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P.O. Box 2120  
Inuvik N.W.T.  
XOE 0T0



# INUVIALUIT REGIONAL CORPORATION

Telephone: (403) 979-2737  
Telex 034-44596  
Telecopier: (403) 979-2135

2

February 20, 1987

Mr. Stephen Kakfwi  
Chairman  
Western Constitutional Forum  
Box 1589  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
X1A 2P2

Dear Mr. Kakfwi,

Your letter of February 2, 1987 is not correct.

On November 2, 1986, when discussions between NCF and WCF in Yellowknife, you stated you and John Amogalik get together in Ottawa to see how discussions on division might continue.

No authority was given to you by IRC or COPE or anyone else to negotiate or fix the content of an agreement.

Neither you nor John Amogalik ever once called anyone at IRC or COPE between November 2, 1986 and January 15, 1987 to advise you were negotiating an agreement, nor did you invite anyone from IRC or COPE to participate in negotiations. We only learned on January 8 through the media of possible meetings.

The situation is very much like that seen in the current crisis between Newfoundland and the federal Government over fishing rights given to France. While Premier Peckford's Government was consulted in preliminary discussions, the Mulroney Government failed to advise or invite Newfoundland to the negotiating table when the fishing agreement was hammered out between January 10 to 24, 1987. The Mulroney Government has now admitted to and apologized for this (in its own word) "disgraceful" approach.

When all the attempted rationalizations are swept away, it is clear that this Agreement was negotiated and signed through a process of secrecy without consultation with our organizations or with the residents or representatives of any communities.

FEB 26 1987

3

Paulaktuk Settlement Council  
Special meeting #87-05  
Council Chambers  
February 16, 1987

- Present: Garrett Ruben, Chairman  
Andy Thrasher, V/Chairman  
Adam Ruben, Councillor  
Gilbert Thrasher, Councillor
- Absent: Marcus Ruben, Peter Green (out of town), James Ruben
- Public: Ray Ruben, Bertha & Billy Ruben, Anny & Joe Roy Illasiak  
M. Ruben, Charlie Thrasher, Mary E. Ruben, Alice Aqnaoyak  
Ruben, Fred Thrasher.

The Chairman recognized a quorum and called the special meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

The Chairman informed Council and the public that this meeting was called to discuss the issue of division of the N.W.T. He said that we should get a quick letter out to our M.L.A. Nellie Cournoyea on our feelings of this Development. We should have our feelings made known before the Legislative Assembly try to table it without our say. The public discussed Division and the signing of the documents. There was a negative feeling on the signing because of the lack of Inuvialuit Western Arctic involvement. Nellie Cournoyea our M.L.A. was not involved and should have been. The Inuvialuit has to have its own rights protected before we support division.

- Motion: 87-25 Moved by Gilbert Thrasher, seconded by Andy Thrasher that the Paulatuk Settlement Council and those public in attendance disagree with the signing of the Divisional papers and that the Territorial Government should defer it until the Inuvialuit of the Western Arctic has its own input.

Carried.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:20 pm.