

# RESPONSE TO PETITION

1-12(5)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



Petition tabled by Mr. John Todd on December 13, 1993.

Response by the Honourable Richard Nerysoo  
Minister of Education, Culture and Employment

## BUSSING PETITION

In the past requests to fund student transportation were considered individually. By 1991-92 sixteen communities were receiving funds for student busing. However, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment did not have sufficient funds to respond to new community requests, like the request from the community of Rankin Inlet. There were also no standard criteria determining the amount of funding communities received to provide student transportation services. Some boards used their operational funds to provide busing services, or supplement the services they provided.

Consistent criteria on student age and distance from school is now being used, along with indexed costs for providing transportation services across the N.W.T., to determine the amount of student transportation funding to be contributed to boards.

Last December supplementary funds were approved in the Legislative Assembly to provide funding for student transportation equitably in all areas. In January, 1994, all boards, including the Keewatin Divisional Board of Education, received one-half of a full year's funding to provide student transportation in the communities they represent. Boards will receive the remainder of the funding for student transportation as part of their monthly contribution payment.

Rankin Inlet, together with the other communities on the Keewatin Divisional Board of Education, can then determine how best to allocate funding for student transportation amongst Keewatin communities.



