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# RESEARCH DOCUMENTATION CENTRE





FORT CHIMO

ESKIMO CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 1ST, 1971

Mr. Neville welcomed the delegates to Fort Chimo. He introduced the DIAND staff from the south, the two officers of the Indian Association of Quebec, and the President of the Eskimo council from each settlement. Each president in turn introduced the second delegate from each settlement.

Mr. Neville then explained that the Eskimo people could state their views on what they wanted to discuss, the procedure to be followed, and the choice of interpreters, but asked Mr. Boulanger to say a few words.

Mr. Boulanger said that he was very pleased to attend his first meeting with Eskimo people, although he has had many similar meetings with Indian people in the past. Mr. Chrétien had asked Mr. Boulanger to tell the Eskimo people that if there are meetings in the future and he is advised in advance, he would be pleased to attend to discuss the problems of the Eskimo people. There will be money made available in the future for meetings between the Eskimo Representatives and the staff of the Dept. at the times and places chosen by the Eskimo people.

Mr. Gill and Mr. Boulanger were there to listen - leaving local problems to the District staff until they know more about the Eskimo people - and they would read the minutes of the meetings after they left on Tuesday so thaty they could learn about the matters discussed.

Mr. Neville explained that the delegates were asked to come together because Eskimos have been asking for opportunities to come together to discuss things themselves. Every community last year expressed a wish for Eskimos from each settlement to meet and discuss things themselves. Eskimo people have also said that they want more control of the Government Programs in other communities. This is the second reason for this meeting. It is to talk about how the programmes of the Dept. in the Community can be controlled more by the local people.

Mr. Neville said the people from the District office were willing to stay in Chimo and talk to the delegates for as many days this week as the Eskimos wished, but the Regional Office staff, Mr. Gros-Louis, and Chief Watso had to leave on Tuesday.

Mr. Neville stressed that the decision as to how the time was to be used depended on the wishes of the Eskimo people.

Johnny Watt - proposed that three (3) interpreters be used to avoid strain and to get accurate translation. Mr. Neville agreed and asked who the Eskimo people would suggest. Johnny Watt suggested George Koniak. Tommy Kain seconded this suggestion and said that George speaks with a good voice and is easy to understand. Willie Kain agreed. Peter Abraham was also nominated.

Lazarusi Epoo says he had never heard Peter Abraham translating. It was decided that these three (3) would begin as interpreters and if the delegates wished to change later, this would be possible.

Mr. Neville then asked about the Agenda explaining that there are some important matters which the Dept. Staff wishes to discuss with the delegates. Joe Kumarluk suggested that the Govt. speakers talked first and then the Edimo people could do what they wished later. Mr. Neville agreed because some of the matters would be better discussed before some of the Govt. people left, but asked if the other delegates felt the same. Itua Putagu from Koartak agreed with Joe because the Eskimo people would be in a better position for discussion after hearing what the Govt. people had to say. Joe mentioned that important matters should be discussed before some of the people from the south left.

Max Gros-Louis asked whether a plane would be leaving Chimo - Wednesday or Thursday. This depends on what the Eskimo people wanted to do; but he had to be in Quebec City by Friday.

Silas Cookie stated that at first they should discuss the topics with Mr. Gill and Mr. Boulanger as they would be leaving first. Joe Kumarluk asked that people who disagreed with what he says whould interrupt and states his views immediately. There was some discussion on chairmen and procedures to be followed after the Coffee Break.

Noah suggested that Mr. Gill and Mr. Boulanger talked before a chairman was selected but Joe Kumarluk said it was better to have achairman first. Isa Smiler suggested that Joe Kumarluk be chairman but Noah said that Joe would have a lot to say at the meetings so that it would be better to have another chairman.

George Koniak was then introduced by Johnny Watt and Mr. Neville introduced George to the visitors. (George, was the interpreter proposed by Johnny Watt). Mr. Neville asked the interpreters to decide amongst themselves the division of time for each interpreter, and asked whether the Eskimo people wished to take minutes of the meetings, in addition to those being taken by the Dept. staff - saying that the minutes will be shown to the Minister and made available to the delegates.

Joe Kumarluk said that the delegates would be taking individual notes, but it would be good to have an Eskimo Recorder so that copies could be sent to all settlements. Mr. Benoit proposed that the Eskimo chosen should also speak English as this would give him additional time to write. Lazarusi Epoo showed an example of Eskimo and English on the same sheets. Mr. Neville replied that at least three (3) people would be needed. Joe Kumarluk said that there must be someone taking the minutes in Eskimo. The form suggested by Lazarusi could be prepared later. Johnny Watt agreed, but said that no one in this community could prepare minutes in the form suggested and Joe agreed.

# 11:00 A.M.

After the rearrangement of the room to group the interpreters together, the meeting continued with discussion about the chairman. Noah Angnatuk - George River, proposed Johnny Watt, and this was seconded by Bobby Baron. Max Gros-Louis suggested rotating chairmen with a different chairman each day, so that avery man had a chance to talk. Joe Kumarluk agreed that this would work if arranged beforehand, and everyone would have a chance to speak. Mr. Gosselin stated that if a chairman had something to say on any matters being discussed, he should have the right to speak. Joe suggested that each speaker says his name and settlement before he spoke. Tommy Kain agreed with this. Itua Putaguk from Koartak agreed with Joe that chairmen should be quickly elected and interpreters arranged so that discussions on the important matters could be begun. Lists of delegates were then given to the Recorder and Johnny

Watt (Fort Chimo) was appointed chairman for February 1st.

Joe Kumarluk asked the delegates to say exactly what the Eskimo people think and not think of the white people present as bosses. The Eskimo people wanted to discuss and tell what the Eskimo people think. The white people present were not here to preach to the Eskimos - The Eskimos wanted to tell the white people what they think. The white people had come to tell about the Govt. programmes in the north but the Eskimo people would listen and then say what they think. Mr. Neville agreed that this was the position. Joe said that the Eskimos must be free to say what was on their minds. Joe said when you are working for the Eskimos, it is necessary to remember that the important thing is what is best for the Eskimos - not whether you are talking to a white man, an Eskimo or an Indian.

Silas Cookie suggested that Mr. Boulanger begin speaking as he had to leave. He regretted that delays because of weather prevented Saturday discussions and that there was not a longer time Joe could be at the Conference. Mr. Boulanger said he had read minutes of the Neville-Robitaille meetings and met Eskimos in Quebec City. He siad it was important that the Eskimos should let the Dept. know what adjustments the Eskimos would suggest should be made in the Govt. Programmes, some of which are primarily designed for Indian people. Mr. Boulanger explained that the Programmes including Education, Adult Education, Housing, Economic Development, Social Welfare also exist for Indians. He understood that the Eskimos felt that some of the Govt. Programmes need adapting to specific Eskimo needs, and also that the Eskimo people wished to have increased participation in the Administration of these programmes. Mr. Boulanger asked the delegates if these were the two (2) main problems. Lazarusi Epoo agreed that the Eskimos want more control on matters in their communities. Mr. Neville asked if Lazarusi would expand on this subject, and Lazarusi said he would do this later. Innuppuk said that in Povungnituk one Eskimo who had been acting as Administrator in Povungnituk did not continue to be the Administrator and asked why. This was Davidiapik who died and he was assisted by Eliasie. Johnny Watt said that there should be an answer before moving on.

Mr. Bergeron, Sub District Administrator, said he wanted to know what the Eskimos meant. His questions were: a) When did Davidiapik become Administrator?
b) Why did Davidiapik quit? Innuppuk replied: Davidiapik started training in 1969 and he was Administrator for three (3) months before he died. What happened to Eliasie who helped him? Guy Bergeron replied: He was not aware of what happened in 1969.

Davidiapik was never appointed as Administrator. He was asked to assist Eliasie with issuing Welfare. Mr. Bergeron stated that this was the only time Davidiapik was asked to act on the part of the Dept. Povungnituk has had no Administrator since August and he and Bob Morin have visited Povungnituk approximately every two weeks to take care of Administrative matters.

There is a competition being held now and an Administrator is expected to go to Povungnituk soon. Until such time as he is appointed, the new President of the Council will be asked to assist Eliasie in issuing welfare to those in need. Mr. Bergeron stated that he intends to visit Povungnituk for three (3) or four (4) days at the end of the week to meet the council and deal with Administration matters.

Mr. Neville asked if there is at present, someone in Povungnituk trained to be an Administrator, or who the people feel should be trained to be an Administrator. Innuppuk replied that there are people in Povungnituk with sufficient education to learn this job. Mr. Gosselin explained that three (3) new Administrators will be appointed but that other positions will be filled by Eskimo people, and later there will be a programme in which Eskimos understudy the Administration positions with a view to taking over these positions later on. Innuppuk then said that otherdelegates with more experience should talk about this.

Johnny Watt asked that Mr. Neville's explanation about this programme of expansion of the number of Eskimos employed be given later, and Mr. Neville said that he did not want to interrupt what Mr. Boulanger was saying. Johnny Watt asked if Mr. Bergeron had more to say. Mr. Boulanger suggested that after lunch there should be a discussion on the difference between a) Eskimos working for the Government, b) Eskimos working for the Community Council, (the difference being the employer, not the job). Mr. Boulanger said that Mr. Neville will talk about plans of increased employment of Eskimos by the Councils - the Government giving money to the Councils for the Council to purchase services and people for community needs e.g. a new road, hiring an engineer and planning to build this road.

The meeting then adjourned for lunch till 1:30 p.m.

# 2:00 P.M.

Mr. Neville began by saying he wished to clear up a possible misunderstanding about what was said about the way in which more responsibility can be given to

the Eskimo people. It was Mr. Boulanger and not Mr. Neville who would mainly explain about this, and Mr. Neville would say a little about it later. Mr. Boulanger continued from the matters discussed before lunch. The Govt. has already decentralized some of the programmes with Indian groups and intends to do the same with Eskimo groups. He said that Mr. Gill would explain the Programm es that have been decentralized to Indians, and the two Indian chiefs could help explain how this is done.

For Programmes not yet decentralized to Indians, the policy is to consult with them and inform them exactly what is being done. These mainly concern large construction projects such as large schools, construction of water systems, sewer systems, etc. Education will be decentralized later. At present, there are not enough Indians with degrees or high teacher qualifications, but this is coming. The Indians are being invited to take over the Administration of school buildings and also to help select the teachers and Education specialists. Indians are also being asked to help decide on the Govt. money used for Indian communities should be spent on. Mr. Gill then listed the Programmes administered by Indians, the number of Indians employed by the bands, and the amount of money that is administered by the Indian bands in these programmes. (not administered by Govts.) Mr. Gill explained what the Govt. is doing for the Indians, because if the Govt. is willing to do this for Indians it will be willing to do this with Eskimos if the Eskimos want this. Mr. Gill mentioned that the Indians in Quebec speak six (6) languages and there are 42 different groups of which 17 bands have received money to deal with their own programmes. These 17 Indian bands in Quebec receive \$ 2,000,000. this year. The bands receive different amounts \$ 5,000 to \$ 350,000. This varies with the band.

Chief Watso stated that his band received \$ 14,000 and Max Gros-Louis stated that his band received \$ 135,000. Mr. Gill explained that the difference was because of the size of the bands and each bands! needs. Mr. Gill stated that 60 Indians were being employed by these 17 bands and the money was given for -

- a) Administration (to pay Indian employees' stationery, rent of office, etc.)
- b) Maintenance of roads, and snow removal, etc.
- c) Membership records Bands lists, Birth dates, etc.,
- d) Housing and Housing maintenance
- e) Welfare programmes Social assistance, etc.,
- f) Water systems, piped on truck delivery etc.,
- g) Electricity supplies (Some reserves only) Some from Hydro Quebec, some from local generators.

- h) Recreation grants
- i) Community Library (Adults and Childrens books)
- j) Garbage collection and disposal
- k) Police services

In reply to Mr. LeBlanc, Mr. Gill said that these are examples and not the only things done. It is <u>flexible</u>.

Max Gros-Louis mentioned that before the Administration money is granted, it is necessary to inform the Dept. of Indian Affairs which Programmes are to be carried out, and it is necessary to work together with the DIAND to explain specific plans. Usually there is discussion about possible trainees for Administering Programmes, and then these people, if everyone agrees, can be trained. Mr. Gill said that if the delegates required this, Max Gros-Louis could give further information of how things are being done. Noah Kumak said that the people would like further explanations and Max Gros-Louis listed the following points on the blackboard.

# The first point:

- 1) Q. Who is the boss of the Indians working for the Band?
  - A. Those 60 people mentioned are not employed by DIAND they are employed by the Band Councils The Chiefs and the counsellors.

Max Gros-Louis said he was not sure of the Eskimos equivalent of the Band Council e.g. Indians have the powers to pass local laws which apply to their reserves. Indians can have Indian policemen on the reserves with possible arrangements for other police forces to come in when needed. There are three(3) different ways of policing a reserve:-

- 1) Local laws, e.g. governing skidoos in school areas. This <u>could</u> be done by Eski-
- 2) Indian Police working with the Provincial police re: a joint police force.
- 3) The Indians receive money and buy the services of some particular police force. e.g. form a city form another branch.

N.B. When there is an offence under the Criminal Code, it must go to the Federal Police or the Provincial Police. Mr. Neville asked whether the delegates understood what was being said this afternoon. Johnny Watt asked the delegates this question. Lazarusi Epoo said that after more meetings things should be clearer to everyone. Max Gros-Louis continued by saying that the Federal Government is ready to give money for the Indians and Eskimos to run some programmes, but it is the responsibility of the Eskimo people to hire the best possible people available, and should any Eskimo employees prove unsuitable, they should be replaced. The Federal Government

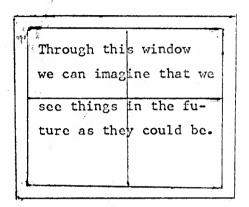
consults the Indians before a Programme is launched and this should be the same for the Eskimo people.

# 3:30 P.M.

Mr. Neville explained some of the things discussed earlier in the afternoon to show why we were all at the meeting so that things would go faster. He made two (2) drawings of windows on the blackboard.

Through this window
we see things as they
are in the north right
now.

People doing different things. Most of the people are white people - white teachers truck drivers, mechanics, Administrators, some are Eskimos doing jobs. These people work for the Federal Government or the Provincial Government and get orders from big bosses in the south. Most are good people but they are not Eskimos.



The people doing all the different things are mostly Eskimo people - teachers, truck drivers, mechanics, people mostly from the north. Some of these things have started to happen but not enough.

