' TO BE MODIFIED AS FOLLOWS:
 - (I) 4(A) TO BECOME 4(B)
 - (II) 4(B) TO BECOME 4(C)
 - (III) 4(C) TO BECOME 4(A) COMMENT: FROM OUR STANDPOINT THIS IS NOT A SIGNIFICANT CHANGE AS (A) THROUGH (C) CAN ALL BE DONE BEFORE NO. 5 IS INITIATED. IF THERE IS SOME ADMINISTRATIVE PREFERENCE FOR YOU, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO OBLIGE.
 - (IV) TARGET DATE OF MAY 12. THE EXECUTIVE WAS THOUGHT TO BE TOO AMBITIOUS. COMMENT: GIVEN THAT IT HAS TAKEN OVER ONE YEAR TO TRY TO GET STARTED, I WOULD AGREE. PLEASE SUGGEST TARGET DATE YOU THINK IS REASONABLE.

IT WAS REPORTED TO NELLIE THAT THE DETAILS WOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO ME WITHIN TWO TO THREE DAYS. AS YET, I HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY COMMUNICATION FROM YOU.

I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THE EXECUTIVE INTENDS TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM AND IF SO WHEN.

AS I MUST REPORT TO THE COPE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON MARCH 22-23 ON THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE WITH WARM SINCE LAST YEAR, I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THAT MEMORANDUM EXECUTED. PLEASE LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SINCERELY,

SAM RADDI, PRESIDENT
COPE - INUVIK

It took another two months of negotiation before the final draft of the Memorandum emerged.



Northwest
Territories Minister of Local Government

26 May 1982

Mr. Peter Green,
President,
Committee for Original
People's Entitlement,
Inuvik, N.W.T.

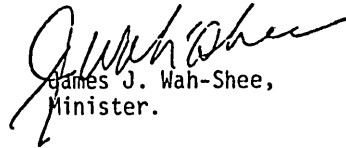
Dear Mr. Green:

I am pleased to advise you that the Executive Committee, at its formal meeting held on the 20th of May 1982, gave approval of the draft memorandum of understanding on the Western Arctic Regional Municipality proposal.

I enclose herewith three sets of the final version of the memorandum of understanding and would request that you have these duly executed by yourself and another officer of COPE. Please return two sets to me after the documents are duly executed by you.

I look forward to working very closely with you and Nellie Cournoyea in developing the details of the Western Arctic Regional Municipality.

Yours sincerely,


James J. Wah-Shee,
Minister.

Attach.



THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING entered into this the
26th day of May 1982

BETWEEN:

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
as represented by the Minister of Local
Government and the Minister of Aboriginal
Rights and Constitutional Development
(hereinafter called the "Government")

OF THE FIRST PART

- and

THE COMMITTEE FOR ORIGINAL PEOPLE'S ENTITLEMENT
as represented by its President, (hereinafter
called "COPE")

OF THE SECOND PART

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories,
pursuant to motion #66-80(2), has recommended to the Government that
the Department of Local Government under the direction of the
Minister and in co-operation with the Member of the Legislative
Assembly for the Western Arctic commence work immediately with the
community councils and COPE to develop details for a Western Arctic
Regional Municipality in accordance with the obligations of
government under section 18 of the Inuvialuit Agreement in Principle.

AND WHEREAS the parties hereto have entered into preliminary discussions concerning the process by which the concept known as Western Arctic Regional Municipality (W.A.R.M.) as envisaged by motion #66-80(2) can be more fully explored and developed.

NOW THEREFORE this Memorandum of Understanding between the parties provides as follows:

1. There is hereby established a task force comprising:
 - (a) The Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development;
 - (b) the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Western Arctic;
 - (c) the President of COPE;
 - (d) the Minister of Local Government.

2. The task force shall function under the joint chairmanship of the Minister of Local Government and the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Western Arctic and shall exercise control over and provide direction to the working group referred to in clause 3 of this memorandum.

3. There is hereby established a working group comprising:
 - (a) Two employees of the Government appointed to the working group by the Minister of Local Government;
 - (b) two employees of COPE, appointed by the President of COPE.

The membership of the working group may be increased in equal proportion between the Government and COPE at the discretion of the joint chairmen of the task force.

4. There is hereby established an Advisory Committee to the task force comprising:

- (a) The Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Town of Inuvik;
- (b) the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Mackenzie Delta;
- (c) the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Central Arctic.

5. The Advisory Committee shall, from time to time, provide advice to the task force on all aspects of the details for Western Arctic Regional Municipality being developed by the task force in accordance with motion #66-80(2).

6. In developing the details of a Western Arctic Regional Municipality, the task force shall ensure that the community councils affected by the W.A.R.M. proposal are given full opportunity to present their views to the task force.

7. The task force shall on completion of its deliberations, submit to COPE and the Executive Committee of the Northwest Territories its proposal and action plan to develop the details for a Western Arctic Regional Municipality in accordance with the obligations of government under section 18 of the Inuvialuit Agreement in Principle.

8. The Executive Committee and COPE will provide their responses to the proposal of the task force within three weeks of the receipt of the proposal.

9. The parties shall employ their respective staff as required to carry out the tasks assigned by the task force and each party shall be responsible for the salaries and associated costs of their respective staff employed in furtherance of this memorandum.

10. The task force shall submit its budget to the Executive Committee for approval prior to the commencement of the process envisaged by motion #66-80(2) and this memorandum.

11. The Government shall fund the cost of community meetings, including reasonable costs for travel, meals and accommodation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties herein have set their hands and seals, through their duly authorized representatives, the day and year first above written.

