

March 22, 1999

**PLEASE PASS INFORMATION TO OTHER MLA'S**

Honourable Mr. Levi Barnabas  
Member of the Legislative Assembly  
Yellowknife, NT

Honourable Mr. John Todd  
Minister of Finance  
Yellowknife, NT

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

Dear Mr. Barnabas:

**Re: Actions taken by the Resolute Bay Drug and Alcohol Committee  
and the NWT Liquor Licensing Board concerning  
Jessco Logistics Ltd., Calgary, Alberta**

I understand that you will be extremely busy with the last sitting of the Legislative Assembly for the Northwest Territories now but want to bring to your attention a matter which has been partly influenced by the upcoming division of the territories and which concerns a community in your riding and its struggle to deal with alcohol problems. Because the date of the division is so near, matters were rushed through in a process which affects our community. I would like to bring this matter to your attention and to ask for your assistance in trying to rectify what is a serious matter for the future of our community of Resolute. I will outline the information as best as I can.

1. March 1/99 Resolute Bay Hamlet Council met at a regular meeting and during that meeting we were informed that Jessco Logistics Ltd. had been granted a licence by the NWT Liquor Licensing Board to serve "in house guests" at the tourist establishment which is currently under construction on the airport property of Resolute Bay. None of the Council members had been aware of this previous to our meeting that evening. I voiced my strong concerns about this happening and especially without any notification having been given to our Council by our local committee or the Liquor Licensing Board prior to the approval.
2. March 2/99 I attended a regular meeting of the Resolute Bay Drug & Alcohol Committee and raised my concerns. I was told by the Committee that yes, in fact, a letter of support had been written by them last Fall and sent to Jessco Logistics Ltd. of Calgary, Alberta. When I asked to have copies of the documents relating to this matter I was told that because there was no current secretary for the Committee, it would take some time to locate the letters. I said that I would call them the next day to receive the copies.
3. The next day I was told there was some confusion about where the documents for the Resolute Bay Drug & Alcohol Committee were being kept. I insisted that the committee come up with copies of the document and after pressing, I was finally given copies of the three documents enclosed: a) Sept. 22/98 letter from Jessco Logistics Ltd. to Resolute Bay Alcohol Committee b) Minutes of Sept. 29/98 meeting of Resolute Bay REACT meeting and c) October 6/98 letter from Resolute Bay Drug & Alcohol Committee to Jessco Logistics Ltd.

4. Over the course of the next couple of days I spoke with several people in the Hay River office of the Liquor Licensing Board. I was told that the Liquor Commission was meeting in Yellowknife for a show cause hearing and at that same time were meeting to include discussions about the Jessco Logistics Ltd. liquor licence application. I asked what the next step of action should be for those of us in the community who did not agree with the actions of our local Resolute Bay Drug & Alcohol Committee in giving a letter of support for a liquor licence to be given to Jessco Logistics. I was told that a petition with 20 or more signatures of voters from Resolute outlining our concerns should be sent in to the Liquor Licensing Board. I immediately started working on the wording and translating of such a petition. In the mean time I also spoke with other members of the community who said they felt the same way as I did.
5. March 8 or 9, 1999 on a phone call to the Liquor Licensing Board I was told that the licence for Jessco Logistics Ltd. had been approved at the meetings in Yellowknife and that the licence would be issued pending completion of the accommodation facility and the compliance with health and safety regulations. I was also told at that time that because the liquor application came with a letter of support from the Resolute Drug & Alcohol Committee, that letter carried a lot of weight in the final decision made by the Board. I was also told then that the Liquor Licensing Board also was trying to process the application in a hurry because after April 1<sup>st</sup> when Nunavut came into being, any applications for liquor licences will have to be handled by a Nunavut Liquor Licensing Board which has yet to be set up. In other words, they were pushing it through and then any ramifications of their actions would have to be handled by Nunavut, where the "system" for handling such things was not yet in place. I was very angry when told that. Not only had our local Alcohol Committee gone ahead and made a decision that could have grievous effects on our community but the same thing was being done by the governing body, the NWT Liquor Licensing Board, with absolutely no consultation by either the Alcohol Committee or the Liquor Licensing Board with the community at large. I asked for and received by mail a copy of the Liquor Act & Regulations as well as information about liquor plebiscites.
6. March 11<sup>th</sup> I worded the petition, had it translated and began collecting signatures on the morning of March 12<sup>th</sup>. Over the course of the day slightly more than 60 signatures were added to the petition (copy of which is enclosed for your files) and that represents nearly 50% of the registered voters from our community voting list. I know that if there had been more time I would have been able to collect even more signatures but I wanted to have the petition faxed to Hay River by Friday afternoon at the latest. The original of the petition was sent to Hay River in the regular mail.
7. On Monday March 15<sup>th</sup>, I phoned the Liquor Licensing Board just to confirm that the fax had been received and was told that it had. I said I would wait for some news from them.
8. By March 19<sup>th</sup> when I still have heard nothing back, I phoned the Liquor Licensing Board once again and spoke with a new person who said that my previous contact Ms. Ann Lobb

was no longer working in that office. I had a brief conversation with Ms. Delilah St. Arnold who was now working in that office position. She informed me that once a licence has been issued, only when there has been an infraction of the Liquor Act will the licence be revoked. Please remember that this licence has only been approved as yet, not issued. It can not be issued until the building where the guests will stay has been given approval by the health and safety authorities. That to me means that if and when the licence is actually issued then the community has absolutely no recourse. Another point was raised about who would be able to be served liquor in the Jessco Logistics establishment and I was told that Ms. St. Arnold would get back to me. I have not heard from her as yet.