#### Mr. Neville continued: -

"The Councils are beginning to have some power and they will have more power later". Mr. Neville explained that we are here in Fort Chimo to see what we have to do and what we have to talk about so that these changes, as illustrated in the two (2) windows can take place. That is what Mr. Gill and Chief Gros-Louis were talking about. They were telling the delegates what the Indian people are beginning to do and what could be done by the Eskimo people. Mr. Benoit would tell you how they could take more control of the Housing Programme in the communities if they wanted this. This is why he had come. Mr. Boulanger came to tell the delegates how they can make your council stronger. Mr. Neville continued: - "We have come to help you understand how you can have more control in the Welfare Programme and all the other. Programmes. We're here to talk about the training the people are going to have so that the councils can take over these responsibilities. The Federal Government will

will go as fast as possible and as fast as you want to do this. It is important that Education be discussed before Mr. Gill and Mr. Belanger leave. There are at present, two (2) systems in the north and we want to discuss the views of the Eskimo people on this matter here." Johnny Watt said that two days or three days had been set apart for Eskimo discussions by themselves. Joe Kumarluk said that possibly there was no need for so much time if all the problems are discussed by the Covernment officials and Eskimos each day. Mr. Boulanger suggested that if the Eskimos asked for information on one particular programme, this could be explained and discussed in detail - because to discuss each and every programme in detail would take at least two weeks. Joe Kumarluk said that since they were running short of time, they should discuss important things such as a) Indian Association of Quebec b) Education - which should be discussed while the people from the Regional Office were still there.

Mr. Boulanger siad that when Programmes are handed over from the Federal Government to Indians we must remember some Indians live on reserves and what the Federal Government can do on reserves is different from what they can do on land that is not an Indian Reserve. There is some question as to who owns the land where the Eskimos live in Arctic Quebec (The Eskimos claim it is their land the the Provincial Government claims the land is theirs).

Mr. Boulanger continued: - The Indian Association of Quebec could help the Eskimos clear up the questions of land ownership. On Indian reserves there are special rights for the people such as policing the reserves.

Lazarusi Epoo asked how the land of the white man and the land of the Eskimo is different. Mr. Boulanger siad that the Quebec Government in Quebec says there is a difference and he was repeating this. He said that the Quebec Govt. does not say this is not Eskimo land, but the Quebec Government says it has the rights to provide the services here. Everyone knows it is Eskimo land.

Max Gros-Louis stated that he disagreed with Mr. Boulanger and said that the Quebec Government says "This is Quebec Government land not Eskimo land", Mr. Boulanger said that Eskimos know better and he said what he thought the Quebec Government was saying. The people could ask the Quebec Govt. about this.

#### REFERENCE TO EDUCATION

On Reserves it is necessary to have permission from the people before a school is built. Here it is different - The Province or Missions of the Federal Government

can build schools. This is another difference right now. Secondly, Mr. Boulanger continued: - Indian Councils at the moment have more power now. The Eskimo Councils can be given the same power as the Indian Councils but this takes time. There is another way for this to come about -

Johnny Watt asked whether it was really necessary for the Eskimos to go in with the Indian Association and not have an Eskimo Association separate from the Indian Association. Mr. Boulanger replied: No-They could be separate, but together they would be stronger. Then Johnny Watt suggested that the discussions return to the matter of Education. Joe Kumarluk said that he thought if they decided on the question of the land first, it would appear to be much simpler to solve the other problems. e.g. If he wanted to live on an island, he would choose the land and the location first, before considering the other problems.

Mr. Neville stated that on his settlement visits last year, almost every council said that there must be a decision about the land before other questions were settled. Every settlement stated this - the land question came first.

Mr. Neville continued:-

"It may take quite a bit of time to settle this land question". I wish that it could be settled now, but this is not possible. Meanwhile, although the land matter is not settled, the Eskimo people can take more control in their own settlements. This is still possible. We can go ahead with discussions on increased Eskimo involvement although the land matter is not settled". Mr. Neville said that he agreed with Joe that we should now discuss Education. Johnny Watt- Fort Chimo, asked whether any other white person has something to say about Education, and Mr. Neville said Mr. LeBlanc was the man concerned with Education in the District office, and he would like time to talk. Johnny said that there should first be an Eskimo to tell about the Great Whale River meeting with Mr. Durand, about the school board. Silas Cookie then spoke about the January 6th meeting of the Provincial Teachers with one man from the south, from the School Board who said that the School Board would start on July 1st. There had been no consultation with the Eskimo people and they told him he should visit all the settlements to explain the School Board to all the Eskimo people. Silas and Mr. Bergeron have copies of the minutes of this meeting and anyone wishing to see these minutes could do so. Joe Kumarluk had met Mr. Durand in Quebec City and he understood that this man had now quit. Mr. Durand had said that the School Board had planned to combine the Provincial and Federal School systems and the Eskimos told Mr. Durand that first he must consult the Eskimos in every settlement.

The Eskimos in Great Whale could not agree to the formation of the School Board as Eskimos were not consulted and no Eskimo north of Great Whale had ever heard of it. The School Board man said that they had jurisdiction over 900 schools in the Province of Quebec and would add the ones in Arctic Quebec. Some of the delegates know nothing about this School Board.

#### Silas continued: -

Even the government officials have not told the Eskimos about this School Board - if they knew about it. Some white people go to settlements and the people accept what these white people say, and it seems that this was the case about the School Board. They do not understand - it looked as though some communities might do this i.e. - accept without understanding what was involved. The discussion returned to the matter of land. If the white men continue to sprind things on to the Eskimo people, and force them to accept proposals, these proposals will be thrown out. Joe suggested that the Government officials be asked whether they knew about the School Board.

Mr. Boulanger said that Mr. Gill was the Supt. of Education for all the Indians and all the Eskimos in Quebec, and he would try to answer the question. To get all the information it would be necessary to invite the Provincial Government officials. Mr.

- Gill said that the general policy to be followed by the Dept. IAND is:
  a) that the Federal Government will continue to operate its schools in existence right now.
- b) The present teachers will continue to be employed by the Federal Government to operate these schools.
- c) If further services are required by the Eskimo and Indian people, the Federal Government people will meet with the people and discuss these needs.

# Mr. Gill continued: -

In the north right now, there are two (2) kinds of schools. Some Eskimo parents mend children to the Provincial schools. Most of the parents are sending their children to the Federal Government schools. We cannot force the parents to send their children to the Federal schools. It is up to the parents. Mr. Gill then said "We must not forget that parents are the first ones responsible for rearing their children. The Federal Government is responsible for building schools, and operating schools, or purchasing services from the Provincial Governments if the parents want the Federal Government to do this. As the Education section we can give advice to the parents - e.g. if parent alternates his child each year from one school to another we can advise that this is not good for the child. We do not say "You must sand your child here or there".

Mr. Neville said that he would like to continue on this very important topic. He has

heard of children in the community being transferred by their parents from one school to another school system. Mr. Neville said that he agreed with Mr. Gill that a mixture of the two systems is not good for the children who are transferred from one to another. It is difficult to plan ahead for sufficient teachers and school facilities, and when the numbers are uncertain and these transfers occur and this makes it harder to provide good Education services. One of the things we want to understand is what the parents feel about this question. Perhaps the delegates at the conference can express the views of the parents. If not, the needs to know the views of the parents as soon as possible.

# 7:45 P.M. Monday February 1st

Mr. LeBlanc asked if Education was to be discussed and whether he could move to be near the blackboard.

Johnny Watt said he could move but the subject of children being transferred from one school system to another would first have to be completed. Mr. LeBlanc asked whether Johnny, the Eskimo delegate wished to discuss this subject with the southern visitors or alone. Johnny explained that Noah wished to speak, and then Noah Kumak continued with what his settlement felt about these transfers. Noah Kumak (Sugluk) said that all the children in Sugluk go to the Federal School except two (2). The Provincial teacher has recently recruited some 4-year old children that should not be at school. The people of Sugluk had decided not to send any of their children to the Provincial School but this teacher now has some 4-year old children and two (2) others:

Ivuyivik's Zakarusie Tukkiapik said that in Ivuyivik they have two (2) schools and more children go to the Provincial school than to the Federal school. They had planned to move their children to the Federal school this year. Mr. LeBlanc passed out sheets showing the enrollment figures for the Federal & Provincial schools in all the settlements. Joe Kumarluk asked Johnny if the proceedings could be speeded up. Johnny Watt said that both school systems should be considered because it is the right of the parents to choose which school each child should attend. Joe Kumarluk wanted to know whether each delegate should say which school is wanted in their settlement. Johnny Watt asked that the sheets passed out by Mr. LeBlanc be read and explained in Eskimo, using only the totals in each of the two (2) schools in each settlement. Joe said that Great Whale now has only six (6). Itua said only nine (9) remained in Koartak. Noah Angnatuk said that George River now has only twelve(12). Sugluk now has two (2) + the four year olds but they will not be permitted to remain in the Provincial school. Quebec 215 (Total enrollment) Federal 855 (Total enrollment).

Tommy Kain from Leaf Bay asked why the figures for Leaf Bay were not included. Mr. LeBlanc said these figures were from the Federal Principals and from the Provincial authorities in Quebec City. Tommy Kain said he was very surprised that the Leaf Bay school figures were not included. These children should total 24, and include five (5) year olds. Mr. Neville said that if Tommy could give the exact figures and grades, we would certainly include these in our figures.

Johnny Watt then suggested that Mr. LeBlanc begin and he began by dividing the Education into three (3) sections - Elementary, Secondary and Post School.

Elementary

Pre Kindergarten Kindergarten

Grades 1-6 inclusive

Secondary

Grades 7-11

Post School

College

Technical College

University

Business College Pilot training Trades training Adult Education

Courses sponsored by Manpower

Mr. LeBlanc explained the different levels and average ages for these levels and how the children can choose different paths after Grade 6, with either Academic or Vocational Courses, or varied combinations of both (or after grade 9).

Mr. LeBlanc stated that a request has been made by the Indian Association of Quebec for a new secondary school for Northern Quebec. The school in Churchill is to close by 1973 or maybe in June 1972. The new secondary school would take care of these children. Mr. LeBlanc said that the Federal Government needs to know the Eskimo views on the location of this school, the grades to be included and the courses which should be offered in this secondary school - both vocational and Academic. The Eskimo people should discuss their views about the grades

courses Location

Mr. Gill agreed that the bigger the group, the easier it is to organize a good school but it could be done for the number of Eskimos quoted.

Mr. LeBlanc explained that in 1975 the total projected figures would be 578. Johnny Watt said that everyone should state his views but there is a definite need for a new secondary school in Arctic Quebec. Mr. Gill said one school could be built for

grades 7,8,9 for Eskimos and one separate school for grades 7,8,9 for the Indians of

James Bay or one combined school for both Indians and Eskimos for these three (3) grades (7,8, & 9) including Trades courses.

Johnny Watt said that there was one school in James Bay area which would be too far away for the northern Quebec children. Mr. Gill said that the building of one school in the James Bay area is being discussed. Next year, grade 7 will be offered in Fort George and in 1973 a school will probably be built in the James Bay area.

Mr. Neville explained that there are DIAND schools in the James Bay area for Indians. At present, the children in the local schools cannot do grade seven (7) except right in the south at Hull near Ottawa. The Indian people want their children to be nearer to their homes. So. DIAND is going to try to give these children a higher education without going so far away to school. In Arctic Quebec, DIAND has schools and in these schools the children can go to grade seven (7) before they have to go away. When they have finished grade seven (7) they now go to Churchill or to Ottawa or to Winnipeg. The Eskimo people do not want their children to go far from home, to get their education. The School at Churchill will close, so plans have to be made for the children above grade seven (7). The Department is listening to the Indian people and the Eskimo people and making plans to meet the needs of the Indian children and Eskimo children. Mr. Neville said that Mr. Gill had already said that there are different ways the needs can be met. You cannot build a school this summer. So, grade seven (7) will be taught at Fort George after the summer. A building must be planned now because the Churchill school will close.

Johnny Watt said that this matter of a school has taken a lot of time and more discussion is needed on this matter with more people taking part. Mr. Neville said he wanted to hear people talking about where the school will be built. Isa Siguapic (Pov) asked who will run this proposed High School if it ever comes into being. The Federal Government, the Provincial Government or the School Board? Mr. Gill replied that we need to know what the people in each area want for their children. It is the business of the Eskimo people to decide where this school will be.

Lazarusi Epoo said that in the Churchill children, there are boys and girls after two (2) or three (3) years of going to Churchill or to school in the south who are useless like pieces of wood stuck in the ground waiting for food and money. They do not respect their parents. Lazarusi says that if the new school would be better than Fort Churchill, he supports this.



Mr. Gill said that Eskimos should be involved in the planning of the new Secondary school. Lazarusi Epoo said he would support the school if the Eskimo people were more involved in the planning of the school, and the numbers of mistakes would be reduced. Many children from Fort Churchill do not fit in with the Eskimo society or anywhere else. Joe Kumarluk asked that if two separate schools are built, would the two (2) schools be smaller. Mr. Gill said there are definite standards that have to be met in school construction. If one school is built there will be more classrooms than in each of two (2) schools. Chief Walter Watso had been reading the minutes of the meeting about the School Board in Great Whale River on January 6th, 1971. He thought that in this meeting the Eskimos and Indians did not get one straight answer from Mr. Lettre and Mr. Durand.

Mr. Bergeron referred again to Isa Siguapic's question about who would operate the new secondary school. Mr. Gill stated that this answer should be obtained after referring to the Eskimo people. It is necessary to find out what the people want. Johnny Watt asked which body is responsible for consulting the Eskimo people, and Mr. Gill replied that this responsibility is definitely that of the Federal Government and Mr. LeBlanc and the District Office staff will do this. Silas Cookie said that it would be better if the decision about the location of the school was made right now at this conference. Silas said that he thinks the school should be built in Great Whale River or Fort Chimo because they are centres of transportation. Zebedee said he would not choose either of these, but further north. Noah Angnatuk from George River asked why the school could not be in a central settlement. Johnny Watt then said that the delegates would like to discuss this subject without any other people present and these left the room.

# TUESDAY, February 2nd, 1971- 9:00 A.M.

Silas Cookie was appointed chairmen for the day. Silas said that in the discussion the previous night, a location was chosen but some of the delegates were not satisfied, so further discussion would now take place.