Steven K. Lal
Witness

Steven K. Lal
Witness

L. Deschened
Witness

L. Deschened
Witness

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

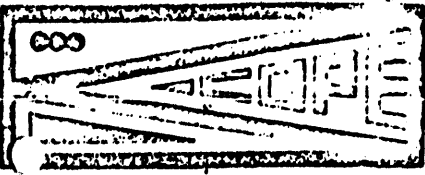
Per: James J. Wah'chee
Minister of Local Government

Per: James J. Wah'chee
Minister of Aboriginal Rights and
Constitutional Development

COMMITTEE FOR ORIGINAL PEOPLE'S
ENTITLEMENT

Per: _____

Per: _____



COMMITTEE for ORIG. AL PEOPLES ENTITLEMENT

Post Office Box 2000

Inuvik, N.W.T.

XOE 0T0

3 June 1982

Honourable James J. Wah-Shee
Minister of Local Government
Government of N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear James:

As instructed in your letter dated 26 May 1982,
I am returning two executed copies of the final
version of the memorandum of understanding on the
Western Arctic Regional Municipality proposal.

I can assure you of our full co-operation in
developing the details of this proposal.

Sincerely,

Peter Green
President

The purpose and the organization addressed in the Memorandum
of Understanding was publically affirmed by the Executive
Committee through the July 20, 1982 Press Release of its
Department of Information.

C O P E INVK

-27-

CNCP MULTI ADR
GUI580 JUL 20 1430 EST

GOVWNT INFO YK
001 022

TX 03444596 C O P E INVK
YELLOWKNIFE NWT JULY 20/82 11:45 AM 82-237 DI
PRESS RELEASE 82-179
WIDEST DIST POSS IN UR AREA

GROUP TO STUDY WESTERN ARCTIC REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

YELLOWKNIFE (JULY 20) - THE TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMITTEE FOR ORIGINAL PEOPLE'S ENTITLEMENT (COPE) HAVE SIGNED AN AGREEMENT TO DEVELOP PLANS FOR SETTING UP THE WESTERN ARCTIC REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY (WARM) PROPOSED BY COPE.

THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY JAMES WAH-SHEE, MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND COPE PRESIDENT PETER GREEN. THE AGREEMENT WAS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED TO THE GOVERNMENT BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

THE FIRST STEP OUTLINED IN THE AGREEMENT IS TO APPOINT FOUR PEOPLE TO A WORKING GROUP TO CONSULT WITH COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY COPE'S PROPOSAL FOR REGIONAL GOVERNMENT.

THE GROUP WILL BE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A TASK FORCE MADE UP OF PETER GREEN, JAMES WAH-SHEE AND WESTERN ARCTIC MLA NELLIE COURNOYEA. COPE AND THE TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT WILL EACH APPOINT TWO MEMBERS TO SIT ON THE WORKING GROUP.

"THE WISHES OF THE COMMUNITIES AND THE SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED FROM GROUPS AFFECTED BY THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE WHEN OUR TASK FORCE ASSEMBLES ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION," THE MINISTER SAID.

AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MADE UP OF INUVIK, MACKENZIE DELTA AND CENTRAL ARCTIC MLA'S WILL ALSO WORK WITH THE TASK FORCE AS ADVISORS.

AT THE FIRST WESTERN NWT CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IN JANUARY, WAH-SHEE SAID THAT THE TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT IS "SUPPORTIVE OF INITIATIVES FROM COMMUNITIES WITH COMMON GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR DEVELOPING REGIONAL GOVERNMENT. THE DEVELOPMENT OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE PURSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STYLE, FORMS AND TRADITIONS THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTH FEEL ARE APPROPRIATE."

ONCE THE TASK FORCE HAS COMPLETED ITS STUDY, THE GROUP WILL SUBMIT A REPORT WITH AN ACTION PLAN FOR DEVELOPING THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY TO THE GOVERNMENT'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND TO COPE.

ONE OF THE FIRST ITEMS FOR THE WORKING GROUP WILL BE TO SET UP A SCHEDULE FOR COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS AND FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE REPORT, WAH-SHEE SAID.

COMMUNITY VISITS ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN SHORTLY AFTER THE MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP ARE NAMED.

Initiating the implementation of the organization and process of the Memorandum of Understanding signed May 26, 1982 was delayed. In October the President of COPE and the Western Arctic MLA, two of the three members of the Task Force and the first appointed member of the Working Group took positive action to organize and facilitate a Regional Workshop in October at Tuktoyaktuk.

The Minister was advised of this initiative on October 6, 1982 in a telex from COPE President and WARM Task force Member Peter Green. An oversight in the drafting of the telex was the failure to say that it related to the WARM consultative process which became clarified in later communications. Efforts were made to engage the participation of the GNWT's Task Force and Working Group Members. Between October 6 and October 15, three telex communications were sent to the Minister and one to the Deputy Minister of Local Government soliciting funds and participation. The Minister's reply was received October 18, 1983 while the Regional Workshop on WARM was in session at Tuktoyaktuk.

GOVT NNTB INUK

COMM NNTGOV YK

URGENT URGENT URGETH RRRRRRRR

CUD YOU PLS PHONE OR DELIVER ASAMP.
THANKS

OCTOBER 18, 1982.

NELLIE COURNOYER, M.L.A.,
WESTERN ARCTIC.

*3510 Done
013 C*

4145

I HAVE SENT A TELEX TO PETER GREEN ABOUT FUNDING THE WORKSHOP WHICH IS TAKING PLACE NOW IN TUKTOYAKTUK.

I CANNOT AGREE THAT THERE WAS CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE REGARDING THIS WORKSHOP.

THERE HAS BEEN NO MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP TO ADVISE THE TASK FORCE ON CONSULTATION, AND WE HAVE NOT AGREED ON A BUDGET FOR ME TO TAKE TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED THE PROCESS IN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING HAS NOT BEEN FOLLOWED.

JAMES J. WAH-SHEE,
MINISTER,
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

GOVT NNTB INUK

COMM NNTGOV YK

*
C O P E INVK

COMM NWTGOV YK

URGENT URGENT
PLS DELIVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

OCTOBER 18, 1982.

