

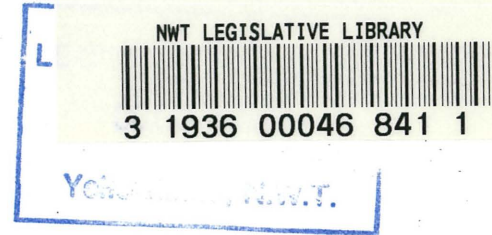


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Kivalliq Inuit Association

October 20, 1997

To: The Members of the Legislative Assembly

Dear Members:



*Serving the
 Communities
 of*
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I am writing to ask for your support and assistance with our efforts to re-acquire access to adequate, reliable medical care. We believe that the recent actions of the Government of the Northwest Territories, via the Keewatin Regional Health Board (KRHB) have placed the Inuit of Kivalliq in a potentially dangerous position.

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As you may know, the Kivalliq Inuit Association (KIA) has been working with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI) to investigate and advocate on this issue for several months. We became involved in response to overwhelming concerns expressed by many of the Hamlet Councils, organizations and Inuit in Kivalliq communities. We lobbied the Premier and Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Kelvin Ng to ask the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories to call a Public Inquiry into the behaviour, structure and recent decisions of the KRHB.

Baker Lake
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*Chesterfield
 Inlet*
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Unfortunately, it is our opinion that Minister Ng has failed to live up to his responsibility to protect the rights of Inuit (and indeed all residents) of Kivalliq to proper health care. We are also astonished with Mr. Ng's complete indifference to the overwhelming public outcry on this matter. We are further disturbed by his and Premier Morin's refusal to grant a Public Inquiry into this affair on the grounds that it was too costly. This is unacceptable to us and we intend to take action.

Coral Harbour
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We are attaching a series of letters that describe our position, and outline our actions to date as well as those planned for the future. Enclosed, you will find:

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1. October 17, 1997 letter to Mr. Allan Rock (Minister of Health) and Ms. Jane Stewart (Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs) from Mr. Paul Kaludjak (President, KIA) and Mr. Jose Kusugak (President, NTI);

Repulse Bay
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2. October 17, 1997 letter to Mr. Kelvin Ng (Minister of Health and Social Services) from Mr. Paul Kaludjak (President, KIA);

3. September 29 Legal Opinion - letter from Mr. Dougold Brown (Solicitor) to Mr. Paul Kaludjak (President, KIA) regarding the Judicial Review of the Keewatin Regional Health Board; and

Whale Cove
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4. October 20, 1997 Speaking Notes for KIA Press Conference by Mr. Paul Kaludjak (President, KIA).

It is our opinion that Minister Ng should resign his position - he is responsible for this situation and must be held accountable.

It is also our opinion that our entire health care system must be reformed. We believe a Public Inquiry is an essential step in that process.

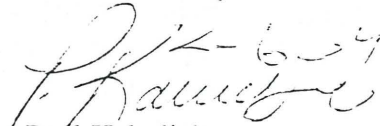
I am asking you, as elected representatives of the people of the Northwest Territories, to help us seek justice on this crucial issue. We are talking about peoples' lives. We are talking about our right to have the same quality of health care as everyone else in Canada. We are talking about our right to expect accountability and responsiveness from our elected government representatives and all of their agencies.

I urge you to review the material we have included - I think you will find it is compelling evidence. If you would like more information, contact us and we will provide it to you.

I do not presume to tell you what course of action to take. But, on behalf of the Inuit of Kivalliq, I will tell you that you must do something about this. You were elected to office by the people - now, we are calling on you to act in the best interests of the NWT.

As I'm sure you understand, time is of the essence to us. I trust that you will act on this urgent matter as quickly as possible.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Kaludjak', with a date '2014-05-29' written above it.

Paul Kaludjak
President, KIA

c.c. Mr. Jose Kusugak - President, NTI
Ms. Nancy Karetak-Lindell - Member of Parliament, Nunavut
All Mayors - Kivalliq Hamlet Councils
Mr. Allan Rock - Minister of Health
Ms. Jane Stewart - Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs
Dr. John Amagoalik - Nunavut Implementation Commission
Mr. Jack Anawak - Interim Commissioner