

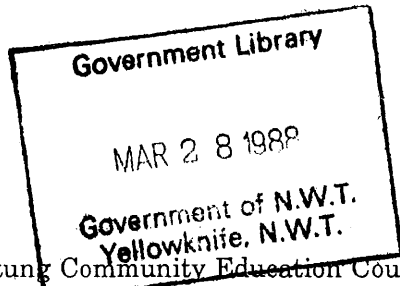
PANGNIRTUNG EDUCATION COUNCIL

PANGNIRTUNG, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES X0A 0R0
PHONE NO. 819 - 473-8810

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MAR 23 1988
March 17, 1988

Mr. Ipeelee Kilabuk
MLA, Central Baffin
Yellowknife, N.W.T.



Dear Mr. Kilabuk,

As you are aware, the Pangnirtung Community Education Council is very concerned over the recent announcement by the Minister of Education, the Honourable Dennis Patterson proposing a decrease of 41 teachers across the N.W.T. The Pangnirtung C.E.C. strongly believes that this would be a major step backwards in the educational development of the North. Our reasons are outlined below.

- Lowering the Pupil-Teacher ratio would drastically decrease the quality of Education that the students are now getting.
- Increasing the number of pupils in a class seriously limits the amount of physical space available in the classroom. Classes in the elementary and junior high areas are already over accomodated.
- This measure is poor public relations for education at a time when many schools are trying to encourage high school graduates to seek a career in education. Once again our graduates see a perspective job market being closed to them.
- This cutback does not seemingly affect the high school. However when one with the number of programs that are offered it is often necessary to rely on intermediate program staff to teach subjects at the high school level. A decrease in teachers therefore would limit this arrangement and affect high school programs.

These cutbacks are ironic given the move towards Divisional Board status. Many people are expending vast amounts of time only to have their efforts deteriorate by such devastating cutbacks.

The Pangnirtung Community Education Council formally protests against such a move.

Sincerely,

S. Sowdluapik
Sakiasie Sowdluapik
Chairman

- cc Hon. Dennis Patterson, Minister of Education
Fiona O'Donoghue, Supervisor of Schools
Gary Pynn, Principal
Joe Enook, Chairman, Baffin Divisional Board of Education