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Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 2200
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence

NWB3GRI

Our file - Notre référence

March 13, 2002

Robert Sheavs
Senior Administrative Officer
Municipality of Grise Fiord
General Delivery
Grise Fiord, NU, X0A 0J0

Sent by fax to:
(867) 980-9052

INAC acknowledges capabilities of Municipality

This letter is in response to the concerns you have indicated to me over the phone on March 12, 2002 regarding Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC)'s request that the Municipality of Grise Fiord apply for a water licence.

First of all, it was expressed that the community does not possess all the information required by the water licence application form and supplementary questionnaire. Generally, either the information requested simply does not exist and would be too expensive for the Municipality to have produced, or that it is only obtainable from third parties - usually Community Government and Transportation (CG&T). In this case, INAC recommends that you complete the supplemental questionnaire to the best of your ability, submit your application and all additional information you have to the Nunavut Water Board (NWB) and indicate what information is not in your possession. INAC is willing to help you obtain the extra information from third parties and can approach them on your behalf, if the Municipality so desires.

The other major concern was the fact that a water licence would make the Municipality responsible to address water- and waste-related infrastructure issues that either you do not own and/or do not control the funding for. INAC understands, and in fact agrees with these concerns. However, these concerns, no matter how legitimate, do not provide the Municipality with an exemption from obtaining a water licence as required by the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* and the *Northwest Territories Waters Act*. The Municipality must still apply for a water licence. INAC will work with the community and the NWB to ensure that the fact that some issues are outside the direct control of the Municipality is taken into consideration when determining licence conditions.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By: Michael Roy

Michael Roy
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INAC Water Resources Officer