PETER GREEN,
PRESIDENT,
C.O.P.E.

I WAS SURPRISED TO LEARN FROM MY STAFF AND FROM A TELEX SIGNED BY BILL GOOSE FOR YOU DATED 15 OCTOBER THAT THE MEETING TAKING PLACE NOW IN TUKTOYAKTUK IS BEING HELD UNDER THE TERMS OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON W.A.R.M. AND THAT MY PARTICIPATION AS A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE IS ASSUMED.

YOUR TELEX OF OCTOBER 6 AND THE ONE FROM BILL GOOSE ON OCTOBER 13 MADE NO MENTION OF W.A.R.M. THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN COPE AND THE GNWT ON A PROCESS LEADING TO W.A.R.M. MAKES IT CLEAR THAT THE TASK FORCE HAS TO SUBMIT ITS BUDGET TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR APPROVAL PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE PROCESS. WE HAVE BEEN WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU THE NAMES OF YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ON THE WORKING GROUP, AND THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN A MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP TO AGREE WITH THE TASK FORCE ON THE CONSULTATION WITH COMMUNITIES AND A BUDGET.

I SUGGEST THAT THE WORKING GROUP SHOULD MEET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO AGREE ON A PROCESS FOR CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY W.A.R.M. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH SIX (6) OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING. THE WORKING GROUP SHOULD ALSO PRESENT A BUDGET TO THE TASK FORCE WHICH I CAN TAKE TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

JAMES J. WAH-SHEE,
MINISTER,
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

*
C O P E INVK

COMM NWTGOV YK

The documentation and analysis of subsequent events suggest that the Government of the Northwest Territories, through its Executive Committee, continues to hold its 1979 attitude which is to oppose the formation of Regional Governments that seek to be more than advisory bodies and that may function outside of the direct control of the government's administration.

On November 9, 1982, the President of COPE confirmed by telex the discussions in Ottawa with the Minister of Local government and accepted the Minister's verbal invitation to attend that week a meeting of the WARM Task Force. He asked the Minister to let him know when and where the Task Force will meet. He indicated that his agenda concerns included the Tuktoyaktuk Workshops, a Funding Budget and the process for community consultations.

In his reply on November 16, 1982 the Minister said: "I did not invite the Members of the Task Force to meet the week of November 8-12, but I see a necessity for the Task Force to meet with the Executive Committee to discuss concerns that I and my colleagues on the Executive Committee have about the Memorandum of Understanding and the process which we are about to begin." He suggested that this meeting be held either on Thursday, November 18 or during the week following.

A subsequent telex November 23, 1982 from the Minister to the President of COPE requested the attendance of the President "at a meeting of the Executive Committee on November 26th to discuss W.A.R.M.

The President's reply indicated that "such a meeting would be premature". He urged that the Task Force meet "in order that we can begin our substantive work". Once the details of an approach had been completed a meeting with the Executive Committee could take place. COPE President's suggestion that this WARM Task Force meet on Friday, November 26, 1982, was accepted.

This was the first formal meeting of the Task Force and it was convened exactly six months after the execution of the Memorandum of Understanding. It was attended by all three of its members and by Mike Moore, the Deputy Minister of Local government and by the GNWT's Debra VanderBeek.

COPE President Peter Green defended his purpose for organizing the tuktoyaktuk Workshop. He also indicated his budget requirements in the amount of \$136,000 to cover the costs of COPE's participation in the WARM development process for the period beginning with the tuktoyaktuk Workshop and ending May 31, 1983. The decisions made at this Task Force meeting were:

- that Ross McKinnon and Charles McGee be the GNWT's members of the Working Group;
- that the Working Group will begin a meeting in Inuvik on November 29, 1982 to develop the consultation plan, timetable and budget;
- that the workplan will be reviewed by the Deputy Minister of Local government and if acceptable, it will be taken by the Minister of Local government to the Executive Committee.

The initial workplan and budget prepared by the WARM Working Group was rejected by the Minister and the Executive Committee. Their concerns were stated by the Minister as:

- the first round, the informing-giving phase, should include visits to the communities of Inuvik, Arctic Red River and Fort McPherson;
- the amount budgeted for COPE Consultants needed further clarification.

These concerns lead the Minister to cancel, without Task Force consultation the mid-December work planned by the Working Group.

The Executive Committee had met on Thursday, December 9th, 1982 and "discussed Regional Councils generally as well as the Working Group's proposed consultation process and budget for WARM".

The Minister's telex of December 13 to the Western Arctic MLA states:

"The Executive Committee was considering a number of principles which they wish to apply to all Regional Councils including WARM. I expect they will finalize these principles on Thursday this week. Until the principles are approved and can be applied to the WARM proposal the working party should not go any further with preparing the material that has to go to the communities.

As far as the budget is concerned, the Executive Committee questioned the payment of consultant fees and inclusion of the costs of the Tuktoyaktuk meeting. I shall discuss this again with them on Thursday. I understand you will be providing some more details on both these items to my members of the Working Group.

I am not trying to delay the process or to inconvenience anyone, but the consultation cannot go ahead until the process and the budget are approved by the Executive Committee as per the Memorandum of Understanding".

The MLA for the Western Arctic replied in part,

"I remind you that you are one of three members of a Task Force set up under a Memorandum of Understanding, which has as its mandate the exploration, in an open and unfettered manner, of the concept of regional government for the Western Arctic. It would not be in keeping with that Memorandum, nor would it be helpful to try to alter that mandate by introducing preconceptions or constraints into the work of the Task Force as a result of your participation in the broader consideration of issues elsewhere."

She called for a joint meeting of the Task Force and Working Group "in order that we might proceed in accordance with the spirit and intention of our mutual undertakings as expressed in the Memorandum of Understanding".

The Minister called the Task Force to meet December 18...a meeting that was to be cancelled.

In a December 20th telephone conversation the MLA and the Minister discussed the Executive Committee's concerns. The budget and the workplan had been approved with some conditions. A new concern of the Executive Committee was that much of the content of the information package to be distributed to the communities contained direct quotations without reference, from the reports on the WARM structure and organization prepared by COPE and its resource consultant. It was agreed that GNWT Working Group Member Ross McKinnon would rewrite this material for the Task Force and that it would be reviewed by the Advisory Group. When it is in acceptable form it would be given to the Executive Committee for its comments.

These concerns were outlined in a telex December 21, from the Minister of Local Government to the President of COPE and to the MLA for the Western Arctic. It states:

COPE INUK
T*
COPE INUK

GOVTNWTRES YK
R

DEC 21, 1982
LG 692
3:44 PM

NELLIE COURNOYEA
M L A
WESTERN ARCTIC

PETER GREEN
COPE
INUVIK, NWT

AS YOU ARE PROBABLY AWARE, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE ADVISORY GROUP REVIEWED THE INFORMATION PACKAGE PREPARED BY OUR WORKING GROUP OVER THE WEEKEND.

MANY QUESTIONS AROSE AND I DO NOT FEEL THAT THE MATERIAL, AS PRESENTED, CAN GO OUT TO THE COMMUNITIES AT THIS TIME. I HAVE INSTRUCTED OUR MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP TO CONTACT YOUR MEMBERS AND SEE WHAT CAN BE ARRANGED ABOUT PREPARING ANOTHER DRAFT. THE BUDGET WAS AGREED TO, HOWEVER, AND NO SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES AROSE CONCERNING THE WORK PLAN EXCEPT FOR A CONCERN OVER THE TIGHT SCHEDULE.

I AM ALSO GETTING CONCERNED OVER THE SCHEDULING AND HOPE THAT THE NECESSARY REVISIONS ARE MADE TO THE COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND THAT OUR ADVISORY COMMITTEE ALSO ACCEPT THESE REVISIONS.

ALL THE BEST FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON TO YOU, AND I AM SURE WE WILL BE SPEAKING FURTHER ABOUT OUR WARM INVOLVEMENT.

YOURS WARMLY

JAMES J WAH-SHEE
MINISTER,
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
YELLOWKNIFE, NWT

COPE INUK

GOVTNWTRES YK

(At the same time an undated "letter of reprimand" was dispatched to the President of COPE:



Northwest
Territories Minister of Local Government


Mr. Peter Green,
President,
Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement,
Inuvik, N.W.T.

(Dear Peter:

As you are aware the Executive Committee approved the budget which the working group prepared on our behalf. The Executive Committee were, as I was, very disturbed about the meeting which was held in Tuktoyaktuk in October. As you and I discussed, this was held without prior authorization and not in accordance with the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding. I have been assured by yourselves that a similar breach will not happen again and I as a fellow Task Force Member would not allow such a thing to occur.

I hope that this misunderstanding will not happen again.

Yours sincerely,


James J. Wah-Shee,
Minister.

Other reports document the content and successful and supportive outcomes of the first phase of Community Work initiated in early January, 1983 and concluded April 13, 1983. There were times during this process that the struggle between COPE and the Executive Committee became evident in the Working Group

During this period two joint meetings were held of the combined Working Group and the Task Force.

The first took place in Inuvik on January 18, 1983. The Working Group reported on its initial meetings with four of the five communities to be included in the Western Arctic Regional Municipality. Three of them had requested community workshops.

This meeting directed that Regional Government Models be developed and reviewed by the Task Force Members and used in the Community Workshop Process. It also instructed the Working Group to make information presentations to the community councils of Fort McPherson, Arctic Red River, Inuvik and Coppermine. It was assumed that out of this process a draft report on the WARM details would be tabled at the February, 1983, session of the Legislative Assembly. There was a directive as well to consult with the Aklavik Dene Band Council.

Further to this, the January meeting on Constitutional Development at Tuktoyaktuk of Beaufort-Delta communities passed the following resolution:

"Whereas the Community consultation process on regional government is not adequate,
Be it resolved that the Community consultation be lengthened to ensure a consensus is reached within the communities on regional government and political development in the N.W.T."

The second meeting of the joint Task Force and Working Group was held in Yellowknife on March 7, 1983. It was reported that the community workshops had been held at Peulaturk and Sachs Harbour; that the Holman community workshop would take place on March 9 and 10; and that arrangements were being made to re-establish dates for Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk. The continuing efforts of the working Group were programmed with the following points to be completed and presented to the Task Force at a joint meeting in Inuvik on April 8, 1983:

- the development of a detailed WARM model with visual aids;
- the draft of a WARM Ordinance;
- a proposed public ratification process;
- a 1983-84 budget;
- a plan for further community work;
- a version of the NWT Act in simple language;
- the completion of the community workshop process in Tuktoyaktuk and in Aklavik where the Inuvialuit, the Dene and others must be involved.

This was to lead to the preparation of a comprehensive report to be tabled at the May 1983 session of the Legislative Assembly. It was further proposed that following the Holman Island Community

Workshop, Working Group members Bill Goose and Charlie Haogak would engage in community work in Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk and establish dates for their community workshops.

In early April, the Executive Committee again intercepted the process and this is documented in the following telexes between the President of COPE, the M.L.A. for the Western Arctic and the Minister of Local Government.

MOV+
GOVT NWT YK
C O P E INVK

5 APRIL 1983

HONOURABLE JAMES WAH-SHEE
MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
GOVERNMENT OF NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
YELLOWKNIFE, NWT

DEAR JAMES:

I WOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM WITH YOU THE DATE AND AGENDA
FOR OUR NEXT MEETING OF THE WARM TASK FORCE. WILL YOU
BE AVAILABLE FOR OUR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 8
IN INUVIK?

I WOULD PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING AGENDA FOR OUR MEETING:

- 1. REVIEW OF THE DRAFT WARM ORDINANCE BY THE TASK FORCE, AND
- 2. A BRIEF REPORT BY THE WARM WORKING GROUP

PLEASE CONFIRM WHETHER OR NOT THIS AGENDA AND MEETING
DATE ARE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU. I HAVE CONFIRMED THE DATE
AND AGENDA WITH NELLIE COURNOYEA.

YOURS SINCERELY,

PETER GREEN
PRESIDENT - COPE
GOVT NWT YK
C O P E INVK

To
C O P E INUVK
COMM NWTGOV YK

APRIL 5 1983

JELLIE COURNOYEA MLA
AND PETER GREEN
COPE
INUVIK NWT

AS YOU WILL RECALL, THE TASK FORCE FOR WARM WAS TO MEET AGAIN IN INUVIK ON APRIL 8 TO DISCUSS AND REVIEW THE MATERIAL PREPARED BY OUR WORKING GROUP.

HOWEVER, THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE APPARENT LACK OF INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION IN TWO OF THE MAJOR COMMUNITIES AND HAS DIRECTED ME TO RE-ASSESS THE CONSULTATION TO DATE.

I WOULD LIKE THE WORKING GROUP TO MEET IN INUVIK THIS WEEK TO PREPARE A PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE.

WE COULD MEET TO CONSIDER THE REPORT AFTER APRIL 18 AND I WOULD PLAN TO REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SOON AFTER THAT DATE.

IN THE MEANTIME I SUGGEST THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO FURTHER COMMUNITY VISITS BY THE WORKING GROUP.

JAMES J WAH-SHEE
MINISTER
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

GOVT NWT YK
C O P E INVK

7 APRIL 1983

HONOURABLE JAMES WAH-SHEE
MINISTER
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
GOVERNMENT OF NWT
YELLOWKNIFE NWT

DEAR JAMES:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR APRIL 5 TELEX CONCERNING WARM. WE CAN APPRECIATE THE CONCERNS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUT FEEL THAT A REPORT AT THIS TIME WOULD BE PREMATURE WITHOUT THE INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS PLANNED FOR AKLAVIK ON APRIL 11 AND TUKTOYAKTUK APRIL 12 AND 13.

WORKING GROUP MEMBERS BILL GOOSE AND CHARLIE HAOGAK HAVE DONE SOME WORK IN THESE COMMUNITIES SINCE THE LAST MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE AND WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THERE WILL BE A GREATER EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AND SUPPORT IN THESE MEETINGS ARRANGED IN CONSULTATION WITH HAMLET COUNCIL MEMBERS.

FOLLOWING THESE WORKSHOPS THE WORKING GROUP WILL BE IN A MUCH BETTER POSITION TO PREPARE FOR THE TASK FORCE A COMPLETE REPORT ON THIS PHASE OF THE WARM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS WE ARE COMMITTED TO COMPLETE. WE TRUST YOU AGREE.

NELLIE COURNOYEA, MLA

PETER GREEN, PRESIDENT COPE

GOVT NWT YK
C O P E INVK

COPE INUK
COMM NWTGOV YK
APRIL 7 1983

NELLIE COURNOYEA
AND PETER GREEN
COPE
INUVIK

I AM AFRAID THAT I CANNOT AGREE TO EXTEND THE CONSULTATION PHASE AS SUGGESTED IN YOUR TELEX OF APRIL 7. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS QUITE DEFINITE IN WANTING TO HAVE A REPORT ON THE PROGRESS SO FAR BEFORE COMMITTING THE GNWT TO FURTHER INVOLVEMENT AT THIS TIME.

8 THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT THE FOUR WORKING GROUP MEMBERS, BILL GOOSE, CHARLIE HAOGAK, ROSS MCKINNON AND CHARLES MCGEE GET TOGETHER IN ISOLATION IMMEDIATELY AND I WOULD HOPE THAT THEIR REPORT COULD BE COMPLETED THIS WEEK.

THE TASK FORCE WILL THEN BE ABLE TO MEET SOON AFTER APRIL 18 AS I SUGGESTED.

PREPARE A PROPOSED REPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE

JAMES JOE WAH-SHEE CONSIDER THE REPORT AFTER APRIL 18
MINISTER REPORT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SOON AFTER
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
IN THE MEANTIME I SUGGEST THAT THERE SHOULD BE

MINISTER
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

COMM NWTGOV YK
C O P E INVK

APRIL 7, 1983

TELEX TO: HONOURABLE JAMES J. WAH-SHEE
MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ABORIGINAL RIGHTS
AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE N.W.T.
YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T. /X1A 2L9/

JAMES:

WE HAVE CONSIDERED YOUR PROPOSALS TO MODIFY THE AGENDA AND
PROCESS AS ESTABLISHED BY THE TASK FORCE WHICH NELLIE WAS
ABLE TO DISCUSS WITH YOU ON THE PHONE.

WE UNDERSTAND YOUR PROPOSAL IS TO DELETE ALL THE ITEMS SCHED-
ULED FOR THE WORKING GROUP BEING:

- 1.) TO DEVELOP A DETAILED MODEL OF W.A.R.M.
- 2.) TO DRAFT LEGISLATION
- 3.) TO PREPARE A PUBLIC RATIFICATION PROCESS.
- 4.) TO PREPARE A BUDGET THAT WILL CARRY THE PROCESS TO ITS
CONCLUSION.
- 5.) TO COMPLETE THE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP PROCESS WITH AKLAVIK
AND TUKTOYAKTUK.
- 6.) TO PLAN FURTHER COMMUNITY WORK.

AND DELETE THE APRIL 8 MEETING OF THE TASK MFORCE.

