

NWT SENIORS ADVISORY COUNCIL



Motion: 96-08-23

Whereas; The NWT Seniors Advisory Council is mandated to represent and promote the interests of aboriginal and non aboriginal seniors and elders living in the NWT, and

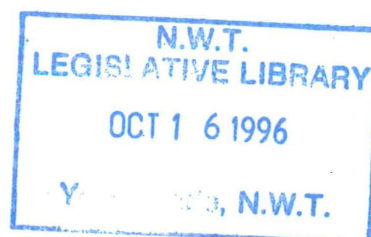
Whereas; The NWT Seniors Advisory Council is mandated to provide the GNWT with advice and recommendations on GNWT policies, programs and services affecting NWT seniors and elders, and

Whereas; One of the NWT Seniors Advisory Council objectives is to promote GNWT policies, programs, and services which encourage to the greatest extent possible, self reliance and self sufficiency amongst NWT seniors and elders, and

Whereas; The NWT Seniors Advisory Council supports and encourages the GNWT to take restraint measures which are required under current fiscal circumstances, while taking into account the welfare of all NWT residents; and

Whereas; Owning and maintaining their own homes contributes to an independent and healthy lifestyle for northern seniors and elders as well as reducing dependency on government support; and

Whereas; The NWT Seniors Society 1-800 Information Line has received numerous replies in response to the GNWT's decision to reduce benefits under the seniors fossil fuel subsidy program, calling for general information on the changes, to express concerns and disapproval, and to offer alternative suggestions, and



Whereas; The NWT Seniors Advisory Council advises that more than a two week lead time is required for seniors and elders to make financial adjustments, and

Now Therefore,

The NWT Seniors Advisory Council recommends that:

- The GNWT defer until April 1997 the implementation of the revision to the seniors fossil fuel subsidy program.
- The NWT Seniors Advisory Council be mandated to develop and recommend a fair and reasonable proposal in conjunction with the Department of Education, Culture, and Employment on how revision on the fuel subsidy program could be implemented to achieve GNWT fiscal restraint objectives while encouraging seniors and elders to remain in their own homes and in the north.
- In addition to advising seniors and elders of the changes to the subsidy program, the NWT Seniors Advisory Council will advise the Minister and MLA's of ongoing reaction to this measure.

