

# Hamlet Council of Coral Harbour

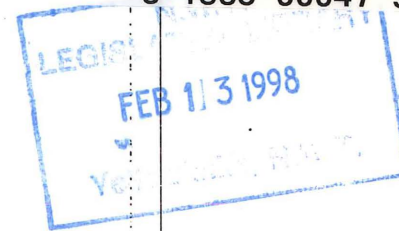
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January 23, 1998

James Arvaluk  
 President  
 Aiviit Hunters and Trappers Organization  
 P.O. Box 108  
 Coral Harbour, NT  
 X0C 0C0

## Request for Council Member Appointment to Hunters Support Program Sub-Committee

At the regular meeting of Council held January 22, 1998, Council discussed your request to have a Council member appointed to the Hunters Support Program Sub-Committee who will be reviewing applications under this program in the near future. Council decided that it will not participate in this process for the reasons outlined in this letter.

The Council believes that the Hunters Support Program perpetuates dependency on handouts which was created when governments first came to the north. This program, like the old welfare system, results in disincentives for people to work for the livelihood of their family. Indeed we have seen examples of people who choose not to apply for jobs not because they are unqualified but rather because if they do they will not be eligible to receive a nice new machine for free. Moreover, for the many who go out and get low paying jobs in an attempt to earn a livelihood for their family they must wonder why they bother when they can barely afford to support their family and cannot afford to buy a nice new machine when their neighbour who does nothing gets one for free. Programs of this type send the wrong message to people and therefore, should be discouraged in their present form.

In the future, the Council would like to see the money that is currently being spent on the Hunters Support Program in Coral Harbour be reallocated so that the money could be spent on worthwhile community projects in the renewable resource sector rather than giving handouts to a few residents. By copy of this letter to Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, we invite them to discuss with the Council how the current system can be changed prior to any decisions being made regarding future allocations under this program.

Qujannamiik,

Mayor Johnny Ningeongan

cc: Jose Kusugak, President, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  
 Raymond Ningeocheak, Second Vice-President, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated

