



TABLED DOCUMENT NO. - 40 - 90 (1) TABLED ON MAR 02 1990



GRISE FIORD
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
X0A 0J0
(819) 980-9959

HON. TOM BUTTERS,
MINISTER OF MUNICIPAL &
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS,
GOVERNMENT OF N.W.T.
YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.

FEBRUARY 26, 1990

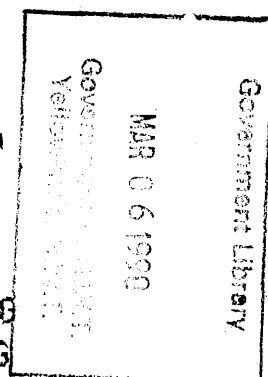
DEAR MR. BUTTERS:

DURING THE RECENT MAYORS & SR. ADMIN. OFFICERS WORKSHOP IN IQALUIT, WE WERE AWED STRUCKEN BY WHAT SEEMED ALMOST NO ALTERNATIVE CUT BACK TO OUR WATER/SEWAGE PROGRAM, MAINLY ONE OPERATOR PER SERVICE VEHICLE.

CONSEQUENTLY TO OUR RETURN, WE HELD A STAFF AND HAMLET COUNCIL MEETING TO INFORM THEM ABOUT THE UNFORTUNATE SITUATION WE ARE IN, AND TO SOLICIT SUGGESTIONS THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE. THE MAIN CONCERNS THAT WERE RAISED BY THE STAFF AND SUPPORTED BY COUNCIL WERE:

- THAT AT THIS TIME AND AGE PEOPLE RELY HEAVILY ON THE VALUE OF A DOLLAR FOR DAILY SUBSISTENCE I.E. FOOD, HUNTING EQUIPMENT AND RENT THEREFORE NEED JOBS;
- THE PUBLIC AND PROPERTY DAMAGES I.E. REAR VIEW MIRROR FOG UP AND POSSIBLY BACKING INTO BUILDINGS AND PEOPLE MAINLY CHILDREN;
- TOO MUCH ONUS IS PUT ON ONE MAN;

WHAT WE FIND DISTURBING IS THAT PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR REVISING THE COST ACCOUNTING GUIDELINES WERE MAINLY CONCERN ABOUT CUTTING FUNDS AND THE SAFETY OF THE DRIVERS WERE THE LEAST IN THEIR MINDS, OBVIOUSLY THEY GOT A LOT TO LEARN ABOUT WHAT IT IS TO BE SERVICED BY WATER/SEWAGE PROGRAM. IT MAY WELL BE THAT WATER/SEWAGE PROGRAM IS A THING OF THE PAST IN THE PART OF THE COUNTRY WHERE THEY LIVE THEREFORE DON'T SEE MUCH USE FOR IT. BUT, IN THE PART OF THE COUNTRY WHERE WE LIVE WATER/SEWAGE PROGRAM IS REAL AND WE DON'T EXPECT UTILIDOR SERVICE NOW OR IN THE NEAR FUTURE, CONSEQUENTLY WE HAVE TO RELY ON WATER/SEWAGE PROGRAM TO PROPERLY SERVICE OUR



-2-

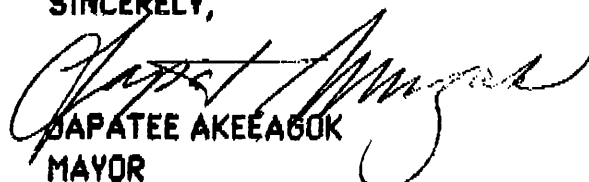
PERHAPS, I SHOULD GET INTO THE CRUZ OF THE ISSUE IN CONCURRENCE WITH FACSIMILE TRANSCRIPTION WE RECEIVED FROM THE HAMLETS OF CAPE DORSET AND PANGNIRTUNG, WE ARE IN AGREEMENT THAT WE BE ALLOWED MORATORIUM OF ONE YEAR PRIOR TO ENFORCING THE CUT- BACK ON THE WATER/SEWAGE PROGRAM, THIS WAY WE WOULD HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE AND FIND OTHER ALTERNATIVES IN ALLEVIATING THE PROBLEM THAT WE WILL EVENTUALLY FACE.

REALISTICALLY SPEAKING TWO MONTHS NOTICE HARDLY SEEMED FAIR, ESPECIALLY WHEN ITS GOING TO AFFECT A MAJOR COMMUNITY SERVICE.

ON THE SAME NOTE LETS NOT KID OURSELVES AND ADMIT TO THE FACT THAT GOVERNMENT OF N.W.T. IS FACING A SUBSTANTIAL FUNDING CUT-BACKS AND ACCORDINGLY THE COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE N.W.T. IN VIEW OF THE OBVIOUS AND INEVITABLE FUNDING PROBLEMS WE ARE FACING NOW AND WE WILL BE FACING IN THE FUTURE, DON'T YOU THINK IT IS TIME THAT REASONABLE CONSULTATIONS ON MAJOR ISSUES BETWEEN HAMLET COUNCILS AND THE DEPT. OF MUNICIPAL AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BE GIVEN AN ONUS IN FAIRNESS TO BOTH PARTIES ? ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA OF MATTERS THAT WILL BE AFFECTING COMMUNITY SERVICES. LET ME QUOTE FROM FACSIMILE THAT WE RECEIVED FROM THE HAMLET OF CAPE DORSET " IF WE HAD BEEN CONSULTED , PERHAPS OUR EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE OF REALITY COULD HAVE RESULTED IN CHANGES ACCEPTABLE TO ALL OF US".

IN CLOSING I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL GIVE OUR CONCERNS SERIOUS CONSIDERATION, ALSO KEEPING IN MIND THAT WE ARE ASKING MORATORIUM OF ONE YEAR TO PREPARE FOR THE INEVITABLE.

SINCERELY,


JAPATEE AKEEGOOK
MAYOR

C.C. - MIKE FERRIS - SUPT. OF MACA - BAFFIN
- HAMLET COUNCILS - BAFFIN
- RON MONGEAU - BRC
- JIM PITT - N.W.T.A.M.
- LUDY PUDLUK, MLA- HIGH ARCTIC