# 10:30 A.M.

Silas announced that the delegates had chosen Povungnituk as the site of the Arctic Quebec Secondary School. The votes were: -

Povungnituk:

15 votes

Chimo:

5 votes

Great Whale River:

1 vote

Mr. Gill thanked the delegates and pointed out that this was a start in the consultation of Eskimo parents about education of their children. Mr. LeBlanc said that Eskimo people would be consulted in the future about: -

- a) Language of Instruction
- b) Curriculum- Traditional Skills, Eskimo stories, Eskimo language
- c) An Eskimo representative or the Teacher Selection Board.

Mr. LeBlanc mentioned that the District hopes to have two (2) Education Counsellors before September - one in Great Whale River, and one in Chimo to give advice to students especially at the secondary and post school level. The Dept. hopes to have one (1) Placement Officer who will try to get jobs for Eskimo people who want jobs e.g. in Deception Bay.

Meanwhile, two (2) Counsellors will be lent from Ottawa to meet with the students, teachers, and parents especially those who will be going south for the first time. Mr. Reddick would visit settlements in the Ungava Region for two (2) weeks and Mr. Harnish would visit the Hudson Bay settlements for two (2) weeks.

Mr. LeBlanc spoke of courses run by Canada Manpower Centre and the training allowances for people on the courses. \$ 43 - \$ 93 a week according to number of dependents and whether the trainee has to be away from home. The courses include Basic Education, Carpentry, Housing Maintenance, etc., and the counsellors would tell the people about these courses, and the Eskimo people could say what courses are needed. It is possible that the courses will be held in Chimo, one in Povungnituk, and one in Great Whale

River, with fifteen (15) in each course. Mr. LeBlanc explained that the needs required for Manpower Courses have to be referred to the Provincial Dept. of Education or to the School Board of Nouveau Québec. If the Eskimo people do not want this, they would have to ask for other arrangements as the Indians in the James Bay Area have done. Silas asked if the Eskimos had something to say about this. Mr. Neville asked Mr. LeBlanc - Generally the Manpower Courses have to be referred to the Provincial Dept. of Education, or the School Board of Nouveau Québec.

Should the Eskimos decide that they don't want to go to Provincial Dept. of Education or the School Board of Nouveau Québec - can they in fact go to "Another School Board"?. Mr. LeBlanc said that if the Eskimos accept the procedure going through D.G.N.Q. or the School Board of Quebec - the courses would be able to begin in April - but if the Eskimos want other arrangements it would be longer before the courses can be started, because it will take a lot of negotiation: Mr. LeBlanc said he would like a definite decision if the Eskimos felt this were possible, as to the views of the Eskimo people, so that the counsellors recruiting the trainees would know before they left. Silas asked whether they would have to decide this at this meeting. Mr. LeBlanc said that the sooner the decision is made, the sooner the courses can be organized.

Mr. Gosselin said that the Dept. should establish the channel of communication from the people - and he did not think it of immediate importance that a decision be made. Chief Watso agreed that Mr. LeBlanc wanted an answer too fast on a question which is very important as it affects all the Eskimo adults. Mr. Boulanger said he would like to make a statement about all the programmes. The Dept. has a policy that no answer has to be forced - we explain programmes and answer questions and ask for decisions - but the Dept. is prepared to wait 25 minutes or 25 years for an answer if the people require this. We would like a decision but the people will not be forced.

Mr. Neville said we had been talking about courses for people who have left school. We are confused about who will pay for the courses and how these courses will be set up, but the Dept. is trying to find the easiest way to have the courses given, to find the courses the people need, to find out how the Eskimo people can have a say in where the courses will be conducted, etc.

Mr. Neville agreed that no answer was needed immediately. Mr. LeBlanc said that courses will be needed for training for jobs at Deception Bay, etc., but it is up to the Eskimos to make their decisions, then these can be planned. Noah Angnatuk from George River said he did not understand about the three (3) different ways the courses can be run. Mr. Gill said that many Depts. are involved in this and it is very compli-

cated with regards to Adult Education. Noah Angnatuk - George River, said that he was asking about the School Board, what it is and who controls it, the Federal or the Provincial Government? Mr. Gill said that the School Board is controlled by the Province of Quebec, Dept. of Education. Noah said he does not understand why D.G.N.Q. is Provincial Govt. and the School Board is the Provincial Government.

Mr. Gill explained that in Education matters, D.G.N.Q. will no longer operate after July 1st. Then the Provincial Government of Education will operate through the New Quebec School Board.

Isa Siguapuk said he understood that after July 1st, D.G.N.Q. will not operate but in his settlement they were told that after July 1st, the New School Board will take care of all the Education in New Quebec. Joe Kumarluk said that he does not think a decision about the School Board should be made at this meeting but delegates should return to the settlements and then the Eskimos alone should meet to come to a decision. This is difficult because it is necessary to find the money for meetings. This will have to be decided together - it will be too weak in separate settlements. Mr. Gros-Louis asked the reason for the discussion on the School Board if it is not yet formed. Joe said the delegates have to return to their settlements to discuss the School Board, but they have to know how much the Indian and Eskimo people will have to do with it. Max suggested that a School Board should be formed of Ebkimos and Indians. A party should go south to Quebec City and form a School Board. Otherwise there will not be one Eskimo or Indian on the School Board. Why was it discussed if it was not formed. The James Bay Indians used another School Board near Montreal because of this. Many of the delegates had not even heard of the School Board when they arrived in Chimo. Chief Watso asked Mr. Gill whether the Eskimos and Indians would be represented on the School Board when it is formed. Mr. Gill said when Manpower Courses are planned it is necessary to go through a School Board. It is not up to the DIAND to say this. Joe Kumarluk said that he was against the School Board because there were no Eskimos or Indians represented or consulted and he thought it better to form another School Board.

Joe said that it is certain that the Indian Association of Quebec, or an Eskimo Association of Quebec could give force to establishment of another School Board. Silas said Joe had mentioned the delegates returning to the settlements before a decision was made, but then he had said that he was in favour of another School Board being set up. Lazarusi said Joe had said he wanted nothing to do with the School Board because it did not include Indians and Eskimos. Mr. Neville said it has been DIAND who arranged courses for Eskimos in the past. Mr. LeBlanc had said we wanted to make sure Eskimos still have the right to attend courses, but now it is a little more

difficult to get the money for these courses. There have been changes in the Federal Government and now the Dept. of Manpower has most of the money. The Manpower Dept. prefers the Provincial Government to give the courses with money from the Dept. of Manpower. We want the courses made available in the simplest way. Some of the Eskimo people have heard about the School Board which the Government of Quebec has partly built. It is up to the Provincial Government to explain the School Board. The Federal Government believes the Indians and Eskimo people should have a very big say in their School Board of New Quebec. The Federal Government says this to the Provincial Government but it is a good thing if the Indian and Eskimo people express this themselves. The Federal Government is trying to make sure that courses are available for Eskimos who wish to take them.

Max Gros- Louis reminded the people that the School Board will control all phases of Education, and it is impossible right now for the Indian and Eskimo to be members of the present School Board. It is the law that to be members of the present school Board you must pay taxes. It is time that Indians and Eskimos formed their own School Board to run their own Education, and not bother with the Province of Quebec. We should have meetings with Indians and Eskimos and form our own School Boardif they refuse to respect our own School Board which we form, then we will go further.

# 2:00 P.M.

Silas ssid there were three (3) people still wanting to speak before lunch and after these have spoken, a new subject would be started. Chief Walter Watso said he would like to point out that it is up to the Provincial Govt. to explain the School Board. Mr. Durand had met the people in Great Whale River, but not given direct answers to any of the local peoples' questions. Chief Watso said he would like Joe Kumarluk to comment on that meeting. Joe Kumarluk said that when Mr. Durand visited Great Whale River, he did not want to meet the local people. He did not want the Federal teachers at the meetings. Joe said the local people thought that Mr. Durand should meet the local Indian and Eskimo Councils. When Mr. Durand went north, Joe had written a letter saying that visitors coming north should first meet the Councils to explain what they were there for. A copy of this was sent to each settlement. read the minutes of the meeting and he noticed that the Councils did not get any . straight answers from Mr. Durand. Joe met Mr. Durand but he ( Mr. Durand) did not say anything definite about anything. Joc does not believe in this Board because Mr. Durand did not say anything about how the Eskimos felt. This is not the only case of where things like this happen, and Joc feels that some organization of Eskimos is necessary to take care of such problems in the future. Joe held up a copy of a resolution passed by the Indian Association together with some Eskimos, and this was read by Zebedee. This resolution was passed by Indians & Eskimos with no white people. (See copy attached)

Angnatuk Nassak from Payne Bay said that he had never heard of any invitation to attend this Indian meeting. The delegates from George River, Koartak and Leaf Bay had heard of no invitation to attend this meeting. Noah Kumak said that there was a delegate from Fort Chimo and he had a meeting in the school to tell the people about it. Noah held up two (2) cards and said that he, Noah went to all the settlements except Leaf Bay to explain about the meeting with the Indians, and to explain the membership cards in the Indian Association of Quebec. At some of the meetings in the settlements, there were only a few people, so people may have missed what he said. Noah continued that some of the Eskimos forgot because they did not keep written notes or adequate records. It is no wonder that some people forget, or the people in Leaf Bay did not hear about it, because he did not have time to visit Leaf Bay. Noah travelled because it was decided at Great Whale. Someone from POV went to Ivuyivik to explain the meeting. Johnny Watt said that last year he was not on the Council, so he was not at all the meetings, but he would like to ask Noah if, when he visited the settlements, all the people agreed with what Noah said. Which settlements agreed to this resolution and which settlements agreed to join the Indian Association? Noah Kumak explained that in the meetings the wishes of the majority who are present at that meeting have to be followed. After that first Indian meeting when Noah visited the settlements, he did not push the Eskimos to join the Indians. A representative to represent them in the Indian Association of Quebec was elected from nine (9) people nominated. The man nominated from Chimo was Cornlusie.

Elijah Takkiapik - Fort Chimo, said that when Noah passed through Chimo, the meeting was rushed and not many people attended. Noah had promised to return but had not returned. Tommy Kain - Leaf Bay, said that Bobby Snowball had returned from the Indian meeting and had visited Leaf Bay. Bobby Snowball had given out some papers explaining what had been said at the meetings. Tommy said that he should come to Leaf Bay to explain what had happened at the meeting. Later Noah was to have gone through all the settlements. Tommy got the information on the radio. Noah was going along the coast, and Tommy had heard he was in Payne Bay, and expected him, but Noah missed Leaf Bay, so he was not telling the truth if he said he visited all the settlements. Tommy had received a letter from Great Whale River when the Trade School students returned home. Angnatuk Nassak said that perhaps he made a mistake when he said he did not hear of an invitation, but Payne Bay was not asked to attend.

# RESOLUTION

# INDIANS OF QUEBEC ASSOCIATION

Do Hereby Resolve:

That we, the Indians and Eskimos of James, Hudson, and Ungava Bay Area that the Federal Government erect a secondary school for the students of the said area.

That the said school be in the English language and the aboriginal languages taught as a subject but not in the French language; and administered by the Federal Government ONLY.

We the Indians and Eskimos of James, Hudson, and Ungava Bays do not wish the secondary school to be under the administration of the School Board of Nouveau-Québec or the Department of Education of Quebec or the Department of Natural Resources.

That resolutions from individual Indian Band Councils and Eskimos Groups will follow to support the above-mentioned subject.

Proposed by: David Masty

Joe Kumarluk

Seconded by: Teddy Moses

Chief Sallis Cookie

Action: ADOPTED

However, Noah was in Payne Bay and held a meeting with a very few people. Noah did visit Payne Bay. Silas Cookie asked if the delegates wished to switch to the subject of Housing after the Coffee Break, and some of the delegates stated that they wished to continue as they were not satisfied.

Mr. Neville said that the Dept. people could not contribute much to this discussion, and were willing when the people were ready, to give some information about Housing. Mr. Neville suggested that the Dept. representatives could be called later when that discussion had finished, but Max Gros-Louis suggested that it was necessary for officials to hear about the communication problems, because more money might be needed to get communications improvid-like getting Eskimo representatives together. Johnny Watt said that the Eskimos themselves could discuss the Indian Association but some of the officials would be leaving and it would be better to talk about Govt. programmes before they left.

Itua from Koartak agreed, but Noah Kumak said he thought the serious communication problem should be discussed briefly. Noah said that at that first Indian meeting, there were 73 people. The chairman announced that the discussion on Housing would start, and stop at 4:30. The subject would be continued tomorrow. The Eskimos would tell Max Gros-Louis at that time the names of the delegates to attend the next Indian Association meeting.

Mr. Boulanger said how much he and Mr. Gill had enjoyed meeting the Eskimos especially that afternoon, because the Eskimos themsleves were talking. The minister would have come if he had known enough in advance. He would come the next time if they wanted him. To make it possible for him it would be preferable if he could know a good month in advance. They might decide before they left this time, about The Dept. would have the money for another meeting at a time the next meeting. when the delegates wanted it, but he would suggest it be held in April. They talked about meeting to discuss Adult Education, and who should provide the services. Money would be available for a meeting or for someone to visit all the settlements, if they let the Dept. know through Mr. Neville. They are living very far apart, and personally he did not think much could be done unless they met very often. If the Eskimos wanted to meet very often, they must tell the Govt. and funds would be made available for this. He thanked everybody for making them welcome and said that the Dept. would help the Eskimos as much as it can. Johnny Watt asked Mr. Boulanger whether the next meeting date must be set at this meeting. Mr. Boulanger explained that the date could be set only if the Eskimos wished to do this at this time, but in order for the Minister to attend, if the people wished this, he ( Minister) must know at least one month

in advance. Mr. Boulanger said that the Dept. officials would like to spend more time out of regular hours with the Eskimo people but very unfortunately except for a few, there is a language barrier. Johnny Watt replied that their people are in the same situation, and many Eskimos can only speak to them through an interpreter. Joe Kumarluk thanked Mr. Boulanger for explaining about funds for future meetings because he felt it essential that Eskimos meet frequently to discuss important matters. Mr. Gill said he was happy to have met the Eskimo people in their own country, and as Mr. Boulanger had said, they were going to do their very best to help the Eskimo people.

