

INUUJAQ EDUCATION COUNCIL Des Secos Denede boles

GENERAL DELIVERY, ARCTIC BAY, N.W.T. CANADA XOA 0A0

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Government of M.W.T. Yellowenne N. P.T.

Date: Oct. 25/90

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From:	Moses Oyukuluk		
167	CEC Chairperson		

Number of pages being transmitted including this cover page
OUR FAX NUMBER (819) 439-8766
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MESSAGE :

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INUUJAQ EDUCATION COUNCIL ADS ACOS DONAS BOLAY

GENERAL DELIVERY, ARCTIC BAY, N.W.T. CANADA XOA 0A0

October 24, 1990.

Ludy Padluq M.L.A. Government of the N.W.T. Yellowknife, N.W.T. X1A 2L9

Re: Government Support for Education

Our CEC shares the following concerns that have been expressed in the Baffin at both the regional and local level.

Housing

We currently employ a classroom assistant to teach our kindergarten program. According to formula we are entitled to a qualified teacher for that position, but have no available housing.

Four of our teachers are married couples from southern Canada and they occupy two houses. When they leave Arctic Bay, we will be forced either to hire two more teaching couples or to hire single people. Two strangers sharing accommodation does not work out in most cases, yet if we are forced to hire couples there is the strong possibility that one person will be a strong teacher and the other weak. The housing shortage severely limits our choices in hiring and retaining teaching staff.

We also have three single people on staff who are over-accommodated, that is, occupying two-bedroom houses. This does not make sense when many families in town are living in overcrowded housing.

The availability of housing could also serve as an incentive for the people of our community to enter the teaching profession.



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Funding for Casual Replacement of Teachers in Training

The recent reduction in funding from the Eastern Arctic Teacher Education Program will have a serious and detrimental affect on our school in Arctic Bay. The pattern for the qualified Inuit teachers on staff has been to work first as a classroom assistant and then to attend T.E.P.

We presently have four classroom assistants on staff sharing teaching responsibilities in our classrooms. We had hoped to facilitate the qualification process by sending the classroom assistants out to short EATEP courses in Iqaluit during the school year, but our budget cannot afford to cover the costs of casual replacements while the assistants are away. As our classroom programs have been developed with the classroom assistants, it would be difficult to offer these programs without replacement staff.

We had also hoped to facilitate qualification by offering courses for the classroom assistants here in Arctic Bay. We have been informed, however, that there is no funding available for a field based program. There is neither funding for an instructor to come from outside the community nor funding or training for supervising teachers from within our staff.

It has been stated by the Department of Education in Yellowknife that the training of native teachers is of the highest priority. The funding for this teacher training may seem too costly for other government departments, but in the long term it will be far less costly than constantly hiring and inservicing teachers from the south.

As the M.L.A. for our community we are requesting that you raise our concerns at the next session of the Legislative Assembly. There is an urgent need for long term planning to ensure that our children can receive the education they deserve as residents of the Northwest Territories.

Yours sincerely,

Modelle

Moses Oyukuluk., Chairperson, Community Education Council.

Cc. Stephen Kakfwe, Minister of Education

Joe Enook, Chairperson, Baffin Divisional Board of Education

Chuck Tolley, Director, Baffin Divisional Board of Education

Naullag Arnagag, Supervisor, Baffin Divisional Board of Education



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