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INUVIK

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November 9, 1994

Hon. Rebecca Mike
 Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs
 Government of the Northwest Territories
 P. O. Box 1320
 Yellowknife, NT
 X1A 2L9

Dear Minister:

Please find attached a press release regarding the Arctic Winter Games.

We had expected, as a follow-up, a "Decision and Reasons for the Decision" after the announcement of the 98 Games Site Selection process. As of this date, we have not received any such notice.

Therefore, we are asking if you would request such a document on our behalf.

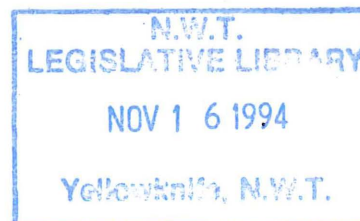
I am sure that you understand the importance of this follow-up, both to Inuvik and Region, as well as the NWT in general.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Sincerely,

Tom Zubko, Mayor

cc: AWG Bid Committee
 Fred Koe, MLA
 Gwich'in Tribal Council
 Inuvialuit Regional Corporation
 Hamlet of Aklavik
 Hamlet of Fort McPherson
 Hamlet of Tuktoyaktuk
 Hamlet of Arctic Red River
 Deputy Minister, MACA



Press Release

Answers needed for AWG

Many People from all over the NWT are still more than a little puzzled and shocked at the Arctic Winter Games International Committee's recent decision to award the 1998 AWG to Yellowknife and exclude the Inuvik Region and any other "smaller" community in the N.W.T. from ever hosting the Games.

There is well founded concern that this decision has seriously undermined the integrity and the future viability of the Arctic Winter Games.

The Inuvik and Region Arctic Winter Games Bid Committee recognizes Yellowknife as the Host for the 1998 Arctic Winter Games and is confident they will do an outstanding job as hosts. It is clear however that the integrity of the selection process has been thrown into serious doubt. It is equally clear that a review and rationalization of the Games themselves and of the N.W.T.'s support and involvement in the games is required.

It is also clear that the people of Inuvik and the Region were misled by some, as of yet undetermined, chain of events or misunderstandings.

Without doubt, the intense encouragement and reassurance that Inuvik and the Region could participate in a fair bid procedure resulted in a substantial and abusive diversion of our volunteer resources. The costs of this procedure are not only financial but also involve the undermining of confidence and moral within the community now and in the future. Fairness and justice would dictate that these issues be comprehensively addressed.

It appears that there is no clear process between sponsoring Governments and the International Committee to determine the evolution of the games.

The Government has said that it lobbied and received agreement for a split games format in order that smaller communities could host the games.

Gerry Thicke stated that changes in the format of the games could not take place without a majority of the sponsoring governments agreeing to such changes.

Was the implicit direction of the GNWT simply not understood by the International Committee, or was it ignored?

Should the Government have specifically indicated that Yellowknife should not be considered by the committee if any other option was available, or specifically stated that the format of the games should be modified to facilitate the hosting of the games in other communities?

Inuvik has not received any documentation or letters indicating the decision and the reasons for the decision.

Therefore we are now requesting for an official response in writing to our bid for the 1998 Arctic Winter Games, with reasons for the decision, from the International Arctic Winter Games Committee in order that we may properly and fully address the noted issues.



