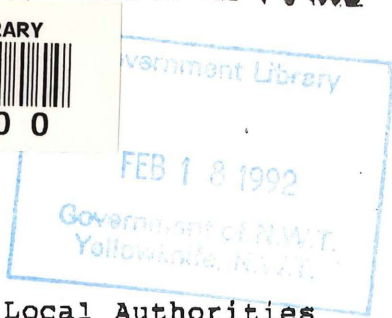


RESOLUTION # 01/02/92 - RC



**OPPOSITION TO REDUCING
PLEBISCITE VOTING AGE
TO SIXTEEN YEARS**

WHEREAS the Elections Act, Plebiscite Act and Local Authorities Elections Act all stipulate that eligible voters must be at least nineteen years of age;

AND WHEREAS on December 13, 1991 the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories rightly and properly passed a Formal Motion recommending that these Acts be amended so as to reduce the Territorial voting age to eighteen years;

AND WHEREAS SOME Nunavut leaders, without consulting any other Regions, have recently advocated amendments to the Plebiscite Act that would reduce the voting age to sixteen years throughout the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS there has not been an adequate opportunity to consider the potential implications of this proposal with respect to electoral procedures and cost, and with respect to regional demographics;

AND WHEREAS the intentions of this group of selected Nunavut leaders is insufficiently clear with respect to also amending the Elections Act and the Local Authorities Elections Act;

AND WHEREAS there has not been an adequate opportunity to assess the preparedness of 16 and 17 year old youth across the Northwest Territories to accept the serious responsibility of this franchise;

AND WHEREAS the youth of the Deh Cho Region have not to date made any presentation to this Council requesting legislative amendments which allow them to vote in the upcoming plebiscite;

AND WHEREAS there is no other jurisdiction in Canada in which the voting age on a public plebiscite is 16 years;

AND WHEREAS 16 and 17 year old youth interested in issues surrounding approval of the proposed boundary have ample opportunity to express their views by discussing them with their elders and parents, with the community leadership, and with educators and neighbours.

FEED FAX THIS END

FAX	
To:	[REDACTED]
Dept.:	Deh Cho Region
Fax No.:	920-4735
No. of Pages:	14
From:	ALISON
Date:	12/02/92

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that , at the present time, the Deh Cho Regional Council will strongly oppose any attempt to amend the Plebiscite Act in a fashion which lowers the voting age to sixteen years;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be immediately communicated to the Government Leader of the Northwest Territories.

Moved by Ray Michaud

Seconded by Stanley Sanquez

CARRIED