

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 11-88(1)

TABLED ON

FEB 15 1988

NWT GOVERNMENT LIBRARY



3 1936 00005 203 3

PITSIULAAQ SCHOOL
CAPE DORSET, N.W.T.
XOA OCO

January 08, 1988
Government Library

FEB 19 1988
Government of N.W.T.
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Mr. Joe Enook
Chairman,
Baffin Divisional Board
of Education
Iqaluit, N.W.T.
XOA OCO

Dear Mr. Enook,

This letter is an application for the Baffin Divisional Board of Education to purchase a larger (78 seat capacity) bus for our community school to be used in 1988-89 school year.

At present, we have a van like bus which seats 20 passengers. This bus is used for transporting students from kindergarten to Grade 3 in 2 of the 3 residential zones in Cape Dorset. The two bussing zones are "R.C. Valley" and the "Valley", (the residential zone that is ineligible for bus service is referred to as "Dorset"). During 1987-88 school year, 67 students in the morning and 62 students in the afternoons have been using the bus service. Broken down, these numbers reflect 35 "R.C. Valley" students and 32 "Valley" students use the bus in the mornings. Whereas, in the afternoons, 35 "R.C. Valley" and 27 "Valley" students are presently being bussed. To deliver these students safely and completely: the morning and the Lunch Hour pick up consists of 1 trip to R.C. Valley to the school; 1 trip to the Valley to the school, and two sweeping trips of the R.C. Valley to the Valley and back to the school; the pre-lunch and after school pickups at the school consist of 1 kindergarten students trip to the "Valley", 1 kindergarten students trip to the "R.C. Valley", 1 Grade 1 to 3 students trip to the "Valley" and 1 Grade 1 to 3 students trip to the "R.C. Valley". For each separate pickup times, ie. morning (before school), pre-lunch hour, lunch hour, and after school, it takes between 15-20 minutes to complete. For these numbers, our bus is of satisfactory size.

In August 1988 at Pitsiulaaq School, we are expecting an influx of 44 kindergarten students (followed by an addition of 28 kindergarten students in 1989 and in 1990- 35 kindergarten students). This large number of students injected into the eligible bus riders make our present van-like vehicle inadequate. Using present addresses, 47 students from the "R.C. Valley" require bus transporting service for the 1988-89 school year.

If a school bus is not forthcoming in August 1988, Pitsiulaaq School students who require bus service will be subjected to some problems. One of these problems will be earlier pick-up times which will leave the students at the school as early as 8:30 a.m. in the morning, 12:30 p.m. in the lunch hour. This means a 30 minute wait for the bus students (remember these students range from kindergarten to Grade 3). This wait is unreasonable especially given our Arctic Winters. Also, earlier pick-up times at pre-lunch and after school will cut into the program time which means the students will be losing time normally used for lessons. Further to the increase of students population in 1988/89, a new primary school is apparently going to be built soon. This new school will be built in a different and new residential zone. When this construction is completed, the "Dorset" students will also need bus service. This translates into an additional influx of at least 30 students more.

It is evident that there is a need for a larger (78 seat capacity) school bus in August 1988. We are seeking the Baffin Divisional Board of Education's support to purchase a bus that will suit our long term needs.

Yours sincerely,



Chairman
C.E.C.
Cape Dorset, N.W.T.

cc. Dennis Patterson, Minister of Education
Brian Menton, Director of Education, Baffin Divisional
Board of Education
Joe Arlooktoo, MLA South Baffin
Fiona O'Donoghue, Supervisor of Schools
Oxsanna Dzura, Principal Pitsiulaaq School