



# RESPONSE TO PETITION

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

FEB 22 1988

Government of N.W.T.  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

**Petition tabled by Joe Arlooktoo, M.L.A., Baffin South on November 16, 1987**

**Response by the Honourable Stephen Kakfwi,  
Minister Responsible for the Housing Corporation**

### **Lake Harbour Housing Association requesting Four (4) Public Housing Duplexes**

For the last two years the Housing Corporation has been working closely with the Boards of community Housing Associations through its Community Planning Process to involve local housing organizations in the planning of new housing deliveries.

The most recent Housing Needs Survey, conducted by the Corporation in January of 1987, agrees entirely with the petitioners in their finding that the primary need for housing in Lake Harbour is for two-bedroom duplexes suitable for small, young families.

As a result of the Survey, the 1987 Capital Plan allocated two (2) units for Lake Harbour in the upcoming 1988/89 construction season and three (3) more units in 1990/91. Even though the Needs Survey recorded a definite need for the two-bedroom duplexes available through the Public Housing Program and recorded no households interested in the Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP), the Board of the Lake Harbour Housing Association, in consultation with the Hamlet Council, opted for the delivery of two HAP houses in 1988/89. Staff of the Corporation's District Office in Iqaluit were unable to persuade the Lake Harbour Board to choose a Public Housing duplex instead of two HAP houses.

The Housing Corporation is aware that the supply of public housing in Lake Harbour does not meet the needs of small families. The role of the Corporation under the Community Planning Process is to inform and advise local organizations and their representatives of their housing options. In the end though, it is the community that decides the delivery program and the size and type of new housing the community should get. It is therefore suggested that the petitioners seek clarification from their Board Members why the choices were made.

One of the two HAP's scheduled for 1988/89 has already been allocated. Due to lack of eligible applicants, allocation of the remainder has been deferred until next fall for possible delivery in 1989/90. As smaller public housing units of one or two bedrooms are available only in duplexes or four-plexes, it is no longer possible to change the global allocation for 1988/89.

In the meantime, the staff of the Baffin District is working with the Lake Harbour Housing Association in reviewing the feasibility of converting a four bedroom duplex to one and two bedroom units.