



MUNICIPALITY OF IQALUIT

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May 31, 2001

Thomas Kudloo, Chair
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU
X0B 1J0

Via fax: (867) 360-6369

Dear Sir:

Re: Iqaluit Water Licence NWB31QA0103 - Progress Update

On behalf of the City of Iqaluit, I write to provide an update on our work towards meeting the conditions of our water licence. Although I am still waiting for a detailed response from the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs with respect to the legality of our licence, the Council and I wish to impress upon the members of the Water Board that we are making every attempt to meet the high ideals of our licence and complete many of the tasks detailed within

At this point in time the Council is negotiating with the Northern Employees Union to establish a new contract for our staff. Unfortunately the bargaining unit has yet to accept any offer put before them by management. As such, many of our employees are currently locked out. This is a very difficult time for our organization and the remaining staff is falling behind with many administrative tasks. Council is working very hard to resolve the dispute and hopes to once again concentrate on dealing with the long list of issues facing our community.

With our present labour situation in mind, I offer the following information and ask that appropriate amendments be made to our licence to provide us with more time to meet those conditions which will not be completed in time.

- Part B - #1 Information for the Annual Report will be compiled once the present labour dispute has been resolved.
- Part C - #5 The Inspection Report of Lake Geraldine is scheduled to take place this summer, and will be completed by November 1st, 2001.
- Part C - #7 Information is being compiled for the report on long term water supply options. Consultants are being retained by the City, and the project will be completed by the end of this summer. The report will be submitted to the Water Board by the end of 2001.
- Part D - #6 The inspection of the sewage lagoon dykes will be completed this summer and the

report will be submitted on time.

- Part D - #9 The sewage treatment plant is still under construction. Legal and contractual difficulties, as well as structural flaws in the plant, have slowed completion dramatically. The entire sewage treatment plant project is under review. The Nunavut water Board will be kept informed.
- Part E - #1 The disposal and containment of solid waste has been continuing as per the Municipality's license. One exception, however, was the weekend of May 19, 2001. Due to the City's current labour dispute, garbage collection and disposal has stopped. As a result of increasing health risks associated with the waste build-up, the Municipality gave residents the opportunity to take their garbage to the landfill sit on May 19 from 1 to 5 pm. Union members prevented garbage from actually being taken into the dump, thus forcing Council to create a 'transfer station' adjacent to the dump. This temporary storage location was cleared of garbage on May 26 with the waste being transported across the picket line into the landfill. Orders from the Government of Nunavut's Department of Sustainable Development and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada forced the cleanup of this area.
- Part E - #3 The Municipality has devised an aggressive recycling program, which will eventually see a recycling station at the present solid waste disposal facilities. Blue garbage bags intended for separating recyclable materials (plastics, aluminum) from food waste, will be available for purchase and will initially be distributed free of charge to residents. Presently, the Municipality is doing every thing it can to raise public awareness of this new program. Actual implementation has been delayed due to the current work stoppage.
- Part E - #4 The Water Board will soon be receiving a proposal from the Municipality to, as a contingency plan, use the current solid waste disposal site in its same capacity until an incinerator is in place. It is proposed that the site be expanded by building up the existing burms.
- The Water Board has already received a proposal for the use of the current landfill site as an ashfill and metal dump with the construction of an incinerator in another area of the City. The construction that would take place this year at the landfill would be adaptable for use as an ashfill and metal dump.
- Part H - #1 The revised Operation and Maintenance Manual has not been completed due to the current work stoppage. It will be completed once the current labour dispute has been resolved.
- Part I - #1 The revised Spill Contingency Plan has not been completed due to the current work stoppage. It will be completed once the current labour dispute has been resolved.

Although many administrative tasks have been put on hold during the current labour dispute, our staff are continuing to provide essential services to our residents such as the provision of potable water and the safe disposal of sewage. Regular inspections of the lagoon are taking place and the Surveillance Network Program will continue as per usual.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Matthews". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Matthews" clearly distinguishable.

John Matthews
Mayor of Iqaluit

Cc Stephen Traynor, Director of Operations, DIAND Iqaluit, Fax: 975-4560