

Saffin Regional Council

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File: 700-25/09 February 12, 1990

The Honorable Pierre Cadieux Minister of Indian & Northern Affairs House of Commons OTTAWA, Ontario

Dear Mr. Minister,

At the 25th session of the Baffin Regional Council held in Iqaluit, NWT January 29th to February 1st, 1990, extensive discussions were held with regard to the declining Federal Government Subsidy to Canada Post for the Northern Food Mail Program and the resulting dramatic rate increases for this program in the Eastern Arctic.

As you are aware, the cost of living in the Eastern Arctic is by far the highest of any region in Canada. Currently, food prices in Baffin Region communities preclude many people from affording fresh fruits, produce and dairy products. Any further increase to the cost of food will have severe impact on the ability of all Baffin residents to afford the nutritional necessities of life.

Baffin Region Mayors recognize that Canada Post has a mandate to recover their operational costs and thus have no option but to apply these rate increases. Our intention is to work closely with the Committee you will be forming to further investigate the declining subsidy.

Attached for your consideration is BRC motion 25/09. This resolution recommends that DIAND:

1/Allow the Baffin Regional Council to nominate members to the Committee which will investigate the implications of this declining subsidy, and;



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2/ Allow the Baffin Regional Council to have input into the Terms of Reference for the Committee to ensure that extensive consultation and investigation of the impact of these rate increases takes place in this region.

We look forward to working closely with your Department to resolve this issue.

Sincerely,

Mark Evaluarjuk

Speaker

cc Jack Anawak, MP - Nunatsiaq John Berg, DIAND Marc L'Anglais, Canada Post Corporation Dennis Patterson, NWT Gov't. Leader

ME/Ik