

RESPONSE TO PETITION

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Petition tabled by Mr. Floyd Roland on June 4, 1998

Response by the Honourable John Todd Chairman, Financial Management Board

Pay Equity and the Collective Bargaining Process

Thank you for bringing your constituents' concerns regarding Collective Bargaining and Pay Equity to my attention.

The Government's position is that problems created by both parties at the bargaining table must be resolved by both the parties in the same forum. Splitting the issues currently on the bargaining table and using outside parties to decide issues that affect northerners will not provide the best solution to the challenges before us.

As I stated on many occasions in the Legislative Assembly, I encourage the Union of Northern Workers to send the Government's Final Settlement Offer to the membership for a ratification vote. A ratification vote will provide all employees with an opportunity to express their views on the Government's Final Settlement Offer and for northerners to resolve their own problems.