

NASKAPI MONTAGNAIS INNU ASSOCIATION

POST OFFICE BOX 78
NORTHWEST RIVER, LABRADOR
Tel: (709) 946-8353

April 13/1977

To: Dr Brett, Dr Rath, Dr Hirtle & Dr Waldron

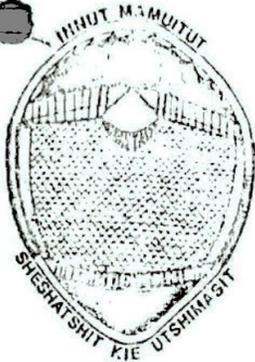
From: The Board of Directors of the Naskapi Montagnais Innu Assoc.

The NMIA had been informed of your visit in a recent letter from the Minister of National Health and Welfare. It is assumed that this visit by NHW senior advisors is in response to the recently submitted Northern Labrador Health Survey.

Several areas of specific concern are felt to be essential and we would be grateful for clarification on these points from your Government:

1. When registration of the Labrador Naskapi Montagnais occurs who will provide health services for Indian/Inuit?
2. If it is to be Medical Services Branch of the Department of National Health and Welfare, will provision of these services be delayed until registration actually occurs, or will they be provided on the 'entitled to be registered' status of Labrador Naskapi Montagnais before that time?
3. Does the Federal Government support the idea of regional and local health councils having executive function? We understand there is precedent for this elsewhere in Canada.
4. Will the Federal Government encourage and aid, financially and administratively, the following:
 - a) International Grenfell Association withdrawal from the role of provider of medical services and Federal Government input.
 - b) Indian and Inuit translators/interpreters and health workers.
 - c) C.H.R. program to be held in Labrador.
 - d) A health clinic for the Indian village of Sheshatshit on the south side of Northwest River.
 - e) Nursing stations for Rigolet and Postville.
 - f) Increased consultant service for Labrador.

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- g) Improved facilities e.g. X-Ray machines, Lab. facilities, incubators, at present nursing stations.
- h) Increased staff complement - Registered nurses.
5. Will the Federal Government aid construction of airstrips, water and sewerage systems, adequate housing, and a garbage disposal system?
6. If the Federal Government will, when can we expect action on these matters?
7. Again presuming a willingness on the part of the Federal Government to assist, would such assistance also take the form of providing resource people, such as sanitation engineers, nutritionists, etcetera.
8. Will the Federal Government aid free medically authorized transportation to any provincial center?
9. Will the Federal Government provide the "Outpost Camps Program" and "Family Packs" to Labrador Inuit and Labrador Indians?
10. Will funding and resources be provided by the Federal Government for Alcohol Rehabilitation Programs of Indians and Inuit in Labrador?
11. Will the Federal Government encourage apt reorganization of a secondary care center in Northern Labrador?
12. If Northwest River is to remain the secondary care center and acute care referral center for the Northern Labrador coast will the Federal Government undertake to bring the hospital up to the standards of its other Medical Services Branch hospitals at Inuvik, Frobisher Bay and Moose Factory; with the construction of a proper strip with IFR/ILS facilities, a proper O.R. with necessary staff to include an anaesthetist and the other improvements necessary to provide adequate secondary care services?

We look forward to your answers to our enquiries,

Yours sincerely

Antuan Penashue
Antuan Penashue, Vice-President
NWIA.