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TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 77-13(4) TABLED ON MAY 29 1997

HAMLET OF ARVIAT
ARVIAT, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
XOC 0E0



GENERAL OFFICE 857-2841

HAMLET MANAGER 857-2897

May 20, 1997

Honourable Kelvin Ng
Minister, Health and Social Services
GNWT
Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2L9

KEEWATIN REGIONAL HEALTH BOARD

The Arviat Hamlet Council is extremely disappointed with the recent actions of the Keewatin Regional Health Board in cancelling the dental therapy program. The decision to lay off the region's therapist and to privatize the service was reached without prior community consultations and was unilaterally imposed on the region.

The Hamlet Council of Arviat does not support the actions taken by the KRHB and is opposed to the privatization of the dental therapy program.

Our previous correspondence with the KRHB clearly indicated that we wanted proper consultation prior to any changes however, the KRHB ignored the request of this Council and is now imposing its own wishes on the region.

In light of the total lack of consultation, or apparently the will to consult, demonstrated by the KRHB the Hamlet of Arviat would like to have your department block fund this community for its portion of the region's dental therapy program immediately with the intent being to assume all health care funding for this community in a block funding arrangement.

We feel the time has come to negotiate such an arrangement if we are to have a say in the health care services provided to our citizens.

Sincerely,


Peter Kittaqlilik
Mayor

cc: Chairperson, KRHB



