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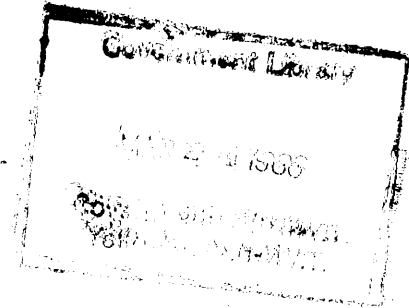
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March 18, 1988



Honorable Denis Patterson
Minister of Education
Government of the N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Sir:

On March 17/88, the Lake Harbour Education Council met with our M.L.A. Joe Arlooktoo to discuss your proposal to implement a new student teacher ratio across the N.W.T. This proposal in our minds will have a drastic effect on our staff and especially on the students. It will give teachers here the extra burden of cramming students into what is even now a very tight situation. The students will lose as teachers will not have as much time to attend to each student effectively. Presently, each teacher has two grades that they have to teach. If you take away a position, some teachers will have to teach three grades in one classroom. We feel that taking away teaching positions from small communities will not help the government much financially anyway.

We have also heard that the capital budget (new schools) was suggested to be decreased instead. We also oppose this as our school is getting old and plans are that we should be getting a new one in 1992. We also think that east and west opinions usually differ and if at all possible that two results come out of this depending on each geographic desires.

We would like to suggest the following areas of budget to be affected instead as in our minds this will not give as much problems as your present proposal:

- 1) Operation & Maintenance budget.
- 2) Physical Education Instructors from large communities. (This position can be taken care of by regular teachers as is done in smaller communities).

We appreciate your time to think our concerns over and hope that we have been able to give you some helpful suggestions.

Sincerely,

KENOAYOAK PODLAT
Kenoayoak Podlat
Chairman,
Lake Harbour Education Council

c.c. Joe Arlooktoo, M.L.A. ✓
(South Baffin)

Joe Enook, Chairman
B.D.B.E.

Brian Menton, Director
B.D.B.E.