Tommy Kain said Housing could not be finished then, so it would be better to start the whole thing tomorrow morning. Joe then said they wanted to talk about the pollution problem, and the animals before Mr. Boulanger left. Lazarusi said the officials might know about the state of the animals, but they had not seen it. Isa Siguapic from Povungnituk said that in Povungnituk, the fish, the bearded seals, and the whales are no longer good for food, and the people at Povungnituk have told Isa to ask the Govt. what they are going to do about the problem. The animals have been spoiled accidentally, but the white people are to be blamed because they go there for a short time just to fish. The Povungnituk people want to know how the supply of animals that have been spoiled can be restored for food for the people. Isa said that the Pov people have been thinking of charging money to the white man, or else forbidding white men to hunt and fish for these animals. These animals are Eskimo food and the Pov people want to know what can be done. Lazarusi Epoo from Port Harrison went to the large map of Canada, and pointed out that the water animals, whales, fish and seals are being spoiled. The people do not know of anything along this coast spoiling the animals. Within ten (10) years there will be few animals left alont this coast. They estimate that the fish in the coastal rivers will be spoiled too, and if this happens this source of food for Eskimos will disappear. There is something polluting the whales coming from Keewatin or Baffin, or James Bay.

Max Gros-Louis pointed out that the pollution is coming from a paper mill in southern Quebec, in the Abitibi area, and they use mercury and this is making the fish <u>dangerous to eat</u>. This had been found out by Indian Association. The rivers drain into James Bay, carrying the mercury. Maybe there is some pollution from other areas, but some is definitely coming from the paper mills using mercury and this has to be stopped by the Government of Canada.

Joe Kumarluk said he is very concerned about the pollution and he went to Ottawa

in August. The Federal Govt. said it would do something about the pollution, but he did not know what has been done. Mr. Neville agreed that Joe had taken a resolution south in August, asking the Federal Government to study the problem and do something about it. The Department sent this resolution to the Dept. of Fisheries and they said they needed meat samples from sick animals, and some of these samples have been sent south. At this time, no results of the study of these samples have been received, but officials all over Canada are discovering places where fish and other food is polluted. Mr. Neville said that the Government is studying the problem which Isa and Lazarusi have pointed out, and he would ask again about it when he returned to Quebec. Inuppuk spoke about the Abitibi Paper Co. Camp near Povungnituk. He enquired whether this company has the right to fly around this area. They want to know if this company has paid money to the Federal Government to be there.

Mr. Bergeron said that it is a private camp, and he concludes that they have paid money to the Provincial Government for a licence. Innuppuk siad he has never been told that they have a right to be there, and the Povungnituk people have never seen any papers. Mr. Neville asked what the white men are doing there, and Innuppuk answered that they operate a Fishing camp south of Pov inland - not an island. The white people have been going to Cape Smith and to other areas aroung Pov to hunt and fish. Mr. Neville asked who should be asked if this company can go there, and hunt and fish. Innuppuk said the white people should go to the President of the Council, because they are catching fish in the lake where the Pov people get fish for food. He himself saw a white man catch fish.

# WEDNESDAY, February 3rd, 1971 - 9:00 A.M.

Mr. Neville suggested that after lunch, the meeting continue in the Quonset Hut so that the children could return to their classes. Johnny Watt asked if the minutes could be reproduced before all the delegates leave for the settlements, and said that there was a Syllabics typewriter at the Mission and Kitty Saunders was able to type.

Mr. Davies, the Fort Chimo Federal School Principal, arrived and made the school Thermo-Fax copier available for duplication of the minutes. Mr. Robert Benoit then began to talk about the Housing Programme. He said that most of the delegates knew a little about the Programme because he had visited each settlement. In 1965 the Dept. had made a Housing Survey and concluded that housing conditions were poor. The Dept. aims at getting good houses with the necessary services for everyone. The cost of buying houses is too high for most Eskimo people, so a Rental Housing Programme was planned to provide adequate housing for every Eskimo family with the rent varying according to the income:-

- 1) People employed all year
- 2) People who are employed in the hunting and fishing seasons
- 3) The people on welfare only

The first group will pay rents varying from \$ 2.00 to \$ 67.00 for a three-bed room house. The second group will pay \$ 2.00 for a three-bedroom house. The third group will pay rents varying according to their varying income. A one-bedroom house will be \$ 2.00-\$42.00. If later the people who have rented houses want to buy the house, they will receive 33% of the rent they have paid, credited towards the purchase There will be a \$ 100.00 per year for each house if it is kept in good condition. This money can be used as a down payment to buy the house. Mr. Benoit continued-People will come to your settlement to explain everything about the houses and the Housing Programme. There is also a Purchase-back plan. If the people have been buying houses and wish to join the Rental programme, the Government will buy back the house and give the owner the money for it. Those small houses will be rebuilt or renovated and rented to small families or young couples. Mr. Gill and Mr. Boulanger have spoken about giving Eskimos more control. In a year or two it isplanned that Eskimo people will take over the management of the Housing Programme. The people in a community will elect a Housing Committee and those will decide who will live intthe houses and how much they are going to pay.

The Housing Programme has a big job, because there are 750 families but only 592 houses including those shipped this year. We need immediately 167 housing units

for overcrowded families. We will probably have to replace 300 of the existing houses because they are very poor. Also by 1976-77 there will probably be 271 additional new families requiring housing. This means, before 1977 we need to build 738 new houses in Arctic Quebec, and we want the Eskimo people to be in charge of this and do the job.

Mr. Benoit then continued to explain the Housing Education Programme.

## Phase I

#### Phase II

1) Sewing

2) Cooking

# Home Economics

3) Child Care

2) Furniture

3) Landscaping

4) Family budget

Home improvement:

1) Interior decoration

Housing Educators 42 in Arctic Quebec

- 1) Training Course
- 2) Explain Programme
  - a) meetings
    - b) visiting families
- c) workshop Rent - 3 groups В

Role of Housing Associa-

ities.

tion Responsibility as a tenant Govt. responsibil-

# Phase III

Housing Association

- 1) Incorporation
- 2) Responsibilities
  - a) decide the rent
  - b) which families move to new houses
  - c) will take responsibility for Services: -Water, oil, electricity, garbage, -maintenance & repairs Contracts only when they could take responsibility

Mr. Benoit explained that the people will elect a Housing Association and these Associations will be incorporated just like companies, and the Association will control the Housing in each settlement, because the Govt. wants the people to take control of these matters including services to the houses. The responsibility for the houses will be on the Housing Association and it will be the responsibility of the Govt. to install services such as water supply where these do not exist, over the next two (2) or three (3) years or more. It is just not possible to do everything immediately. They must take time and do these things step by step. At first the Govt. will work with the Community Councils and when the Housing Associations are formed, a member of each community council will attend Housing Association meetings as an observer.

It is hoped that after the next five (5) years, the Govt. will provide the money only, but the local Housing Association will have full control of Housing in their own settlements. (except for collection of money). Noah Angnatuk asked whether the Housing Association Councils will have to be elected soon, and Mr. Benoit repliedas soon as they feel ready after the visits of the Housing Officer and appointment of the local Housing Educators. Noah Angnatuk then asked whether the money would be given to the local Housing Association as soon as they are elected. The answer was given by Mr. Gosselin as-"At first the Association Council would decide who would live in the houses and later they would be given control of the money. Noah then asked why he has occupied a three-bedroom house for three (3) months, but has not been charged.

Mr. Benoit said he would be charged through the Administrative Clerk in George River, by April if not before.

Mr. Gosselin pointed out that the houses remain the property of the Federal Govt. and the Housing Associations will have to draw up Occupancy Priority Lists. It will be necessary to have proper accounting systems and the collection of money efficiently handled. It is a very costly programme for the Federal Government and it must be handled well. Itwa Patagu from Koartak then asked if it was necessary for the local leaders to be young people. He stressed that the older people do not speak much English. Mr. Gosselin answered that he hoped these leaders would come from all age groups in the settlements, if this was possible. Mr. Neville asked if everyone understood this, and most delegates agreed. He stressed that the 42 people could be any age and any sex, but the Housing Association is everybody who lives in the houses.

Matthew Ningiuruluk - Wakeham Bay, then asked whether there would be the same number of local leaders in each community. Zebedee Nungak answered that this depends on the number of houses in each settlement. Noah Kumak said that some people were confused between the local leaders and the Housing Association Councils. Mr. Benoit said that when the work of the Housing Educators is done, other people will be selected by the Housing Association Councils to perform services for the houses. The matter of collection of rent will belong to the Federal Government. Moses from Ivuyivik said he was still confused. Ivuyivik has a Housing Council but they do not understand what the members of this Council are supposed to do. Moses said he himself, was President of this Housing Council. Peter Akpahatuk from Payne Bay asked about Housing Councils. Zebedec explained that he and Miss St-Laurent would soon be visiting all the settlements. Noah Angnatuk from Geroge River wanted to know if the Housing Educators were selected and if the Housing Association Council was elected. Mr. Benoit answered that the Housing Association Councils were elected- the Housing Educators appointed by Government officials, and paid to explain the Programme to the people.

Tommy Kain from Leaf Bay said that in that community they have housing provided by the Provincial Government. Last year, seven (7) houses were started, but not finished. They are occupied because they were told they were ready, but they are still not finished. In the fall, the Eskimo people started to try to finish the houses. The construction was done only by Eskimos. They were told that the money for the houses ran out - the Eskimos stopped working. The rent was charged although the houses were not finished. The outsides were finished, but not the insides, and he was not satisfied with the rent charged. The services were promised and the rent was set,

but they did not receive the services. The rents were the same for the people able to pay and the ones not able to pay at \$ 30.00. Tommy said he thought that people who could not make much money should be charged less. These houses were put up withjust a stove, then shelves and one table. Tommy said he wanted to know what is provided in a house under the Federal Programme. Mr. Neville explained that houses in Leaf Bay belong to the Govt. of Quebec. The Leaf Bay families have lived in this area for many years. They asked the Federal Government to build houses and a school and the Federal Government said no.

This was because the Federal Government thought the community was too small and wanted the people to move to Fort Chimo. Mr. Neville said he himself, did not agree with this. The Government of Quebec said they would go in and build seven (7) houses and a school, and a Nursing Post. All the services in Leaf Bay are provided by D.G.N.Q.. Mr. Neville said he visited Leaf Bay last March. The houses were small with no ceiling and unfinished interiors.

The Federal Government cannot help to finish building those houses, but Mr. Robitaille who would be in Fort Chimo on February 4th, might be able to answer if Tommy Kain asked him. Mr. Neville suggested that Mr. Robitaille be invited if the people wished to come and answer the questions about the completion of houses and the question of rent. If Quebec does not have money, the Federal Government could discuss this with the Provincial Government to see if there is some way the Federal Government could help. Tommy Kain said he would like Mr. Robitaille to answer questions in front of all the delegates as witnesses. Mr. Neville stressed that the houses in Leaf Bay are not in the Federal Government Housing Programme. Silas said that this can be continued when Mr. Robitaille arrives. At the suggestion of Mr. Benoit, the delegates were asked if they agreed to the invitation of Mr. Robitaille.

Lazarusi Epoo said that he thought it better if Mr. Robitaille was met privately by the delegates of Leaf Bay, because he himself has nothing to say to Mr. Robitaille. Zeb said that other delegates might have things to ask Mr. Robitaille such as the School Board. Angnatuk Nassak - Payne Bay, said he agreed that Mr. Robitaille be invited because Peter Akpahatuk and Noah had questions to ask him. Matthew Ningiaviuk -Wakeham Bay, said he wanted to hear what was said if Mr. Robitaille met any of the delegates.

Silas said that Mr. Robitaille should be invited on February 4th. Mr. Gosselin asked whether other Quebec Officials were also to be invited by the Eskimo delegates.

Tommy Kain said Mr. Robitaille should not come alone. Mr. Neville suggested that Mr. Robitaille be invited on Friday or Thursday afternoon, and asked the delegates to decide whether or not the Federal people should be present. Isa Siguapik said he would like the Federal Government people present.

Lazarusi asked what had shappened to the time the Eskimo people had planned to spend alone. Mr. Gosselin said that the Federal Government people would be prepared to stay longer if necessary. Mr. Neville said that the Eskimo people could stay two more days, if they wished. Mr. Neville suggested that in the afternoon they discuss Welfare and Economic Development and Thursday morning talk about the Organization of Arctic Quebec District.

Joe Kumarluk said that minutes of the Eskimo meetings alone would be sent to the Dept. of Indian Affairs after.

Mr. Gosselin said that the delegates going to the Co-op Conference would be the responsibility of the Provincial Government after the meeting was over. (before they left for the south). Mr. Benoit then said that if the delegates were not clear on any point, the Housing Education should be able to help them and he would answer any questions. Tommy Kain said that the people of Leaf Bay had asked him to ask Mr. Neville if the Federal Government could help the people about the Housing in Leaf Bay, if the Provincial Government could not.

Mr. Neville said it would be necessary to talk first before addecision.

## 2:00 P.M.

# Welfare:

Mr. Douhaniuk said that he hoped to visit every settlement early in March and explain the Welfare Programme in detail. The Welfare Programme exists becaus of the needs of the Eskimo people, and he said that he hoped that some of the problems would be discussed here. All people have basic rights or needs - e.g. food, clothing, shelter, education - the right to work. If the people cannot get these things themselves the Government has to help them. These Welfare Programmes include:
Pensions, Social Assistance, Family Services, including Counselling, Adoption, Juvenile Programmes in helping young people in trouble, Recreation Programmes, Legal Assistance when people come before the courts, and Medical Social Services.

In handling the programmes, it is necessary to use letters and files containing information about the people. That is why Mr. Douhaniuk wished to discuss Family

Services and other programmes before talking about Social Assistance and the files for that programme. Mr. Douhaniuk said he wanted to give some idea of the future when the Eskimos will be more involved in the Welfare Programmes - either the Councils or Committees, or individual Eskimos helping with special problems. For example, with the Eskimo patients going south to Montreal, people from SAVI meet the patients at the plane and take them to the hospital. These are white people who do not speak Eskimo. Instead of all white people, some Eskimos might do this. When patients are in hospital and worried they could be helped more easily if an Eskimo person visited The Dept. officials can ask the hospitals and doctors for information about patients if they are asked by Eskimo people, especially if patients or their families are worried. Sometimes the doctors want to know what has happened to sick people before. Some papers come from the north, but usually the information about previous sicknesses is not included. When people are in the south, their families want news of them. If there were Health Committees, it would be easier to get news. Sometimes the information given from the shouth is not easy to understand. Eskimo people should see their local nurse for an explanation. When patients are ready to return north, information must be sent north so that families are ready. This is especially important where children are concerned. When children have to stay a long time in the south, they may forget the Eskimo language. Sometimes people in the south do not understand how important this is and the children find it difficult when they return north.

