



Northwest Territories Minister of Health and Social Services

TABLED DOCUMENT NO.

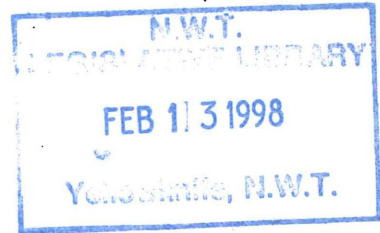
48 - 13(5) Tabled on FEB 13 1998

JAN 13 1995

NWT LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY



Chief Isadore Manuel
Dene Community Council
Box 80
FORT GOOD HOPE NT X0E 0H0



Dear Chief Manuel

Residents of Sahtu - Access to Health Services

Cabinet met this week and has approved a change in the current delivery of health services in the Sahtu. Cabinet decided, effective April 1, 1995, that:

- all residents of Fort Norman, Norman Wells and Déline will be required to obtain medevac, hospital and medical specialist referral services from the Stanton Hospital in Yellowknife; and
- residents of Colville Lake and Fort Good Hope will have the choice of obtaining these services from either Inuvik or Yellowknife.

The attachment provides more details on the specific provisions.

This decision responds to views which were heard in consultations held during 1994 that residents of Fort Good Hope wanted to have a choice of accessing hospital, specialist services and medevacs in Yellowknife or in Inuvik.

Sincerely

Original Signed By:
NELLIE J. COURNOYEA

Nellie J. Cournoyeva

Attachment

- c. The Honourable Stephen Kakfwi, MLA
Sahtu

Residents of Sahtu - Access to Health Services

Health service arrangements for Sahtu communities will change effective April 1, 1995.

The specific provisions of Cabinet's approval of this policy change are as follows:

- **Communities of Fort Norman, Déline and Norman Wells**

All residents of these communities will be required to access Yellowknife for specified services. (See definitions below).

- **Communities of Colville Lake and Fort Good Hope**

Residents of these communities will have the choice of accessing Inuvik or Yellowknife for specified services. (See definitions below).

- Treatment and prevention health services in the communities will not change. These services are now provided by the community health centre nurses and by the GP physician who is based in Norman Wells and holds GP clinics in the Sahtu communities regularly.

Residents of Sahtu will not be referred to GP physicians at Yellowknife medical clinics.

- Community dental treatment services will continue to be provided to all Sahtu residents by visiting dentists from the Inuvik office of Clark Dental Clinic.

Specified Services - Definitions

Medevac Services: includes any emergency situation which cannot be managed in the community; such as, major accident/injury, heart attack, premature labour.

Hospital Services: includes any situation where the inpatient or outpatient services required exceed what is available in the community; such as, medical emergencies, medical/surgical treatment, laboratory and x-ray procedure, obstetrical delivery, rehabilitation services, dental surgery.

Medical Specialist Referral: includes any service provided by a medical specialist that is not available in the community; such as, diagnostic assessment and specialized testing, inpatient or outpatient treatment and follow-up.

Dental Surgery: Sahtu residents who require dental surgery will have their care transferred from the Inuvik dentist to a Yellowknife dentist, for the surgical service only.

JAN. 13 - 1995



JAN 13 1995

Chief Richard Kochon
Colville Lake First Nation Band
Colville Lake c/o General Delivery
via NORMAN WELLS NT X0E OVO

Dear Chief Kochon

Residents of Sahtu - Access to Health Services

Cabinet met this week and has approved a change in the current delivery of health services in the Sahtu. Cabinet decided, effective April 1, 1995, that:

- all residents of Fort Norman, Norman Wells and Déline will be required to obtain medevac, hospital and medical specialist referral services from the Stanton Hospital in Yellowknife; and
- residents of Colville Lake and Fort Good Hope will have the choice of obtaining these services from either Inuvik or Yellowknife.

The attachment provides more details on the specific provisions. April 1, 1995 is the effective date of this policy change.

This decision responds to views which were heard in consultations held during 1994 that residents of Colville Lake wished to have a choice of accessing hospital, specialist and medevacs in Yellowknife or in Inuvik.

Sincerely

**Original Signed By:
NELLIE J. COURNOYEA**

Nellie J. Cournoyea

Attachment

c: The Honourable Stephen Kakfwi, MLA
Sahtu

Residents of Sahtu - Access to Health Services

Health service arrangements for Sahtu communities will change effective April 1, 1995.

The specific provisions of Cabinet's approval of this policy change are as follows:

- **Communities of Fort Norman, Déline and Norman Wells**

All residents of these communities will be required to access Yellowknife for specified services. (See definitions below).

- **Communities of Colville Lake and Fort Good Hope**

Residents of these communities will have the choice of accessing Inuvik or Yellowknife for specified services. (See definitions below).

- Treatment and prevention health services in the communities will not change. These services are now provided by the community health centre nurses and by the GP physician who is based in Norman Wells and holds GP clinics in the Sahtu communities regularly.

Residents of Sahtu will not be referred to GP physicians at Yellowknife medical clinics.

- Community dental treatment services will continue to be provided to all Sahtu residents by visiting dentists from the Inuvik office of Clark Dental Clinic.

Specified Services - Definitions

Medevac Services: includes any emergency situation which cannot be managed in the community; such as, major accident/injury, heart attack, premature labour.

Hospital Services: includes any situation where the inpatient or outpatient services required exceed what is available in the community; such as, medical emergencies, medical/surgical treatment, laboratory and x-ray procedure, obstetrical delivery, rehabilitation services, dental surgery.

Medical Specialist Referral: includes any service provided by a medical specialist that is not available in the community; such as, diagnostic assessment and specialized testing, inpatient or outpatient treatment and follow-up.

Dental Surgery: Sahtu residents who require dental surgery will have their care transferred from the Inuvik dentist to a Yellowknife dentist, for the surgical service only.