IN THEIR PLACE YOU SUGGEST THAT THE WORKING GROUP UPDATE ITS
INTERIM REPORT OF MARCH 7 WHICH WOULD EFFECTIVELY ADD A
REPORT ON THE ENCOURAGING WORKSHOP HELD IN HOLMAN ON MARCH 9
AND 10. AND HAVE THE TASK FORCE MEETING AFTER APRIL 18TH.

AS THE CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE TASK FORCE AND AS A MEMBER OF THE TASK
FORCE, OUR VIEW IS THAT WE CAN ACCOMODATE YOUR REQUEST FOR AN
UPDATE OF THE WORKING GROUP'S ACTIVITIES FOR THE EXECUTIVE BUT
WE CANNOT JUSTIFY DELETING THE OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND
THE SCHEDULED PROCESS.

WE BELIEVE THAT WE, AS A TASK FORCE, WORKING IN THE AREA OF PUBLIC GOVERNMENT CANNOT IGNORE THE REQUESTS OF THE COMMUNITIES OF AKLAVIK AND TUKTOYAKTUK FOR THE SCHEDULED WORKSHOP AND WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD ABIDE BY OUR OBLIGATION TO MEET WITH THEM.

THEREFORE, WE FEEL WE CAN ACCOMMODATE PART OF YOUR REQUEST IF YOU CAN ABIDE BY THE SUBSTANTIVE DECISIONS OF THE TASK FORCE OF MARCH 7.

SHOULD THIS REASONABLE COMPROMISE BE SUITABLE TO YOU WE WOULD SUGGEST YOUR REPRESENTATIVES MEET WITH OURS IN A WORKING GROUP AND GET ON WITH THE MODIFIED AGENDA. SHOULD THEY NOT WISH TO PARTICIPATE WE FEEL THE WORKING GROUP MUST CONTINUE ITS WORK AS DIRECTED BY THE TASK FORCE ON MARCH 7. THE WORKING GROUP WOULD PREPARE A PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE FOLLOWING THE COMMUNITY MEETINGS IN AKLAVIK AND TUKTOYAKTUK WHICH ARE SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE NEXT WEEK.

TO REACH TASK FORCE AGREEMENT, WE SUGGEST THAT THE TASK FORCE HOLD A CONFERENCE CALL MEETING TOMORROW MORNING BETWEEN 9 AND 10 BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE FROM YOUR OFFICE.

NELLIE COURNOYEA, MLA, WESTERN ARCTIC

PETER GREEN, PRESIDENT, COPE

CORRECTION: 6 PARA - SHUD BEGIN WITH THEREFORE, NOT THER
P.S. AMEND UR COPY.

COMM NWTGOV YK

COPE INVK

0

APRIL 8 1983

ETER GREEN
AND
NELLIE COURNOYEA
COPE

I DO NOT AGREE THAT THERE IS ANY OBLIGATION ON OUR PART TO HOLD WORKSHOPS IN AKLAVIK AND TUKTOYAKTUK AT THIS STAGE. THE PROPOSAL FOR FURTHER CONSULTATION DISCUSSED AT OUR MARCH 7/83 MEETING WAS TO COME BACK TO THE TASK FORCE AND WOULD HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPROVAL FOR FUNDING.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS INDICATED THAT THEY WISH TO SEE A PROGRESS REPORT OF THE WORK DONE TO MARCH 31/83 AND ARE NOT PREPARED TO CONSIDER FURTHER FUNDING UNTIL THEY HAVE SEEN THE REPORT.

MY MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP CAN WORK WITH CHARLIE HOAGAK AND BILLIE GOOSE TO COMPLETE THE REPORT TODAY. IF YOU CANNOT ACCEPT THIS SUGGESTION, THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE IS FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP TO PREPARE SEPARATE REPORTS.

OTHER WAY, I WOULD LIKE TO ARRANGE FOR THE TASK FORCE TO MEET WITH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AFTER WE HAVE REVIEWED THE PROGRESS REPORT. I SHALL BE AWAY FROM YELLOWKNIFE UNTIL APRIL 18/83.

AMES J. WAH-JSHEE
MINISTER
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

GOVT NWT YK

COPE INVK

8 APRIL 1983

HONOURABLE JAMES WAH-SHEE
MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND
MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL RIGHTS AND
CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
YELLOWKNIFE, NWT

DEAR JAMES:

IN YOUR MOST RECENT TELEX WHICH WE JUST RECEIVED IT APPEARS THAT YOU HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD THE NATURE OF THE UPCOMING WORKSHOPS IN AKLAVIK AND TUK. WE ARE NOT, AS YOU SUGGEST ENTERING THE SECOND PHASE OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS WHICH WOULD BE REFERRED TO THE TASK FORCE AND WHERE THE BUDGET WOULD BE REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR FUNDING AS YOU SUGGEST. WE ARE JUST COMPLETING THE FIRST PHASE WHICH WE HAD ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE BEFORE MARCH 31. YOU WILL RECALL THAT AT OUR MARCH 7 TASK FORCE MEETING THAT WE AGREED TO RESCHEDULE THOSE TWO MEETINGS FOR EARLY APRIL BECAUSE YOUR MEMBERS WISHED TO TAKE THEIR HOLIDAYS IN MARCH AT THE TIME WE HAD ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR THOSE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS.

THE QUESTION OF FUNDING FOR THOSE MEETINGS WAS ALSO DISCUSSED AT THE TASK FORCE MEETING AND AGREED TO BE PART OF THE FIRST ALLOCATION (PHASE 1) BECAUSE IT WAS FOR WORK THAT HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN SCHEDULED FOR MARCH. WE WERE ASSURED THAT THE FUNDING ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR WORK TO THE END OF MARCH WOULD BE EXTENDED TO THE END OF APRIL. THEREFORE WE DO BELIEVE YOU HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE UPCOMING WORKSHOPS.

AS YOU HAVE BEEN UNAVAILABLE IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO CONVENE THE TASK FORCE MEETING THIS MORNING BY CONFERENCE CALL TO CONSIDER SUGGESTIONS TO MODIFY THE AGENDA AND PROCESS OR TO CLEAR UP THE ABOVE MISUNDERSTANDING. CONSEQUENTLY AS MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO DIRECT THE WORKING GROUP TO PROCEED ON THE BASIS OF THE TASK FORCE DIRECTION OF MARCH 7, 1983 AS AUTH BY THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN GNWT AND COPE SIGNED MAY 26, 1982, PURSUANT TO MOTION NUMBER 66-80(2) OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

AS THE NWT REPRESENTATIVE IS ON THE WORKING GROUP AND ALSO YOUR EMPLOYEES AS MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, I TRUST THEY WILL NOT RECEIVE CONFLICTING INSTRUCTIONS ARISING FROM THEIR DUAL RESPONSIBILITY.

NELLIE COURNOYEA, MLA
CO-CHAIRMAN TASK FORCE

PETER GREEN
PRESIDENT - COPE
MEMBER TASK FORCE

CORRECTION: SEVENTH LINE THIRD PARA SHUD READ

MMMOF MARCH 7, 1983 AS AUTHORIZED BY....

GOVT NWT YK

C O P E INVK

GOVT NWT YK

COPE INVK

-49-

9 APRIL 1983

HONOURABLE JAMES WAH-SHEE
MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
YELLOWKNIFE, NWT

DEAR MR. MINISTER:

WE REGRET THE APPARENT MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE WORKING GROUP ACTIVITIES, THE SERIOUS CONFUSION ABOUT WHAT IN FACT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WERE AND YOUR FINAL DECISION TO PREVENT YOUR EMPLOYEES FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE WORKING GROUP.

THE CONFUSION INTRODUCED BY THESE LAST MINUTE CHANGES OF PLANS AND CONFLICTING DIRECTIONS ADD NOT ONLY TO THE FRUSTRATION OF THE PARTICIPANTS AND THE COMMUNITIES BUT ALSO THE COST OF COMPLETING THE WORK. AS YOU KNOW, THE EXPENSE OF MOVING EVERYONE TO INUVIK FOR THE SCHEDULED MEETING, AND THE EXPENSE OF KEEPING EVERYONE HERE FOR THE TIME SCHEDULED WAS MADE, BUT YOUR DIRECTIONS INTRODUCED AT THE LAST MINUTE PREVENTED ANY CONSTRUCTIVE WORK FROM BEING ACCOMPLISHED. THIS IS NOT THE FIRST EXAMPLE OF WASTEFULNESS INCURRED AS A RESULT OF GNWT PARTICIPATION.

IT WOULD APPEAR THAT YOUR DECISION TO REMOVE YOUR EMPLOYEES WILL RESULT AS YOU SUGGEST IN TWO REPORTS FOR THE TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER. THE ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE BASIS OF THE TWO REPORTS WILL BE THAT YOUR MEMBERS WILL BE DEFICIENT WITH RESPECT TO THE TWO UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS.

WHILE WE FEEL THIS APPROACH IS NOT AS COST EFFECTIVE WE WILL BE ABLE TO ARRIVE AT THE SAME POSITION FOLLOWING THE TASK FORCE MEETING, AND BE PREPARED TO MEET WITH THE EXECUTIVE WITH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, A TASK FORCE PROGRESS REPORT AND OTHER ITEMS PROMISED TO BE TABLED IN THE MAY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY INCLUDING DRAFT LEGISLATION.

GIVEN THAT YOU REPORTED (ON APRIL 5) THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE 'APPARENT LACK OF INTEREST' IN THOSE TWO COMMUNITIES, WE STRONGLY URGE YOU TO HAVE THE GNWT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORKING GROUP THERE - AKLAVIK ON APRIL 11 AND TUK ON APRIL 13 OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE WHICH COULD BE DRAWN FROM THE WARM ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

NELLIE COURNOYEA, MLA WESTERN ARCTIC
CO-CHAIRMAN OF TASK FORCE

PETER GREEN
PRESIDENT - COPE

The outcome of this exchange was that the COPE Working Group Members proceeded to hold successful community workshops at Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk and separate progress reports were written for the Task Force. The COPE Working Group Members and their resource consultants finalized the draft of the WARM Ordinance which the total Working Group began in Tuktoyaktuk on February 2, 1983. This Draft Ordinance was tabled at the May Session of the Legislative Assembly by the MLA for the Western Arctic.

The terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding were violated again in early May when the Executive Committee injected another course of action into the agreed to process. This was communicated to the President of COPE and the MLA for the Western Arctic by the Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development in his telex of May 4, 1983.

COPE INUVK
COMM NWTGOV YK

MAY 4 1983

ILLIE COURNOYEA
AND
PETER GREEN
INUVIK NWT

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED TO SPONSOR A CONFERENCE IN THE DELTA-BEAUFORT AREA TO BE HELD SOME TIME AFTER THE MAY SESSION TO DISCUSS REGIONAL GOVERNMENT, IN PARTICULAR:

- > WHETHER OR NOT A REGIONAL GOVERNMENT IS NEEDED IN THE DELTA-BEAUFORT AREA, AND IF SO,
- ?> WHAT FORM A REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE,
- > WHAT AUTHORITIES A REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD HAVE.

THE MEETING WILL BE FUNDED BY THE GNWT, ORGANIZED BY OUR REGIONAL OFFICE, AND CHAIRED BY MYSELF.

ALL SETTLEMENT, BAND, HAMLET AND TOWN COUNCILS WILL BE INVITED TO SEND ELEGATED REPRESENTATIVES TO A MAXIMUM OF FOUR FOR EACH COMMUNITY, AND IT IS HOPED THAT THERE WILL BE A THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF REGIONAL GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS. AS WELL, THE MLA'S FOR THE WESTERN ARCTIC, INUVIK, CENTRAL ARCTIC, THE DELTA, THE PRESIDENT OF COPE AND JAMES ROSS OF THE DENE REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL BE WELCOME AS DELEGATES. THERE WILL BE NO OTHER DELEGATES. THIS TELEX WILL SERVE TO INFORM YOU OF THIS MEETING AND I TRUST I'LL HAVE A CHANCE TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER DURING THE SESSION NEXT WEEK.

JAMES J. WAH-SHEE
GOVERNMENT OF THE N.W.T.
GELLOWKNIFE

The original dates set for this conference were June 23 and 24. The President of COPE was advised of its postponement but he was not advised of the new dates of July 6 and 7, when it was held. He had made a commitment to attend the Mayo meeting of the Yukon Council of Indians and was not able to change this when he heard the new dates by word of mouth two days before the Inuvik Conference was to be held. In attendance were elected representatives from: the Inuvik Town Council; the Fort McPherson Band Council; the Aklavik Band Council; the Fort McPherson Settlement Council; the Aklavik Hamlet Council; the Tuktoyaktuk Hamlet Council; and the Settlement Councils of Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour and Holman Island. Also present were the MLA for the Western Arctic in a participating role and the MLA for the Mackenzie Delta in a non-participating role. Also accepted as a delegate was the Fort McPherson Band Manager.

The WARM Working Group members included Ross McKinnon who was a primary resource to the Conference's organizers and facilitators; Charlie Haogak who sat as the Chairman of the Sachs Harbour Settlement Council; Bill Goose who sat as an observer and a Local Government Development Officer who had recently replaced Charles McGee and had not yet formally participated in Working Group activities. He was also responsible for the delegates' transportation and accommodation arrangements.

The Regional Director, Joe MacEachern, chaired the sessions.

The Minister of Local Government and Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development James Wah-Shee arrived in the afternoon of the first day with three resource people, his secretary, a lawyer and an official from the GNWT's Aboriginal

Rights and Constitutional Development Secretariat. The Assistant Regional Superintendent of Local Government attended in the place of Regional Superintendent and former WARM Working Group member Charles McGee who was on holidays. Also present as an observer was COPE's WARM resource consultant, Howard McDiarmid.

At the outset the Chairman advised the Conference that this event was sponsored by the Executive Committee and that the proceedings were being recorded at its request for the purpose of producing a complete transcript of everything that was said.

Each delegate was given an information package which included a copy of the GNWT's Proposed Ordinance Respecting Regional and Tribal councils and its Funding Policy and the Draft Ordinance to Establish the Western Arctic Regional Municipality.

During the initial discussions questions were asked of the Minister's "public discussion paper on proposed local government legislation", "A Design for the Devolution of Additional Powers and Responsibilities to Communities". This paper had been sent to Settlement and Hamlet Councils and copies were requested for the delegates and were later provided. This proved to be the paper on which the conference delegates gave their primary focus. No consensus was reached concerning Regional Government but consensus was obvious in respect to community councils having decision-making authority and jurisdiction over the physical and social programs and services delivered in their communities and all concerns relating to them.

The composition of the conference group and the manner in which it was facilitated made it impossible for meaningful and constructive discussion to take place on the questions intended to be the primary agenda. A proper analysis of this will be possible when the transcript of the proceedings is available.

The views and concerns were those of several separate and distinct interest groups. The community of interest articulated by the Fort McPherson Band Manager or the Chairman of the Fort McPherson Settlement council differed considerably from that of the Chairman of the Paulatuk Settlement Council and of the Chairman of the Sachs Harbour Settlement Council; the same can be said of the incompatibility of the views of the Chief of the Aklavik Band Council and those of the Mayor of Tuktoyaktuk; or of the Chairman of the Holman Settlement Council and the Mayor of Inuvik.

What this Conference did was to confirm the position that sees three Municipal Governments developing in the Delta-Beaufort Area: the town of Inuvik; the Western Arctic Regional Municipality; and a Mackenzie Delta Dene Tribal Council. In this respect the present Municipal Ordinance is appropriate for the Inuvik Municipality; the Regional and Tribal Council Ordinance will accommodate the interests and concerns of the Dene communities; and the Ordinance to Establish the Western Arctic Regional Municipality will meet the aspirations of the predominantly Inuvialuit communities. All will provide structures for Public Government in which the minorities in each of the three distinct areas will find meaningful participation.

An advantage for the WARM proposal came from the lawyer who was present for the recent GNWT Executive Committee sponsored Inuvik Conference on Regional Government. He made it quite clear that the Commissioner is able to delegate the authority vested in him under the Federal Northwest Territories Act, to a Regional Municipality and that with this delegated authority a Regional Municipality would make and enforce the appropriate by-laws and regulations under the powers granted by the enabling Ordinance of the Legislative Assembly.

At the conclusion of the Inuvik Conference, the Minister of Local Government and the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Western Arctic agreed that a Task Force Meeting be held in Inuvik at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, July 8, 1983. It was not held because only the MLA for the Western Arctic and the President of COPE were present.

It seems that the Executive Committee and the Minister should allow the Inuvialuit to return to the process initiated by the Memorandum of Understanding. The May 20, 1983 decision of the Executive Committee to allow the WARM Consultation Process to continue should be acted upon with a new set of conditions and with an extended time frame. The conditions and extended work schedule should be determined by the WARM Task Force and endorsed by the Executive Committee of the Government of the Northwest Territories and by the Committee for the Original Peoples' Entitlement.

The alternate course of action is to return to the Government of Canada and begin a process that will actualize the intentions of Section 18 of the Agreement in Principle.

At every critical point of "break through" in developing the details for a Western Arctic Regional Municipality, the Government of the Northwest Territories by action of its Executive Committee has attempted to block or divert the process as documented in this report. These actions have served to increase the determination of the Western Arctic's MLA and other committed Inuvialuit to see that the goal is reached and that the Western Arctic Regional Municipality is established.