Last week, Peter Abraham and Mr. Douhaniuk went to meet a committee of doctors in Montreal to talk about a patient from Fort Chimo. The doctors, nurses, and social workers were very happy to know of Peter's ideas and get information from him. Sometimes people are sick because they have trouble getting along with someone in their own family or someone in the community. These people are sick mentally. Doctors can help Eskimo people more, and treat them more successfully if they can talk through an Eskimo interpreter and find out the history of the patient. When family problems cause people to become sick, it is hard for doctors to find out exactly what to do. It is necessary to have High School, College, or University training to understand better the personal problems of the people. With regards to Adoption in Eskimo ways, this means giving a child to someone else to look after. This is usually done without any law to protect the children or the parents. This can be very important in some cases. e.g. a child whose father is white and mother is Eskimo and who is not living with her parents, but with another Eskimo family without a legal adoption, could be taken away from the home she is living in. Legal adoption protects the child and the adopting parents.

# Juvenile problems: -

Lazarusi said that sometimes children who go away lose respect of their parents and at other times they get into serious trouble. e.g. sniffing glue or gas, breaking into homes or stores. Juvenile services are designed not to punish the child, but to protect the child.

# Recreation: -

Sometimes Recreation Activities help keep children from getting into trouble.

Nr. Martel in the Quebec office would be pleased to help settlements organize recreation.

## Legal Services: -

Sometimes policemen stop people doing wrong things and take these people before judges in a court if they have done something wrong. When this happens, it is important that an Eskimo, who is accused of doing wrong, understands what his rights are. The Eskimo should know that a lawyer can help him if he wants this, and where to get a lawyer. Sometimes the judge wants to get the accused person's history and asks for a Pre-Sentence Report in order to make a fair decision. Eskimo people who live in the same settlements and know the people concerned can give the required information.

Isa Siguapik asked Mr. Douhaniuk about people who break the law. In his settlement when someone young does momething wrong the first time, it is just written down what happens, but the third time the person does wrong, they act. Mr. Douhaniuk said that in most cases, the first time someone gets into trouble, he is not punished, but perhaps he can be helped with his problems before he gets into really serious trouble and gets sent to jail. For this reason, it is important that people ask for help with special problems. Mr. Douhaniuk then went into the subject of Social Assistance and pensions. The Dasic Allowance (Old Age Security) is \$ 78.00 but extra money can be obtained for some people if special application is made. Some Eskimos who need extra help do not seem to know about this. They can get up to \$ 109.00 a month. Young Eskimo people can help the older people make applications for this extra money. There are Pensions for Blind people and Crippled people. This money used to be administered by the Provincial Government although the money came from both the Federal and Provincial Covernments.

Now in Quebec, these pensions (Blind & Crippled) have been replaced by one Relief Programme. A blind person used to get only \$ 75.00 a month regardless of number

of dependents. Now he can get a bigger allowance if he has dependents and if his family has special needs. In the new programme, if a man cannot look after his family's needs, he can be helped with relief. The Dept.'s policy is that all people throughout the Province be treated equally. Different rates (for food and clothing) from before are now being introduced. The Dept. would like to know the views of the Eskimo people on the present rates for food and clothing e.g. If it is much more difficult to get country food. How much will it affect the lives of the people if they have to buy more food because the food from the land is spoiled by pollution? The Chimo doctor says that more children get sick when there is not enough cariboo meat. If there is no cariboo meat do the people have enough money to buy other meat? Some nurses tell you that you need some vegetables to keep healthy. Sometimes these are very expensive here. Mr. Douhaniuk held up a turnip which cost \$ .43 in Chimo store, but would be 5 cents or 6 cents in Quebec City. A Health Committee could help inform the Dept. on matters like this. (no milk in the stores for babies).

In Ivuyivik sometimes the people have to go to another settlement for essential food.

# Relief:-

Later on Relief payments would be made in cash, not vouchers. Settlements could make this easier if they decided to ask for Credit Unions to be set up.

#### REHABILITATION COMMITTEE:

Under the new programme, help will also be given to some people to earn their living rather than live on relief.

# REVIEW & APPEAL: -

Sometimes people are not happy with the money they get for Relief. There will be an Appeal Board and a Review Board where people have the right to say they are not happy, and be listened to by the Government. There will be two (2) Government people and one (1) Eskimo person on the boards to think about how the Relief was handled and change the decision if it was not good. If someone is not happy he should write down the facts to show why he is not happy and the Review Board will study the complaint. Inuppuk from Povungnituk asked Mr. Douhaniuk when he would be in Povungnituk. Mr. Douhaniuk said he wanted to visit the settlements when the Council members are home. Inuppuk then said that some members of the Councils will be at the Association meeting in Quebec, March 16th, 17th, and 18th but they would leave on March 12th. Mr. Douhaniuk said he would visit all the settlements in the first

two (2) weeks of March, but he would send a telex from Quebec City.

# 4:30 P.M.

The subject of electricity was then started. Mr. Neville said that just a few years ago only a few buildings in Arctic Quebec used electricity, but now the Govts. have built more houses and the Co-ops have built more buildings and there are quite a few buildings which need electricity. The buildings are going up faster than the generators which supply the electricity, so some problems are arising.

Lazarusi (Port Harrison) and Inuppuk ( POV) have problems. Lazarusi said he wanted to know why the Co-op people do not get electricity now. Mr. Neville said he would try to give the facts about the electricity supply in Port Harrison. The electricity supplied, is by D.O.T. not Indian Affairs. Indian Affairs is responsible for the lines which carry the power to the Eskimo houses, and the Federal Covernment buildings. Recently, the Port Harrison Co-op put up two (2) buildings (one last year, one this year). The wiring for these buildings was completed recently and the Co-op connected the wires in these buildings to the Government Power lines. It seems that Peter Murcock knew about this and the connection was made without asking the Government people in Great Whale River. Mr. Neville understood that it was disconnected by orders of Mr. Renaud, the engineer, in Great Whale River. Mr. Bergeron sent a telex in January to tell the Govt. in Great Whale that the Co-op buildings had been hooked up through one Federal house to the power lines. This is against the laws, both Federal and Provincial, so Mr. Renaud ordered the power to be cut, and in the same week he sent an electrician to Port Harrison to make this hook-up to conform to the regulations. Mr. Bergeron met the Council on Sept. 28th and 29th and power for the Co-op was discussed, and the Co-op submitted an Application to have these buildings hooked up.

# Mr. Bergeron continued: -

In Port Harrison, there are normally three (3) generators operating (100 KW each). Lazarusi Epoo (Co-op manager) said it has been 3 years since the lack of sufficient electricity supply for Port Harrison and the wires had been discussed. Lazarusi said that D.O.T. is supposed to be in charge of the generators, but the D.O.T. people say the Dept. of Indian Affairs is in charge of the electricity supply. They are passing the buck between the two. The D.O.T. wires are separate from the Indian Affairs. wires. When Mr. Bergeron was there in September, Lazarusi asked him to let the people in charge whichever Dept. it was, know that there was an urgent need for the electricity supply. The Govt. electricians were working in Port Harrison for over a month. They put up atreetalights and some rotating lights which are only for

for decoration, but they did not even go to the Co-op or even look at the wiring inside. A Provincial electrician had done the inside wiring and they expected the Federal electricians to inspect this wiring. Mr. Bergeron knew what Lazarusi had told him - if the Dept people did not look after the hooking up, then the people would have to do it themselves, even if they did not conform to the regulations, because Mr. Borgeron did not atke them seriously. Lazarusi said this. The three (3) buildings, store, warehouse, and restaurant needed electricity - only the store has electricity now. Recently, they received a telex from Mr. Renaud saying that they will receive no elecricity whatever except for the stores. There are things in the store that could have frozen when the power was cut without previous notice. They got a visit from the C.O. of D.O.T. in Port Harrison, who said he had orders to inspect the restaurant, and the warehouse. When this man asked why these buildings were not connected, Lazarusi told him that DNI did not want them connected. This C.O. said an electrician would come in 2 or 3 weeks to connect these buildings. Lazarusi said the problem in Port Harrison when the Government seemed to be trying to destroy the Co-op which represents the efforts of the Eskimo people. Mr. Neville asked what was the exact position now. Lazarusi said only one building was hooked up until the D.O.T. electricians arrived. Lazarusi had asked Mr. Bergeron to get someone flown in to do the dangerous work, but Mr. Bergeron did not even answer him. Mr. Neville asked Mr. Bergeron if it is correct that the production of electric power at Port Harrison is the responsibility of D.O.T. and assured Lazarusi that that is a fact. D.O.T. provides power to the Federal Government in Port Harrison because D.N.I. has a contract with D.O.T. for the supply of pwer. Lazarusi said he knows these two facts, but twice he has been asked by the Admin. in Port Harrison to sign papers for Indian Affairs Dept. for supply of power to the Co-op. Lazarusi said he meant he had made application twoce to D.N.A.. He could not read the forms - he is an Eskimo. He asked what the forms were, and they told him later what they were. One was in September.

Mr. Bergeron said the two applications were because there were two buildings Lazarusi said he also made application in 1967 for electricity.

# 8:00 P.M.

Lazarusi Epoo from Harrison continued by quoting a letter written from Harrison Co-op to Mr. Renaud on January 22nd, 1971, signed by Jacob Weetaltuk and Johnny Inuppuk. Mr. Neville said that our Dept. may not be entirely to blame but it is to be blamed for not finding some answer to this problem after a period of 3 years. The Dept. would personally take this up with D.O.T. and try to have electricity supplied to the Co-op in Port Harrison in the months ahead. Mr. Neville continued that according to a letter

received on January 19th, and according to Mr. Bergeron, one of the D.O.T. generators burned out in October and if additional loads were added to the remaining two buildings, it might be dangerous. Now there is not very much power and half of the existing lights in the Federal buildings cannot be replaced. There is an electricity problem in Port Harrison. Lazarusi said that in stormy weather, some power lines break and short. Mr. Neville said he would talk to Mr. Primeau and the boss of D.O.T. and ask them if they will increase the capacity of their power generators in Harrison. If they will not, the Dept. must look for other sources for more electricity. It could ask Hydro-Quebec or the Dept. if they can put in its own generators to provide power for Federal buildings, the houses, and the Co-op. Naturally, the Dept. prefers that D.O.T. or Hydro Quebec does it, but if they refuse the Dept. will do it. Many houses now in Harrison have no electricity. More houses will be built next year so we have to have more electricity from some source. These things would be next summer. For right now, there are two ways 1) the Co-op could import a small generator to supply present needs, 2) the Dept. could import a small generator (10 KW). Mr. Neville said he felt it would be best if the Co-op did this and he had spoken to Mr. Meyer about this. 10 KW would help the Co-op, but to take care of the present needs, the Dept. should have 20 KW or 25KW. The big bosses might argue about giving the Co-op power. The Dept. would find a generator in GWR, get it to Port Harrison, and start to give some power. Mr. Neville asked Mr. Bergeron to let Mr. Neville inlhis office in Quebec know in one month whether this matter had been satisfactorily dealt with. Mr. Gosselin asked if there was a small shed to shelter the generator. Lazarusi said they could make a plywood shack.

Mr. Neville said that he gets a little cross with Mr. Murdock for not letting the Dept. know beforehand of future buildings and the possible future needs for power so that generators can be changed for bigger generators. Mr. Neville asked Lazarusi to tell Mr. Murdoch this, and said he himself would also do this. Silas asked if Mr. Murdoch had even talked about the building of the Co-op and the increased power needs. Mr. Bergeron said there was no information in advance. Mr. Gosselin said that when the Dept. was asked by Mr. Murdoch if two buildings could be hooked up and an enquiry was made to Federal Services in Ottawa, were told that more power was not available from D.O.T.. Mr. Gosselin continued by stressing it was because power was not available - that this was not done.

Lazarusi said that at the time the Co-op buildings were started, they sent a letter to say they would need more power.

Mr. Neville said that the Dept. cannot argue that we did not know of the Power needs in Port Harrison. The Co-op applied in 1967 and the Federal Administrator in that settlement must have seen the buildings going up. The Dept. must accept the responsibility for not having done something about this problem but he wanted to emphasize that it takes about 18 months to get a new generator built, shipped, and installed in a community. The Dept. wants to ask the Federation to give us as much advance notice as possible so that we do not get into this sort of situation again.

Lazarusi said that only nine Eskimo houses are now connected to the Power there are fifty waiting to be connected. They hear the same every year that this will be done but it does not get done. Mr. Neville said he promised that they would put their minds to this problem and improve the supply of electricity in that community as soon as possible. Lazarusi said that he was told that the D.O.T. Power Plant has to be moved this summer closer to D.O.T.. Mr. Bergeron said Lazarusi meant D.O.T. was building a new power house this summer without increasing the capacity of the generators. Mr. Neville thanked Lazarusi for this information. If there is something wrong with the generators now in GWR, Mr. Neville said he would talk to Mr. Murdoch and do everything possible to get power to those two buildings withing a month. Lazarusi said how pleased he was with the results of this discussion and he would be happy to tell his people. Mr. Neville asked Lazarusi to tell his settlement that the Dept. wants to help the Co-ops and its councils in every possible way. Then Inuppuk . Kumarluk from POV spoke about his problems - He said he had listened carefully to the discussion and he would mention that it is necessary to plan well ahead for buildings and the power needs. Of 95 POV houses, only 31 are connected to power. 63 have no electricity. Mr. Gosselin said money has been set aside to provide electricity for more houses next summer - we cannot say immediately how many houses could be connected next year, but after Mr. Gosselin and Mr. Bergeron go north to these communities, they would be able to tell the approximate numbers. Mr. Gosselin added that money was sput aside for a big new generator for POV sufficiently big to provide an electricity supply to every house that is built now or would be built in the next one or two years.

Mr. Gosselin said that when Mr. Bergeron (and he hoped to accompany him) on his next visits to POV, he would give a detailed explanation of the projects to be carried out during the next year. No. of houses, power supply, money available, etc, to the community council. Inuppuk continued that the future houses will need electricity. They were promised electricity in the past.

Mr. Gosselin said he hoped that it was intended to make future plans for the next five (5) years. These would be drawn up with the help of the councils in each settlement. Mr. Neville repeated that he wanted the people to understand that the Govt. really does want to listen to what the Councils have to say, and involve the Councils in the planning for their communities. Inuppuk said he was very happy to be at this first conference and was very happy to hear of the cooperation of the Govt. with the Councils. Itwa said he wanted to mention the electrical problem at Koartak. The generator at Koartak belongs to DGNQ and if that fellow from the Quebec Government did not come, he would like Mr. Neville to tell D.G.N.Q. Mr. Neville said that Mr. Robitaille was expected and Itwa should ask Mr. Robitaille about the problem. If Mr. Robitaille did not come he could bring it later.

