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Permission received to table on Feb 19th 18.

12 February 1993

Hon. S. Kakfwi
Minister of Personnel
Government of NWT
Yellowknife, NWT

Minister KAKFWI	
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FEB 23 1993
Government of NWT
Yellowknife, NWT

Dear Mr. Kakfwi,

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your position on government housing for GNWT employees. Your plans to charge government employees market rents and utilities for housing supplied by the government is long overdue. Those in the private sector have watched the generous benefits being received by those on the government payroll for many years including other perks such as paid vacation travel.

As you are no doubt well aware those working in the private sector do not receive any where near the level of benefits enjoyed by those in the public sector. The reason being that the private sector simply cannot afford to offer these benefits and stay in business. It seems that now the same can be said about the government. It can no longer afford these benefits with the restricted funds available for all the programs requiring funding today.

As the owner of a small business in the NWT I have watched a number of my employees leave to accept employment with various levels of government that offer far more attractive benefit and salary packages than our business can afford. I do not blame the employees for taking advantage of the government's generosity but I think the government should not be paying such high levels of pay and benefits and stealing employees from the private sector. The government wages should follow those in the private sector.

To help bring pay scales back into line with the private sector I would strongly urge your government to initiate an across the board pay freeze for a minimum period of three years.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Garrish
Tim Garrish
Owner