So that is where it stands at this point. Jessco Logistics has a building which is not yet completed and ready for occupancy. I might add that there are also a few other problems concerning the Hamlet Council of Resolute that are pending with Jessco Logistics over water delivery demands and raw sewage which has been going out onto the ground near the Jessco Logistics buildings at the airport. We are making investigations through Council on these other matters. Those are the same buildings which have to be inspected and approved before the Liquor Licence can be issued.

People will no doubt question my motives about making an issue of this Liquor Licence. I am doing it first and foremost as a resident of this community. We have worked hard to make improvements in the alcohol problems of Resolute. We have gone from a wide open community which had a bar accessible to all residents to a restricted (controlled community) where we had expected the members of the elected Alcohol & Drug Committee to do a better job of representing community feelings. I feel very responsible for not keeping more involved with the actions of this committee. I, as a resident, and I as a Hamlet Council member, came to know about their actions in this particular matter too late. Similarly I would be doing the same lobbying for change with the Liquor Licensing Board and yourself if any other business in Resolute had applied for any type of licence to serve alcohol. I do not believe that having any type of place in this town that sells liquor can be beneficial to the community.

Already at least one other hotel establishment has said that if Jessco Logistics opens up their accommodation facility with a licence to serve liquor to guests then he will be applying for a liquor licence as well. That is understandable because having a licence to serve liquor to guests will influence where guests decide to stay and no one wants to be losing business in the competitive market.

You well know that I am managing the local co-operative hotel in Resolute Bay. I could conceivably be in conflict of interest but that is why I told you previously that my feelings and actions in this regard are done as a citizen of Resolute, not as a Councillor and not as a hotel employee. Both my late husband, Bezal Jesudason and I have kept our feelings about alcohol and what it has done to northern communities well out in the open. It absolutely boggles my mind that a territorial government agency like the Liquor Licensing Board can "fast track" a decision concerning alcohol just to get it off their plate before March 31<sup>st</sup>. A decision that can have much deeper and longer term effects on a community that after March 31<sup>st</sup> will not even be in their

jurisdiction.

So there it is - I put this before you and any other Members of the Legislative Assembly for your help and guidance. In spite of the hectic times as you split your Assembly, I hope that the concerns of all your constituents come first. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely



Mrs. Terry Jesudason

Box 200

Resolute Bay, NT

X0A 0V0

Phone Number: 1-867-252-3875 After work hours

1-867-252-3900 During work hours

Fax Number: 1-867-252-3900

**RESOLUTE BAY DRUG & ALCOHOL COMMITTEE  
P.O. BOX 241  
RESOLUTE BAY, N.T. XOA OVO  
PHONE #867-252-3660 FAX #252-3201**

October 08, 1998

Jessco Logistics Ltd.  
179 Cardiff Drive N. W.  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2K 1S1

Dear sir:

The Drug and Alcohol Committee met at their regular meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss your request for a guest-only license for your house at the airport.

The committee has no objection to your company receiving the above-mentioned license with the understanding that you would still be required to follow all of the local liquor regulations including the permit system for bringing liquor into the community.

We wish you success in your business.

Sincerely,



Ralph Alexander  
Chairperson

FROM : CBDF Anthyme KADJUK  
01/02/1999 05:30 2523201  
08/07/1998 00:42 2523201

PHONE NO. : 403 837 4499

Mar. 22 1999 02:43PM P6

COM WELLNESS  
COM WELLNESS

PAGE 03  
PAGE 01

FROM : FAX with ANSWERING SYSTEM

PHONE NO. :

Sep. 23 1998 11:01AM P1

## JESSCO LOGISTICS LTD.

22 September 1998

Resolute Bay Alcohol Committee  
Resolute Bay, NT

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Please accept this letter as my request for your support and permission to obtain a Guest House Liquor License for my house at the airport.

I wish to obtain a guest-only licence to enable me to serve alcoholic beverages to my paying guests. I wish to protect myself and my business so that it would not be legal for me to sell alcohol to anyone not registered as a guest in my house.

Thank you very much for your consideration and assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Peter E. Jess

REACT  
REGULAR MEETING  
September 29, 1998

- Present:
- Ralph Alexander -Chairperson
  - Paddy Aqiatjuk -vice chairman
  - Mona Ulayukuluk -member
  - Sarah Nungaq -member
  - Lee Welch -member
  - Nangaq Idlout -member
  - Caroline Pudluk -member
  - Lome Adamitz -R.C.M.P.

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1. Call to Order  
The meeting was called at 7:25pm

1. Λααααααα  
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2. Opening Prayer  
Said by Nangaq Idlout

2. αααααααα  
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3. Delegates  
None

3. αααααααα  
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4. Adoption of Minutes  
Motioned by Paddy seconded by Lee as corrected all in favor.

4. αααααααααα ααααααααααα  
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5. Business Arising from Minutes  
Paddy asked who Mike Linn was.

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6. Adoption of Accounts Payable  
The only bill we had was the phone bill.

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7. Review of Financial Statements  
Financial Statements for April to August were presented, Lee made the motion seconded by Paddy

7. αααααααα ααααααααααα  
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8. Correspondence  
The R.C.M.P reports says No incidents.

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