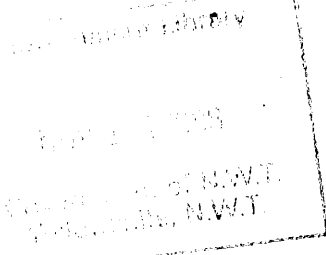


THE HONOURABLE TOM BUTTERS
MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES



BUSINESS INCENTIVE POLICY

DURING THE 1988 WINTER SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, A COPY OF THE REPORT ON THE EVALUATION OF THE BUSINESS INCENTIVE POLICY WAS TABLED. AT THAT TIME, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY WOULD BE ASKED TO REVIEW THE REPORT AND TO OFFER THEIR COMMENTS WITH RESPECT TO RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO HOW GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES COULD MORE EFFECTIVELY ENHANCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

IN MAY AND JUNE, A SERIES OF NEWSPAPER ADS WERE PLACED IN ALL NORTHERN PUBLICATIONS ASKED FOR INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC. INTERESTED PARTIES REPLYING TO THIS 'AD' WERE THEN PROVIDED WITH A LETTER FROM THE MINISTER'S OFFICE, ALONG WITH A COPY OF TWO EVALUATION REPORTS, "THE PROCESS" AND "THE RESULTS", WHICH OUTLINED THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE POLICY AND THEIR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES WERE SOLICITED AT THIS TIME.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE RESPONSE TO THE ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN WAS DISAPPOINTING AND THE CAMPAIGN WAS REPEATED IN JULY WITH A NEW DEADLINE OF AUGUST 12.

PARTICIPATION AT THE INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP LEVEL WAS INCREASED, HOWEVER, SEVERAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE FELT THAT EXTRA TIME WAS REQUIRED TO PREPARE A MORE MEANINGFUL RESPONSE. I AM PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT A NEW DEADLINE OF DECEMBER 31, 1988 HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO ACCOMMODATE THIS REQUEST. THIS NEW DEADLINE WILL NOT BE EXTENDED.

BY GRANTING THIS EXTENSION, THE CABINET REVIEW OF THE BUSINESS INCENTIVE POLICY WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL EARLY 1989. THIS ASSEMBLY WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF PROGRESS DURING THE 1989 WINTER SESSION.