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HONORABLE PETER ERNERK

MLA FOR AVILIK

GNWT

YELLOWKNIFE

FEB 19/91

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Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Sir

On the evening of November 27/90 or there about at a meeting of the Rankin Inlet CEC; parents complained in person to Health Minister Nellie Cournoyea who was in attendance that noxious fumes were causing students and teachers of the Leo Ussuk Elementry School to vomit and suffer headaches in epidemic numbers.

Parents went away from that meeting assured with the Minister's promise of the problem being sloved before children would be allowed back in to attend classes.

Here it is February 19/91 and still the problem has not been ratified.

DPW was told to move the fresh air intakes away from the chimneys exhaust because they were too close. I was told that only one air duct has since been so altered. This has been going on for years. In the begining I was told that my son was sent home for the following reasons;

- because the furnace was mal-functioning,
- then it was that the chimneys were to low,
- then it was that some airducts were blocked off in an attempt to conserve energy, etc,

Why is it that there are 14 other schools in the NWT of similar design and there have been no problems with them except at fuktuyuktuk and there it was fixed immidiately.

USSAK

According to the monitoring devices installed at Leo ~~bank~~ there is as much as 35 parts per billion of carbon monoxide for the children to breath at any given time. Since when is any amount of carbon monoxided good for humans. Here we have approximatly 300 children who trust in us and the government that a good learning enviroment will be provide for them so they can get on with their education. Well this is far from the truth for in reality they are nothing more than test cases for DPW to experiment with.

I've gone to Mike Vadyk with my concerns. He as the Regional Director of the GNWT and chairman of the Regional Health Board is helpless. All he does is pass the buck covering his asse. His position is a waste of tax payers money and he should be replaced with someone more competent. How is he going to get DPW to repair the exhaust system when he can't even get them to fly a flag at the RSO. It seems to me that they (DPW) just ignore him and do as they please. Well give your head a shake Peter because they are not going to use my son for any DPW "experiments". I say "experiments because this the exact word the DPW representative used on the CBC Kivaliq Today Noon Hour Show on or about November 27th when the community got upset and he tried to dis-spell their fears. The Buck has to stop someplace and I am depending on you as my MLA to do something to protect our children.

Thank you

yours truly



Bill Gawor

Rankin Inlet.

c.c. Nellie Cournoyea
Minister
Dept. of Public Works