Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

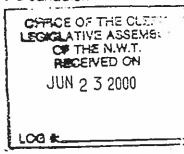


Ministre des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien

Ottawa, Canada K1A CH4

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Mr. Anthony Whitford, M.L.A.
Office of the Speaker
Legislative Assembly
Government of the Northwest Territories
P.O. Box 1320
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2L9



Dear Mr. Whitford:

Thank you for your correspondence of March 30, 2000, addressed to the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, Prime Minister, with enclosed copy of the Resolution 12-14(2) of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

I would like to assure you and the other Members of the Legislative Assembly that the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development did everything within its mandate to try to resolve the issue of pensions for the former employees of the Giant Mine.

I also support your proposal for reforms to the *Pension Benefits Standards Act (1985)* and *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act.* I intend to write to my colleagues, the Honourable Jim Peterson, Secretary of State (International Financial Institutions) and the Honourable John Manley, Minister of Industry, inviting them to discuss the feasibility of modernizing these statutes to avoid similar situations in the future. I will also forward to them a copy of your resolution.

Again, thank you for your interest in this matter.

Yours sincerely.

Robert D. Nault, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, P.C., M.P.

The Honourable Paul Martin, P.C., M.P.

The Honourable John Manley, P.C., M.P. The Honourable Jim Peterson, P.C., M.P.

The Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, P.C., M.P.

Canad'ä'

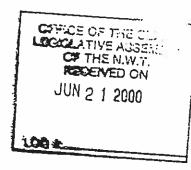




Cabinet du Premier ministre

Ottawa, Canada, KIA 0A2

June 13, 2000



The Honourable Anthony Whitford, M.L.A., Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, P.O. Box 1320, Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. X1A 2L9

Dear Mr. Speaker:

On behalf of the Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, I would like to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence of March 30, with which you enclosed a copy of a resolution of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly supporting the pension entitlements of former employees of Giant Mine. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying.

You may be assured that the views expressed in the resolution have been carefully considered. I am confident that the Honourable Paul Martin. Minister of Finance, to whom you indicate a copy of your correspondence has already been forwarded, will have appreciated being made aware of your views.

I have taken the liberty of directing a further copy to the Honourable John Manley, Minister of Industry, to whom your correspondence will also be of interest.

Thank you for writing to the Prime Minister.

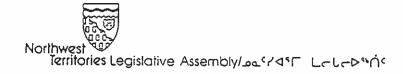
Yours sincerely,

Sarbjeet Kaur Sarai Special Assistant Correspondence

Canad'ä







Motion ∧Ր⊲ೄ೧ℂೄ

Support for Pension Entitlements due Former Giant Mine Workers

WHEREAS the closure of Giant Mine has had a devastating effect on former employees and the City of Yellowknife;

AND WHEREAS Royal Oak Mines made no effort to be a responsible employer and ensure that severance for all employees and pension entitlements for hourly employees were in place;

AND WHEREAS Royal Oak Mines underfunded the workers' pension funds, which will result in a 25% cut to the retirees pensions as of April 1, 2000;

AND WHEREAS this corporate pension underfunding is permitted under the Federal *Pension Benefits* Act;

AND WHEREAS as a negotiated arrangement in which a Federal Government Department played a role by allowing these circumstances to continue;

AND WHEREAS the cuts to the pensions and severance payments for former Giant Mine workers will adversely affect these individuals, their families and the community as a whole;

AND WHEREAS Federal legislation provides little or no relief or protection for the former employees of Giant Mine or any other Canadian workers who are adversely affected by corporate closures and bankruptcies





March 30, 2000

The Right Honourable Jean Chrétien, P.C., Q.C., M.P. Prime Minister of Canada Langevin Block
80 Wellington St.,
OTTAWA ON K1A 0A2
FAX: 613-941-6900

Dear Prime Minister:

Support for Pension Entitlements Due Former Giant Mine Workers

I wish to transmit to you, Resolution 12-14(2) of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories. This Resolution was adopted unanimously on March 27, 2000. The Resolution is respectively submitted for you and your Government's immediate consideration.

Sincerely,

Anthony (Tony) Whitford

Speakei

JUN 2,9 2000

Cc:

...

Hon. Robert Nault, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Hon. Paul Martin, Minister of Finance

Hon. Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Member of Parliament, Western Arctic Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories