

NWT LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY



3 1936 00045 603 6



OFFICE OF THE  
MAYOR

# THE CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

P.O. BOX 580  
YELLOWKNIFE, NT  
X1A 2N4  
TELEPHONE: (403) 920-5693  
FAX: (403) 920-5649



February 13, 1997

Hon. Charles Dent  
Government of the N.W.T.  
Box 1320  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

*Mr. Charles Dent*

Dear Mr. Dent:

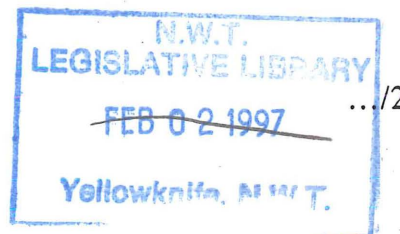
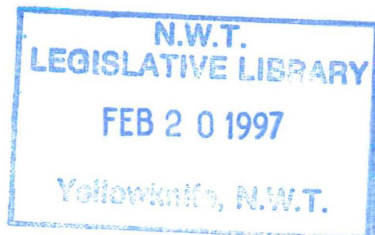
I read with interest the article "Problem Puzzling - Northern Students Score Lowest in Country" in the Wednesday, February 12, 1997 **Yellowknifer**. In the dimly remembered past, when I attended the Yellowknife Public School, it was always one of the best in the Alberta System. According to Macleans Magazine, the Alberta system today is producing students who are head and shoulders above the rest of the country.

I also noted that French immersion students are on par with Alberta students. As French immersion is centred in Yellowknife, this might indicate that the Yellowknife school system is still functioning well and many other locations in the NWT are well below the national average.

I think it is important that parents in Yellowknife be provided with the full story. If the City's schools are producing equivalent graduates to the rest of the country, then this should be public information. If not, then again Yellowknife parents should be informed so that the problem can be addressed.

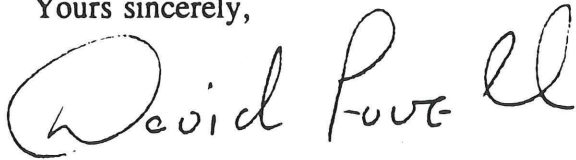
In this regard I am requesting that a breakdown be provided which shows how Yellowknife scored as opposed to how the NWT scored. Although this information may not be available for the current tests, the language arts and math test results from previous years should have been received.

Finally, I have great respect for both Yellowknife school systems, and I feel that Yellowknife students are representative of the rest of Canada and should score as well as or better than the Canadian average, all else being equal. If we are indeed scoring lower, a searching review of the curriculum may be in order.



I consider this matter to be extremely important as the quality of our school systems has been one of the main selling points when promoting Yellowknife as a place to live. If it is merely a matter of clarification of the results, then let's have it. If there are structural problems, let's be up front with it and deal with them.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Lovell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail on the "l".

David Lovell  
Mayor

cc: Roy Erasmus, MLA  
Jake Ootes, MLA  
Shamus Henry, MLA  
Yellowknife Education District 1  
Yellowknife Catholic Schools

FEB 2 0 1991