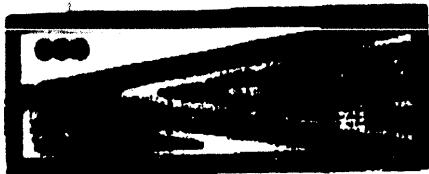


**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
10<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY, 4<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 48-85(1)**

**TABLED ON MARCH 15, 1985**



**COMMITTEE for ORIGINAL PEOPLES ENTITLEMENT**

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11 March 1985

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Dear Sirs:

In January during the W.C.F. tour we discussed the possibility of having a meeting between W.C.F. and COPE to determine the parameters for the Western Arctic to become part of the W.C.F. and eventually part of the Western Territory.

It appears since that time a number of events have cast a new light upon our proposed meeting. The most dramatic event was the motion of the Legislative Assembly accepting the report of the Constitutional Alliance.

On the eighth of March the Mayors of the Beaufort communities and Kitikmeot West met in Coppermine to consider that issue. I was invited as the President of COPE. It was clear that the Mayors were disappointed with the way the fate of their communities was being handled by the Alliance and by the Assembly.

The W.C.F. has continued to maintain that the destiny of the Beaufort communities has been decided i.e. That it will form part of the Western Territory. Thus ignoring the stated wishes of those communities and COPE. Although we have maintained a willingness to explore possible arrangements whereby we could if it were felt necessary become part of a Western Territory. We object to W.C.F. using our willingness as a sign that you are free to decide our fate as you please.

As we have stated one minimum condition to our even considering changing our position and our membership on W.C.F. is the acceptance and endorsement of a regional style of government equivalent to W.A.R.M. Upto now you have stated categorical rejection of the fundamental essence of that form of government.

Therefore it was the view of the Mayors that unless there was a significant change in your position that there would be little point meeting. It was assumed on the basis of all of this information we had that you would not accept our conditions and therefore we have asked our M.L.A.'s to bring this issue to the Assembly for Resolution.

If we were in error in assuming that you would not accept our proposed style of Regional government we would of course be pleased to hear from you.

Sincerely,



Billy Day,  
President