Itwa Continued: - He wanted to say it then:

The wiring in Koartak is like on the telephone poles in Chimo, but some of the wires are half way to the ground. When it is windy there are lots of short circuits and this is dangerous. The houses might be burned and people might get hurt. Mr. Neville said Itwa could talk to Mr. Simard - should Mr. Robitaille not comeabout this problem. Itwa continued that the poles were put up during the winter and they were not set in properly. An electrician is needed in the summer when the ground is soft. The settlement is growing and those power lines are not safe. So Itwa said that he lives a little way out of Koartak, but he came to bring you what the Koartak people wanted to say.

#### THURSDAY, February 4th, 1971 - 9:00 a.m.

#### House 45:

Mr. Douhaniuk spoke about assistance to deaf people. Lazarusi asked about widows who receive pension after they remarry. There are cases like this in his settlement. Mr. Douhaniuk said they are supposed to let the Quebec Government know of any changes like this e.g. (children going away). Mr. Robitaille's office looks after this now. Angnatuk from Payne Bay asked if Social Assistance will be in cash from now on. Mr. Douhanuik said it is no good making out cheques if people cannot cash them in their settlements.

Mr. Bost said the people first needed to learn about family budgets. Anguatuk said that in Payne Bay the Council did not think this idea of cash was a good idea because the people might not buy food and essentials.

Anguatuk said that the old pensioners use their money for food but sometimes the cheques do not come even when the planes come, so they get into debt.

Anguatuk said his own father and old man, does not get a pension, only social assistance - only food. Can his father get a pension?

Mr. Douhaniuk asked how old the man was. He had to be 65. Anguatuk said over 60, and some younger than he were getting pensions. Johnny Watt said the people were told about Welfare yesterday. He said this generation will use Welfare and the next, but in order to make Eskimos less dependent on white people, they should form their own strong association.

Mr. Neville said that Mr. Douhaniuk would answer specific questions on their own Welfare problems, and he would see them later.

Matthew Ningiuruluk from Wakeham Bay said he had a few things to say to Mr. Neville from the people of Wakeham Bay. Silas Cookie said Matthew should see Mr. Neville that night and Matthew agreed. This meeting was set for 8:00 p.m.

Noah Kumak said that the conference had been jumping from subject to subject and he

wanted to finish some things. He continued about Old Age pensions. He said some Eskimos who are eligible for Old Age Pensions are not receiving them because the records made by the white men were not accurate, because the people did not know when they were born. He know some people who had wrinkles on their faces when he was small, and now he is over 40 but they are still not getting pensions. Mr. Neville said that more staff will be hired to straighten out the records.

Noah said the record of ages must be corrected. Noah said that the disabled people and the pensioners receiving pensions do not receive enough money for clothing, in addition to food. Can they receive Social Assistance as well?

Mr. Douhaniuk said this depends on the number of people in the family. A man might get more money if he is in need according to the particular family situation.

Noah said he wanted to know because people are getting into debt if they buy clothing as well as food.

Mr. Douhaniuk said people can get extra help if they have more than one child to look after. Mr. Neville said that under the new rates, one single adult could receive up to \$65 Social Assistance a month.

Mr. Douhaniuk asked if there were many people with not enough money to buy clothing and some of the delegates answered, yes, quite a few.

Noah said he had not got an answer to his question. He asked again "Can a pensioner get social assistance in addition to his pension"?

Mr. Douhaniuk said not a person alone, but yes, if he had dependents.

Then Moses from Ivuyivik said that he wanted to know whether Sugluk and Ivuyivik would now be policed by 2 ferces - from Dorset and from Quebec. Mr. Neville said that the Government of N.W.T. wanted some Federal staff to be game Officers for the off shore islands which are not in the Province of Quebec. The R.C.M.P. from Cape Dorset will patrol the islands off Ivuyivik but on the mainland it will be the police of the Government of Quebec.

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Noah said the Ivuyivik people are not happy that the R.C.M.P. from Cape Dorset have come to Ivuyivik to control two settlements - Sugluk and Ivuyivik.

Moses continued that every year the people try to build an air strip on the ice without any equipment whatsoever. They want a bulldozer or a shovel because it costs a lot of money to do it without equipment. It would be better to make a strip on the land.

Mr. Bergeron said when he visits the settlement in April with Mr. Gosselin, they would talk about equipment and air strips.

- Sakaraisi Tunkiapic from Ivuyivik said the delegates were speaking for their people. He then asked whether the community Development Funds are to be used by the Councils to pay workers for working on the air strip. They have asked for this money specifically from the Government but the money came from the Community Development Fund which is now all used up. They asked for it from the Government.
- Mr Bergeron said there was money set aside for Evuyivik for roads and air strips and he would advise Steve Rowan that there was plenty of money available. Silas then asked Mr. Neville to speak about Economic Development and Mr. Neville said he would speak about the Economic Development Programme as it is now and as it will be very soon. Now money is provided through the Community Dev. Fund and the Department sends people to advise the communities about small projects e.g. Canoe Programme at GWR or Ikalu Lodge near George River. Now the communities receive some financial assistance for projects and Technical Assistance for special projects. (Total approximately \$55,000).

Another part of the Economic Dev. Programme is financial help for the Federation of Co-ops. (Total approximately \$37,500) given last year mainly for helping people understand the principles of the Co-op movement in Arctic Quebec.

A third part of the programme is the Eskimo Loan Fund which lends money to individuals or small groups or to Cooperatives. There is also the Small Boats Assistance Programme and help for installing freezers. Mr. Neville said that approximately \$100,000 has been lent to individuals and groups in Arctic Quebec.

This means that the Department is now spending less than \$200,000 on Economy Dev. in

Arctic Quebec. There is nobody in the District office at the moment who is concerned only with Economic Development. The Department hopes to have someone later.

Mr. Neville then said he wanted to speak of some ideas to improve the Economic Dev. Programme and then ask the people what they think of these ideas.

- A) Give more financial support to the Co-ops so that the Co-ops are more involved in the projects in Arctic Quebec rather than the Department (More grants and more loan to individual Co-op and the Federation) For this year the Department has only \$37,000 and more money must be found if the Department is to do more.
- B) Finding more jobs for the two governments in the north being held by the Eskimo people of the north, (not people from the south).
- C) Finding more jobs for the people of the north with the community generally -
- Councils as employers
- Associations e.g. Hossing Associations
- Contract work (Some individuals or gourps doing work as employers for Government agencies on a contract basis e.g. parts of Municipal Services such as Garbage Collection or water delivery). There will be a new Northern Development Fund which begins on April 1st, 1971 and this will make it possible for people to borrow money for particular projects.

The present Eskimo Loan Funs is not easy to manage right now - it is too slow and awkward now. It may be moved to Quebec City, and simplified and altered so that applications can be processed more rapidly and efficiently.

The other idea is partly Education and partly Economic Development. This is placement services, to put people in vacant jobs and training for particular jobs where necessary. e.g. Mining Companies, Hudson Bay Company, Government jobs.

There will be an Economic Development specialist soon, who will talk to the Eskimos and try to get better Economic Development for Arctic Quebec.

Finally, Mr. Neville said the Department staff was ready to answer questions or note any new ideas from the delegates in these matters. Itwa Putugu from Koartak said

there is no Co-op there. He wanted to talk about water delivery and garbage removal. They have tried to have people delivering water and removing garbage this year, and he wants to see this carried out, the same as was at present. Mr. Gosselin asked how this was done. Itwa said they have put 45 gallons drums outside the houses and when they are filled, they are taken away from the settlement and emptied. The Eskimo people are paid by the Dept. through the Council.

Mr. Neville asked if Itwa was questioning if it might be stopped and Itwa replied he was doubtful because the people doing the job might get lazy or not want to do those jobs, then he would hire new people. Itwa wanted to ask about the air strip in his settlement and he wanted to takk about it that evening. Elijah Tukkiapik from Chimo said he wanted to talk about Eskimos doing jobs that were now done by white people. The white people now doing jobs do not teach Eskimos how to do these jobs. This is not satisfactory. The outsiders do not instruct their helpers and so it is only slowly that Eskimos can take over these jobs. Some white people remain in the north when the Eskimos do not like them - some of the white people do not like Eskimos. Mr. Neville said he would reply to both Elijah's points.

- 1) White people teaching Eskimos their jobs There are some problems, but the Dept. wants to say to the white employee that he must teach his skills to an Eskimo. The Dept. wants to say that when the Eskimo takes over, the white man will have a job in another part of Canada. It is natural that the white man will hesitate if he is afraid that he will have no job when he has taught the Eskimo his skills. Also not everyone can teach his job, so we want someone with teacher training trying to set up training programmes to show employees how to teach their jobs. The Dept. is also reserving some jobs for local people only. e.g. Housing Programme. This problem will take time, but the Dept. has accepted the proposals for gradually replacing southern personnel by northern personnel.
- 2) About removing Dept. employees who are not well disposed towards Eskimos, the District office takes the position that any employee not doing a good job, and when precise facts are presented to the office to show this, that person will be removed from the Community. Sometimes in the past, the people in one community say This man is no good but they do not give facts. Nothing can be done unless facts are

written down. If the facts are presented, something can be done.

Mr. Neville asked if Mr. Robitaille was to be invited to speak at 2:00 p.m. and Silas said it was better to discuss the questions from the morning, and Elijah and Itwa asked about the money they received.

#### THRUSDAY, February 4th, - 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Neville said that Mr. Robitaille, Mr. Simard and Mr. Tremblay has arrived and would be willing to come at 4:00 p.m.

Then Noah from George River asked about Economic Development. He wanted to know if an individual can get a loan from the Government and Mr. Neville replied "Yes, he can get a loan for something that will help him get a better living".

Noah asked "Will he get a loan if it will help him get a job?" Mr. Neville explained that loans have to be paid back to the Government.

Elijah Tukiapik from Chimo said the land about Chimo should be kept clean but not many trucks are available. Could a garbage truck be provided for Fort Chimo through the Loan Fund or in another way? The Council has arranged that a Co-op truck be used and paid for by the Dept. but because there was no garage, the service had to be discontinued when the snow came.

Mr. Gosselin asked who owned the truck and Elijah replied "The Co-op".

Mr. Neville said that if the Co-op requested a loan of money to buy a garbage truck, it would be considered by the Loan Fund people in the south. Mr. Neville continued to explain that the Loan Fund can lend money to individuals or a Co-op but not yet to a Council because Councils are not legally recognized bodies. A group of people can ask the Government to make them into a Company and the Company can then ask for a loan. Mr. Gosselin said the Housing Association will be made into Companies and eventually when they are ready they can provide services under contract and they could get loans for necessary equipment. As Mr. Neville explained e.g. if a Fort Chimo Eskimo wanted to purchase a truck to get contracts for garbage,

the Economic Development Office will discuss the loan with the man to show him he must get sufficient business to make it practical to pay wages, and maintenance and repay the loan, otherwise the money would be lost.

Every request for a loan must be studied very carefully so that the money lent is repaid and the funds used to help someone else. Silas said he wanted to talk about garbage in Great Whale River. In Great Whale River the nurses said that garbage on the ground causes sickness. The Housing Association Council will deal with this but it is very important and some of the garbage is left exposed when it is dumped and some is burned. Garbage collection and delivery of water are very important but there is not enough equipment to take care of these services properly. In some families there is only one who is fit to carry water, if he is away, there is no water. The old people and disabled people sometimes have no water. Children are kept home from shoool to carry water.

Mr. Gosselin asked if in Great Whale River the people all go to one tap for water. Silas said there are two (2) taps, and some houses are very far away from the water and it is too far to carry it.

Mr. Gosselin asked if there were tanks in the homes. Silas replied, yes, 45 gallon tanks. Mr. Gosselin asked if the Housing Association had been informed, and if so, the Housing Association Council should discuss the problem with Mr. Bergeron, the peoples's acute needs for water delivery and how they could be helped immediately. The Health Authorities (Dr. Savoie in Montreal) could send a Health Inspector an the Housing Association could use the report of this inspector to request something be done about garbage problems.

Silas said that in the spring of 1968, a Health inspector went to Great Whale River and he said he would do something about the garbage but nothing was done.

Mr. Gosselin said that if a letter was written to Dr. Savoie with a copy to the District Office, he would follow up the matter.

Tommy Kain from Leaf Bay said he wanted to talk about garbage. He said that it depends on the people in the settlement, If garbage is organized, there is less

sickness. He said there is money available for garbage hauling. Can it be handled by the Council? Mr. Gosselin said that in the case of Leaf Bay, Tommy should ask Mr. Robitaille because the Fed. Government is not acting in Leaf Bay. Tommy said he was asking because it would help other settlements.

Joe Weetaltuk said in Koartak, they wanted dynamite to blast the hard rock for the air strip. They also wanted a jack drill (for the construction period) with these things they could do the job themselves with no white people.

Mr. Neville said he would speak to Mr. Bost about getting both.

Mr. Gosselin said that they would try to get some dynamite from the FLQ and the drill through Mr. Bost!

Angnatuk from Payne Bay said there they have so much garbage that it stinks and they are not happy. They have been putting the garbage on the ice but they eat the fish and some of the fish now have shiny objects in their stomachs so they want to put the garbage in the land not in the water, but Payne Bay is hilly and a vehicle is needed to remove the garbage.

Mr. Neville said that he believed a tractor was on order for that community.

Anguatuk continued that they thought of burning the garbage but the only suitable place is near the oil tanks.

Mr. Gosselin said with the vehicle the garbage could be taken over the hills.

Lazarusi asked when Mr. Bergeron and Mr. Gosselin would be in Port Harrison to

discuss garbage. Mr. Gosselin replied: "In April," and Mr. Bergeron "This month".

Matthew Ningiuruluk said that Wakeham Bay things are the same as Payne Bay and he would like to discuss it with someone.

Mr. Neville said the Dept. is trying to get better vehicles in to the settlements and the Housing Association when formed, will give real thoughts to the problems of garbage disposal and water delivery.

Matthew continued: - The land in the north is stinking and the clams and the fish have been spoiled and the shore line in Wakeham Bay is strewn with garbage. The Housing Association cannot deal with this without equipment. The garbage situation in his settlement has caused friction, as the white people put their garbage on the ice, and the Eskimo people pile the garbage near their own houses and it stinks. Mr. Neville asked Matthew if the problem could be solved by providing vehicles and he replied that the settlement would be improved with them.

Mr. Neville said he would see if there was a vehicle ordered or whether there was any money this year for one - otherwise it would have to wait until next year.

