

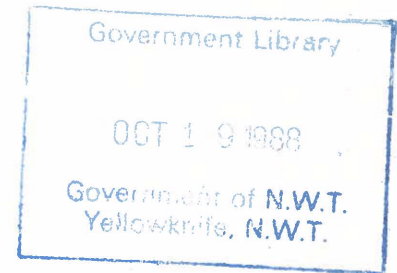


TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 12 - 88 (2) TABLED ON OCT 17 1988

Board of Directors  
 Pangnirtung Housing Association  
 Pangnirtung, N.W.T.  
 XDA DRD

October 7, 1988

Mr. Ibeelee Kilabuk  
 Member of Legislative Assembly  
 Pangnirtung, N.W.T.  
 XDA DRD



Re: Proposed N.W.T. Housing Corp. Rent Scale for April 1989

Dear Mr. Kilabuk,

For the past a month and a half, Board of Directors for Pangnirtung Housing Association, Hamlet Council and Social Services Appeal Committee have held meetings to discuss the proposed rent scale. The staff of Pangnirtung Housing Association also held a radio show to inform the public about the proposed rent scale with the direction of Pangnirtung Housing Association Board of Directors.

During the radio information show, people were calling the radio station to have a general public meeting. The public meeting was held September 29, 1988 at the People's Community Centre. There were 119 people at that meeting. This was a very high turn out considering other public meetings held in the past. We understand the proposed or draft rent scale is to become effective April 1989.

There have been many concerns being brought forward by the public which must be addressed.

The following list are the concerns of people of Pangnirtung.

- Majority of people at the public meeting said that they would move into huts, qamaks (tents), they feel they cannot afford the rent according to the proposed rent scale.

- The rent scale is putting emphasis on high income earners to seek homeownership, but there is a problem with HAF program with maximum income of the individual in order to be eligible. There should be an alternative plan. There is no bank in the community, how are people going to borrow money to build their homes?

- People who are interested in obtaining their own homes will find it almost impossible to save some money for instance a HAF house, if rent was to go up that high for working people, you have to consider high cost of living, in terms of purchasing foods and clothing in the north.

- A lot of people during the public meeting asked to have lots put out for making qamaks (tents) in the near future, if this is going to become effective.

- Many young adults living with parents or relatives have been hesitant in seeking a job, because the rent puts pressure on the parents. More and more young people will not look for a job due the proposed rent scale. They know this would cause many problems within the household.

- More money that people will be asked to for rental cost of the housing. Housing Corporation will have to consider some kind of tax rebate.

- With the new scale we can see more and more people would have to seek or go on welfare, because most people will not be able to make ends meet. This also affects the lifestyle of the Inuit, hunters who depend on only on country foods will not be able to buy gas, ammunition and other hunting supplies. The small income they get from hunting would just go towards rent of the house. This also applies to part-time hunters who are employed as well.

- After all concerns have been received from communities, Housing Corporation should make alternative measures based on the information given. Only then the rent scale should become effective in 1990.

- How are elders or senior citizens going to afford high cost with only source of income from old age pensions. Elder may have a son or daughter living with them due to shortage of housing and they are supporting them from their pension. There is high unemployment in the community also. Some have been told they are not eligible for welfare even though they have some else living with them. This is going to be very difficult for a widow or a widower on pension.

-Lastly, there was a show of hands at the general public meeting for or against the proposed rent scale for April 1989.

Opposed 119 people.  
in Favor 0

I hope this information will be heard and act upon, waiting to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

*for Rebecca Kanoyde*

Jaco Qaqasiq  
Chairman  
Board of Directors  
Pangnirtung Housing Association  
for People of Pangnirtung

c.c. Mr. Johnny Mike  
Mayor  
Hamlet of Pangnirtung  
Pangnirtung, N.W.T.

c.c. Chairperson  
Social Services Appeal Committee  
Pangnirtung, N.W.T.

c.c. Maureen Cochrane  
District Manager  
Housing Corporation  
Iqaluit, N.W.T. XOA OHO