Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada

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FILE #____OF DATE:

April 30, 1997

Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly P.O. Box 1320 Yellowknife, NT, X1A 2L9

Attention: Honorable Don Morin

MLA, Tu Nedhe

Dear Sir:

RE: NWT Lease 75L/12-2-6- - Lodge and Airstrip
Talthelei Narrows in Great Slave Lake - Parcels A,B,C,
Plummer Enterprises Limited

Thank you for your letter dated April 16, 1997 in which you expressed concern that the above airstrip was built over an existing grave site.

Please be advised that this matter was previously raised by Eliza Lawrence, MLA, Tu Nedhe on January 22, 1987. At that time, this department conducted an inspection, in the summer of 1987, in conjunction with the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and local community representatives. It was found that the gravesite is approximately 100 feet off the north east side of the airstrip and was never excavated or disturbed during the construction of the airstrip. There were 5 or 6 graves in one small area. One with a make-shift headstone and a few small wooden crosses that were lying on the ground. There were also remnants of old wooded fencing that used to surround the graves. At the time of the inspection in 1987, there was talk about restoring the crosses and headstones as well as replacing all the picket fencing, but no work was ever done to the site to date.

Our department will be conducting an inspection this summer and we will endeavour to take some photographs and GPS readings of the site so it can be accurately plotted on our maps. This will ensure no future activity in this area disturbs the site.

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Enclosed for your information is the 1987 correspondence regarding this concern.

If you have any further questions on the gravesite, you may contact Grant Nolan who is the manager for Plummer Enterprises Limited, at phone number 204-774-5775, or you may contact the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre where they may have further documentation for this site.

Yours truly,

Annette McRobert

Manager

Land Administration

cc: O. Vandenberghe District Manager Fort Smith

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