Mr. Neville said both he and Mr. Gosselin expected to be going to all the settlements. Johnny said he would talk about what Chimo wants. He would like someone who knows how to handle things to come and show them how to do things.

Someone is needed to explain about how to form their own Organization - the policies and directives. The government could do this.

Mr. Neville said the Dept. is prepared to pay for the sort of help and also someone to help the Eskimos get legal advice on how to get incorporated. Two sorts of people are needed, but the Government would have to get the request from all the Councils. If they sent a message(from all the Councils) requesting guidance in forming their own Association, the Government would find the money.

Johnny asked about adult Education, and Mr. Neville explained about the Housing Education and said Education could do more things. Mr. Gosselin said there will be two Education Counsellors one in Great Whale and one in Chimo and they will take care of the needs of the communities.

Mr. Neville said he would like people coming to talk to the Councils about organization, projects, committees, etc. This could be done by the Dept. hiring the person, or with an Association of Eskimos - Councils joined together, they could have money to do this hiring themselves. Inuppuk Kumarluk said he wanted to ask about garbage, but he could ask when Mr. Gosselin and Mr. Bergeron are in POV.

Mr. Neville said that in regards to the Association - whether joining the Indian Ass. or forming their own - the Dept. believes the people should be absolutely free to make their own choice. The Eskimos would talk about this themselves and discuss it with the Indian Ass. of Quebec. This is good, but when they have finished their discussions, the Dept. wants to know about it. If they form their own Association, the Dept. would give money for legal help, for meeting together and for hiring someone to help them just as it does to the Indian Association.

The Dept. does not want to influence them in any way at all, but wait until they have made their decision. Johnny said no decision would be made soon because it is necessary for the delegates to return to their own settlements to ask the people. Mr. Neville said that there was no deadline whatever, and meetings the same as this one could be organized again. Johnny asked if the Eskimos could give the decision at another meeting and Mr. Neville replied that the Minister would like the decision from the Eskimo Councils - not from any other body.

Peter asked if the heavy vehicle going to Payne Bay would belong to the Dept., and Mr. Neville said Yes. Peter said if this is so, the vehicle will not be used for the Eskimos but for the Government.

Mr. Neville said the use of vehicles would be discussed when the official party - Mr. Neville, Mr. Gosselin and Mr. Bost visit Payne Bay. This matter will also be discussed with the Dept. people here.

Peter said that if this is true, it is very good and if the vehicle has a shovel or a blade, it would be good to flatten earth for the air strip. Mr. Neville asked whether the present swamp buggy can be used for hauling away garbage.

Peter said he did not know this. Mr. Neville said this would be discussed on the visit to Payne Bay. Mr. Neville asked who would not let the people use the vehicle and Peter answered - "The mechanic". That person is in the south and they don't mind if he doesn't come back. Anguatuk said he would discuss this man with Claude Bost.

(Office at 8:00 p.m. - next meeting)

## 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Robitaille, Mr. Simard,

Silas asked Mr. Robitaille if he was going to say something

Mr. Robitaille

We were told that some Eskimos were meeting here and might want to speak to us so we came. Our Minister, Mr. Massé has asked us to come here and to answer questions so I will present the prople who are with me.

Mr. Simard - the interpreter - Community Development
Mr. Tremblay - Adm. of Budgets

These gentlemen are here to help me answer the questions if I do not know all the answers. Now I am waiting for the questions.

Tommy Kain- Leaf Bay said he would talk about the Housing Rent by the Quebec Govt. in Leaf Bay. Seven houses up for two (2) years were already erected but not completed. Mr. Robitaille said he wanted to ask - was the wood to finish the houses there? Tommy - The materials were not shipped this summer - Why?

Mr. Robitaille said no one knows the exact answer. Was just a little material not there? Tommy said the ceiling material was not there. Mr. Robitaille said he was in Leaf Bay last March and he did not remember that the roof of Tommy's house was not finished. Tommy said they told Mr. Robitaille when he was there. Mr. Robitaille said he would take note of what was missing and have the houses finished right away.

#### Tommy continued: -

What happens is that people who come from the south forget what has been said. We only have stoves, no beds. Mr. Robitaille repeated that he would talk to the man responsible in Quebec and do everything possible. Tommy continued: They were planning to complete the roofs - they stopped the wrok because they were told by Mr. Dubé that Quebec did not have any more money. Mr. Robitaille said he did not understand, but he would try to correct the situation. He did not know why the work was stopped in the fall, because of lack of money. Tommy Kain continued: Last year the families moved in but the place was not warm - it was unconfortable because it was cold. Mr. Robitaille - It would be cold with no insulation and no ceiling and this would have to be corrected. Tommy Kain said there were no carpenters to work on the houses because there was a shortage of money. Tommy told Mr. Robitaille that there were some white men to start building the outside but it was getting cold and when the men came back after Christmas, the houses did not get finished.

Tommy continued: - There should be someone who looked close enough to watch the construction to see that the Eskimos do not have to live in unfurnished houses. Mr. Robitaille said he would ask for a carpenter to go from Chimo to see the houses if they were completed. Tommy continued: - Last year there was a discussion about rents. The rents were set, but it was not fair that these rents should be charged for houses that are uncompleted. Tommy said - They will not put anything on the payment until the houses are completed. Mr. Robitaille said that the same thing happens in the south, and they will wait for rent until they have completed. Mr. Simard asked if anyone has paid and Tommy said no. Tommy asked if it is possible to borrow money from the

Quebec Government for Community Development such as garbage. Mr. Robitaille said the Quebec Government has some money but it is not usually from this money that garbage is handled. He asked - "Do the Eskimos want to handle the garbage in Leaf Bay"? Tommy continued - The Eskimos think this is the only way. This garbage is a big problem, they don't want someone else's men near them. Mr. Robitaille said the Eskimos should tell Mr. Dubé what they want to do to ensure good garbage collection. There is a vehicle there available and it could be done. He thought it was organized. Tommy then said "That thing is like a dead body, it is kept in the house. It cannot be used in the winter".

Mr. Robitaille said if the 65 does not work, another temporary solution must be found. Perhaps skidoos could haul sledges to carry the barrels. Tommy said he used to drive the 65 but it should not be considered that the people have a vehicle because it does not work in the winter. There is something wrong with the engine. Mr. Robitaille - Some other way must be found - What do you suggest? Tommy said skidoos could be used, but who would pay? Mr. Robitaille said it is the responsibility of DGNQ to pay for garbage removed from the settlement and he would tell Mr. Dubé. Tommy said skidoos cost a lot of money. Mr. Robitaille said it would be a part-time job. Tommy says if he asks Mr. Dube he says that Mr. Robitaille is the only man who Mr. Robitaille said that was why he came. Lazarusi Epoo from Harrison said "What about Widows' Pensions. Sometimes they get married again but the widow gets a pension for two (2) more months! Mr. Robitaille said the marriages should be reported by Provincial Representatives in the settlements and then the Pensions are stopped. Sometimes there are delays in the Quebec offices. Lazarusi said that there are cases that are not looked after in the settlements. Mr. Robitaille said the Representatives in the settlements should do this. Lazarusi said "You have alot of work to do in his settlement with people who are not getting pensions who should, and who should not receive pensions but are.". Mr. Robitaille said that he would note this.

Mr. Chansavelte would improve this situation. Tommy Kain asked whether there will be more houses built in Leaf Bay because some families are living in one house. Mr. Robitaille said he hoped one (1) more house would be built but he could not promise. If it is built it will be completed. The original plan was for seven (7) houses. Tommy said one (1) more house is not enough. Mr. Robitaille - The Federal Government has a Housing Plan so the Quebec Government is not building houses because the Federal Government. If the Federal Government is not putting houses into Leaf Bay, it is the responsibility of the Quebec Government to do this but it was planned that Leaf Bay should stay a small settlement. Mr. Robitaille said he could not promise that

more houses would be built next summer. Mr. Benoit said he would like to inform him that it had been discussed that if the Federal and Provincial Government Housing Officers could meet it might be possible to improve the situation in Leaf Bay. Tommy said "At least three (3) more families needed houses. Itua from Koartak said there is danger from the wires on poles erected by DGNQ in the settlement - when the wires touch the houses in a big wind, they could set fire to the houses. Mr. Robitaille said people will be sent to Koartak to correct the situation.

Joe from Koartak said the people who put up the poles did not do it properly. They are wooden poles, and they were put in when the ground was frozen. Will Kain from Leaf Bay said that they don't have any Administrator and there is only a clerk for the store. Mr. Robitaille said it is not a very large settlement. They need someone who can do repairs. Mr. Robitaille asked if Mr. Dubé worked most of his time in the store. Willie replied "All the time". Mr. Robitaille said he would investigate. Tommy said he has been asked to look after the Power House for two (2) years, but he has not yet received \$ 1.00. Mr. Robitaille said Tommy told him this last March (1970) Mr. Robitaille told Mr. Ouilette, the agent in Chimo to clear up this matter of pay. Mr. Robitaille said he would try again to get Tommy's pay. Tommy then said the rent for the houses is the same for all even for people who cannot pay. Mr. Robitaille said the rates were set after consulting the Eskimos. They knew that some people are poorer than others. Tommy continued: - "The Quebec Government sent the set rates of \$ 30.00 per month". Mr. Robitaille agreed that the rates were set with Eskimo agreement. Tommy then said that he was told that these rates had to be approved in a hurry and a message sunt back the next day. Mr. Robitaille said if people cannot pay \$ 30.00 they should write to the Quebec Government and tell them this and maybe some should pay less and some pay more. Inuppuk from POV wanted to know about Quebec Green Family Allowances - that come twice a year. He told the Quebec agent in POV that some allowances have not come. Mr. Robitaille said there are many people working in the Quebec Office. He has taken note of this. Inuppuk said that every time the plane comes, he asks for these cheques, but they do not come.

### 7:45 P.M.

Matthew Ningiuruluk - Wakeham Bay, asked if the Quebec Government was looking after Fort Chimo hospitals. Mr. Robitaille nodded. Matthew said that the people from Wakeham Bay have to stay in hospital longer than they should and said they needed a Transient Centre, or a house where they could stay after being discharged instead

of staying with Eskimo families while waiting for transport. Mr. Robitaille said he remembered that this was asked last March in Koartak and Wakeham Bay. The Eskimos were told then that Transient Centres are difficult to run. The transportation service to the settlements has been improved and the returning patients do not have to wait so long so they wonder if a Transient Centre is necessary. Matthew said the transportation service has not improved. The helicopter was not used for Eskimos in Wakeham Bay. Wakeham Bay was not served by the helicopter, because it could not carry patients and sufficient fuel that far. Matthew asked again about the helicopter and was told that there was no fuel in Wakeham Bay and the other settlements refuel the helicopter but it was hoped that the helicopter Company would put some there later. Matthew then asked why the workers in Wakeham Bay are being taxed for the hospital. It is deducted from the pay cheques. Mingu said that in connection with his second cheque from a Mining Co., he was told that the money was taken for the hospital tax. Mr. Robitaille explained that this is a Provincial Medical Plan. In Quebec this began on November 1st, 1970. Mingu said this is not clear because only three (3) Eskimo employees had these deductions. They were concerned because they were not told before. Anguatuk Nassak from Payre Bay then said that when new rules are introduced, the Eskimos should be told beforehand - Mr. Robitaille agreed. Angnatuk said now the Eskimos have meetings and these things should be explained before they start. There were some doctors taking X Rays and last time only a few people were X-Rayed. The Quebec agent explained that this was only for the the doubtful cases. Anguatuk said Chest X-rays used to be more regular and now are not very often. Mr. Robitaille asked when was the last general X-Ray of all the people in Angnatuk said it was a long time ago before the hospital was here. Mr. Robitaille said the Chest X-Rays are done by the Health Services of the Provincial Government.

Mr. ? said there was a survey last August but Angnatuk said he did not remember this, maybe he was out. Mr. Robitaille said if Angnatuk was worried, he should go to Fort Chimo hospital. Angnatuk then said there were some complaints about the nurses in Payne Bay. One was home and one was away in the south. They don't like either of the nurses. Mr. Robitaille said one nurse was on holidays and a replacement was there. Maybe the one on holidays wouldn't come back. Angnatuk said his people said they liked the nurse they had last year and wanted her back. Mr. Robitaille said he did not know where that nurse was. They should tell the doctors in Chimo. Johnny Watt said he had no complaint about the doctor and nurses there. Tommy Kain asked what Mr. Robitaille thought of the Housing Association and

and Mr. Robitaille replied that it was a good thing. Tommy said that all the other settlements have this Program but not Leaf Bay. Mr. Robitaille said that up to now there had been no need in Leaf Bay. Mr. Benoit said that he had to talk to Mr. Drolet and it would be easy to start a Mousing Association Programme to help the Eskimos. Noah from George River said they have an old building for a Provincial School, and it is cold when the weather is bad, The teacher does not seem to be enthusiastic about the children. Mr. Robitaille said last year there were not many people in the Quebec School. Last April it was decided by the parents that only Kindergarten children should go to the Provincial school. If all the children would to to the Federal school, there was no point in building a school. He understood that they were now moving the Provincial class to another building, but Noah said "No, they are in the same building". Mr. Robitaille said he did not know about the school teacher. Noah said he wanted to talk about Willie Imudluk's Fishing Camp.

The problem is the Quebec Government has stopped the white people from going to Willie's camp. It helps the Eskimos because they get money from the white people. Mr. Robitaille asked when the Quebec Government did this and how. Noah said in April until July 24th. Mr. Neville said that the fishing season opens on July 24th. Mr. Robitaille said that in all provinces there are fishing regulations. White men can only fish at certain times. Mr. Robitaille asked if the same thing happened at Bob May's Camp, but Noah said he did not know. Noah from George River continued: - The tourists wanted to give the money to the Eskimos but it was cut by the Quebec Government. Noah said the Quebec Government said the fishing would begin in July so Willie was upset, and he told the people that he was sorry because he could not get that money. "The Quebec Government says it wants to help the Eskimo". What's on their minds anyway? Mr. Robitaille said the Fishing season is for people coming to the north for sports. If Willie is losing money he should write to Quebec to ask about it, giving all the details. Noah said - Some people were fishing this spring. They came by the ship and they were fishing for sport, not for food. Could this be controlled? Mr. Robitaille said he would tell the Fish and Game Dept. in Quebec that the George River people do not like this. Then Noah said he would be happy to hear from Mr. Robitaille before the spring arrives. Mr. Neville asked where this fishing took place, and Noah answered in the sea near the shore. Mr. Neville thought of passing such a law would be very difficult.

Inuppuk from POV said he asked about the Abitibi Camp near POV, the white people who come there do anything they want - they go to the Eskimos' fishing places.

They don't follow any rules. Di the Quebec Government tell them they could build a camp there. Mr. Robitaille answered - "Yes, the Quebec Government might have given permission". Inuppuk said - Those places are special places for Eskimos and we do not want white people there. They catch fish and throw them back in the water. Mr. Robitaille said he had noted this. Mr. Neville asked how many people went and how often and Inuppuk answered - "Six (6) different man every week". Mr. Robitaille said the Eskimos would get a letter saying where the white men were to fish, etc. Itua from Koartak them said that he heard that some Eskimos are going south for a meeting. They have no Co-op, yet in Koartak, but they usually have a representative at the Co-op meeting but now he is not going. There may be plans to make the store in Koartak a Co-op, so someone should go to the meeting. Itua said he could not go because he works for DOT, but they want someone to go. Mr. Robitaille asked if Koartak had been invited to send a delegate and Itua said only when he met the other Co-op Directors. Mr. Robitaille explained the Quebec Government is not the Co-op. The Government will pay the transportation. After some discussion, Mr. Neville said the Co-op had to decide if they will accept an observer. Koartak must decide who to send and then either DGNQ or Federal Government will decide who will pay. Peter Murdoch has said that the Directors' expenses will be paid by the Co-op, and the Provincial Government would pay for the Community Counsellors! Accommodations and transport expenses, etc.

#### FRIDAY, February 5th - 9:00 a.m.

Discussion about money for the Co-op meeting continued and it was decided to contact Mr. Murdoch because of the confusion, Lazarusi said he did not know who was lying. Lazarusi said that Mr. Gosselin had said that the Provincial Government was going to finance the Community Council members (Mr. Gosselin said this was only while the delegates were in Fort Chimo before their departure for the south.)

Mr. Bergeron said that Peter Murdoch had said in Povungnituk the Federation would pay all expenses of the Co-op people down south. Mr. Robitaille said the meeting is for the Federation and the Federation is going to pay for the Co-op Directors and the Community Council members invited. It is up to Mr. Murdoch to make arrangements with either the Provincial Government or the Federation for the money and the Eskimos should not worry. Lazarusi said everything Mr. Robitaille had said was very confusing. Mr. Robitaille said the Federation has asked the Directors and some community Counsellors to Levis and if they wish they should go. Lazarusi said he was told the Provincial Gorennment would pay. Mr. Robitaille said if the Federation does not have enough money, Mr. Murdoch can make arrangements with one of the (2) Governments. Mrs. Quarterman said Mr. Bost has just said that Mr. St-Amant would arrive at 11:30 and explain exactly who is paying and how they will go. Lazarusi said if the money problem destroys the Co-op Federation, it is no use to anyone going to the Co-op Conference. Mr. Robitaille said it is a Co-op meeting and DGNQ would have some money for this sort of meeting. Noah Kumak from Sugluk said he had listened to all the discussion and the Co-op was falling apart because there were two different stories. This affects him and Bobby Snowball and Noah said arrangements had been made, but someone who knows about the Federation should travel around and tell the people.

Then all the delegates began talking at once. Lazarusi said Peter Murdoch and Paulossic Napartuk told him about the arrangements and he had told the others what had been said to him. Silas said the subject would be dropped until 11:30. Noah said that there was much more to say. He himself had things that would last until 2 o'clock and he wondered if the plane schedules could be changed. This conference meant nothing if everyone did not say what he had to say. Noah asked if Mr. Robitaille came in expecially for this conference, or if he came to check the DGNQ employees there. Mr. Robitaille said he came because he heard that the Eskimos wanted to ask him questions and also to do things in the Chimo office.

Noah said that Lazarusi and Samwillie were trying to phone Levis then, but Mr. Robitaille said he would like to finsh the subject of Co-op. Willie from Leaf Bay said their people know the buildings there were put up by Quebec. The settlement is getting bigger, and there will be more jobs, and the buildings there are not finished yet. Mr. Robitaille said he had told Tommy Kain the previous day what he could do about this. Tommy Kain then talked about the questions which had not been answered about fishing. The Leaf Bay people wanted to manage the fishing on Finger Lake. Mr. Robitaille said that after the Leaf Bay meeting, the previous Spring, he told the Fish & Game Dept. in the south what the Leaf Bay people had said and he understood the Federation was trying to buy the Fishing Camp from Mr. Wheeler. Tommy Kain said when the Leaf Bay people checked that camp, they were dissatisfied because there was a big box of fish caught and then they were destroyed. Those fish could be eaten by Eskimos so it would be better if Eskimo people controlled the fishing. The Leaf Bay people wanted to know what the people at Wheeler Camp plan to do. There used to be plenty of fish but now there are not many fish left so something must be done about it quickly. Willie explained that when fishing lines break the fish with hocks in them go back to the ocean and never come back. Mr. Robetaille siad that Weeler wants to sell the camp and the Federation wants to buy it so later Eskimos will say what is to be done at this camp. Willie said his people complain that they see many fish with hooks in their mouths and the white people use outboard motors on the lake and these scare the fish away from the lake and reduce the Eskimo winter food supply. Tommy emphasized that he wanted an early answer to his questions because he had never had any answers. Tommy asked that people come to Leaf Bay to discuss this. Mr. Neville said his plane would leave at 12:00 a.m. but Mr. Gosselin could stay for the rest of the discussions if the delegates wished.

Inuppuk then said he was very happy to be at this first conference and was happy to hear of the cooperation of the Government with the Councils.

Itua said he wanted to mention the electrical problem at Koartak. The wiring in Koartak is like on the telephone poles in Chimo but some of the grounds are halfway to the ground when it is windy there are lots of short circuits and this is dangerous. The houses might be burned and people might be hurt.

#### FRIDAY, February 5th, 1971 - 11:30 a.m.

Then transportation of supplies into Koartak was discussed, and it was agreed that supplies should be shipped in earlier. Mr. Robitaille said that if the Eskimos agreed, he would go with Samwillie and Lazarusi to the Radio and send out the Co-op Conference transportation problem. Tommy said that last year, supplies were very short. Some things never arrived at all. Mr. Robitaille said that the first year of the store in Koartak, there were difficulties but the situation had improved.

Silas asked where the man Mrs. Quarterman had mentioned was, and at that moment he came into the room. Mr. St-Amant said that they had now talked to Levis and Lazarusi could now tell the delegates the position.

Lazarusi then said that even if the Province is not willing to pay, the Co-op said "Go ahead and go down". The Federation is willing to invite any onw who wants to go. Peter Murdoch said if they are short of money, they could discuss it down there. All the money problems will be sorted out in the south. Mr. Robitaille said the Provincial Government representatives were glad to attend this meeting and they hoped to see the people again soon.

# FRIDAY, February 5th, 1971 - 2:00 p.m.

Mr. Gosselin said that when the delegates were ready he would like to speak. Lazarusi asked if the Eskimos could first talk some more about this co-op confusion Then Mr. Gosselin was asked to talk about the District Organization. He said that the Conference cost a lot of money and with the money available arrangements have ow been made for the delegates to leave on Sunday morning. There are many things to discuss within the sectlements before the next conference which is expected to be held in April. If the delegates have time it would be good to discuss the location of the next meeting. (NB Accommodation) Mr. Gosselin stressed that he would be available in the office at any time before the delegates leave. Mr. Gosselin suggested that delegates try to decide who they wanted to invite to their next meeting e.g. Mr. Chrétien, people from the Regional office, people from the District office, people from the Indian Association.

Mr. Gosselin suggested that invitations should be sent after these decisions have been made. He then said that if the Eskimos wished to meet alone, he, Mr. Bergeron, Mr. Douhaniuk, and Mrs. Quarterman would be available to the Eskimo delegates at any time if needed. Silas asked Mr. Gosselin how many Eskimo meetings like this will be held every year, and Mr. Gosselin said "At least two, and if the money is available and the Eskimos request more may be held". Silas said it would be necessary to set aside money for these meetings. Mr. Gosselin said \$99,000 was set aside this fiscal year - April 1970 to March 1971, to meet with Indians, and this next year money would be set aside especially for Eskimo meetings. Mr. Gosselin said that at the April meeting, the delegates would be told how much money was available for future meetings.

Mr. Gosselin then said that all the delegates know that the Arctic Quebec Office was part of DIAND. There are four (4) levels - National, Regional, District, and Sub-District. In ottawa there is Mr. Chrétien, the Deputy Director Mr. John MacDonald, and the ADM Mr. Bergevin who is responsible for the Indian-Eskimo Affairs Programme.

Mr. Boulanger is the Regional Director of this Quebec region which is one of the 7 regions in Canada. The Ottawa office decided the policies and objectives and asks the House of Commons for the money to carry out the programmes. The Quebec Region consists of the Province of Quebec and Mr. Boulanger is responsible for all Programmes in Quebec and he has some advisers to help him. The delegates have met Mr. Gill who is one of the advisers, and he advises about Education. There is a financial adviser and an Economic Development Adviser (Mr. Cassie) and there will be a Community Affairs Adviser. There are five Districts, one of which is Arctic Quebec in this Region of Quebec.

Our District is Arctic Quebec. Mr. Neville is at the present Director of this Programme.

There are four section heads and Mr. Douhaniuk is in charge of Welfare, who report to Mr. Gosselin who is the Arctic Quebec District Supervisor. Mr. LeBlanc and Mrs. Quarterman work in the District Office, and are responsible for all services in Education and Miss. Saint-Laurent does Adult Education and Housing, but most of her time at present is spent in the Housing Education Programme. In the Housing Programme we have Mr. Benoit and in the near future there will be an Economic Development Officer soon. At the moment there are contracts through the Federation of Co-ops to help the Eskimo people. There is also an adviser for Construction and Maintenance-Mr. Nadeau and an adviser for Personnel named Mr. Pelot. There are two sub-district Supervisors who are responsible to Mr. Gosselin for all the Programmes in the areas of their sub-districts. Mr. Gosselin said that he would explain all projects planned for the next year when he visits the settlements in April. For the next fiscal year there is a budget of \$ 7,120,000 for all the Programmes to be carried out in Arctic Quebec. There are approximately 150 employees of which 44 are Eskimos permanently employed and in addition there will be 200 Eskimos working for part of the year. As positions become vacant, Eskimos will fill these as far as possible and there will be Training Programs so that Eskimos will gradually replace people from the south in these jobs. Noah from George River asked who they should write to if they have projects they want to start or questions to ask, and Mr. Gosselin said that except for local education questions, everything should be referred to the Sub-District Administrator but if they do not get satisfactory answers, the Presidents of Councils can write direct to the District Office and he will answer their querier.

Joe Kumarluk asked Mr. Gosselin to make it clear which settlements are in each Sub-District and Zebedee pointed these out on the map. Mr. Gosselin stressed that the local Administrators and the Sub-District Administrators would be dealing through the Community Councils and Dept. visitors to the settlements should explain to the Councils the reasons for their visits and discuss local problems when required. The Councils have the right to ask the purpose of visits and when outsiders wish to visit the settlements, the Councils will have the right to refuse. Silas said that when Govt. officials are coming to visit Great Whale, the council is advised in advance of the names of the people and the purpose of their visits.

Mr. Gosselin said that when the District office receives request from non-Dept IAND people to arrange northern visits, these would be arranged with the approval of the Community Councils in the particular area. Inuppuk from POV then said he would be very happy if this happens because sometimes the Administrators and other people do not say what they are doing in POV, and he would like to know this because he

is very concerned with Community Affairs. Mr. Gosselin said that the Eskimo Councils have the right to ask why visitors have come to their settlements.

Johnny Watt said that last year white people came in by the river and were stealing baby falcons and they were stopped by the Police. Several other delegates said similar things in Ivuyivik, Povungnituk, Payne Bay and Great Whale about white people stealing birds. Johnny Watt asked why the men stole these birds and Mr. Gosselin explained that falcons used to be used for hunting in Medieval times, and now only very wealthy people could afford this, because one falcon could cost as much as \$ 5,000.

Joe Kumarluk said some white people were also stealing Eskimo dogs, for sale later, and Mr. Gosselin said that the Eskimos should contact the Administrators or the QPP as soon as possible when these things happen. Lazarusi Eppp said that in Port Harrison, they would like to kill the falcons and ravens because they steal food, which people eat, but they are hard to shoot. Isa Smiler said that the three kinds of falcons are such a nuisance he doesn't mind if white people take them all away free.

Matthew Ningiuruluk said he would talk about eagles in Wakeham Bay. Two white people were there last year for birds and they caught a Croshawk and a falcon. Those two (2) white men found two (2) eagles and their babies on the cliffs. After supper on Friday and all day Saturday, the Eskimo delegates met and continued their discussions.

#### SATURDAY, February 6th, 1971 - 10:00 P.M.

After the Eskimo delegates had met alone all day, the Dept. of Indian Affairs staff were asked to go to the School for the closing session of the Conference. Mr. Silas Cooke, the Chairman announced that the date and location of the next Eskimo Conference had been decided upon. The Conference would be held in Port Harrison - the delegates would be picked up beginning on March 29th, and the Conference would begin on April 1st and continue till April 6th (omitting Sun. April 4th). The Minister, Mr. Chrétien would be invited to attend this conference, by the Eskimos themselves. Mr. Gosselin asked that, should changes in these dates have to be made for any special reason with whom the Dept. should communicate, and the reply given was "Lazarusi Epoo, Port Harrison".

Then the items of Agenda (For the Port Harrison Conference) drawn up by the Eskimo delegates were listed:-

- 1) Education-including the curriculum and enriching the present system. Mr. Gosselin suggested that in connection with this matter, it might be advisable to invite Mr. G. Cromb or Mr. Simpson from Ottawa, in addition to Mr. A Gill from the Regional Office and Mr. L. LeBlanc from the District Office, if the Eskimos would welcome them. Mr. Gosselin explained that if such important matters in Education were to be discussed, it might be necessary to have the top level Education people in DIAND present to give adequate answers.
- 2) Recreation and Sports in the settlements. This would include discussion on the lack of facilities and the lack of variety in Community Recreation Activities.
- 3) Abandoned and Displaced persons, including children and teenagers in need.
- 4) Police Services At present, the Quebec Provincial Police are only in Fort Chimo and Great Whale River and the other settlements have no adequate Police Services. The delegates wish to discuss having their own Police Services or obtaining other services.
- 5) The care of Transient Patients, on their way to hospital or returning from hospital (in Fort Chimo or Great Whale). The delegates wish to discuss the possibility of establishing Transient Centres in Montreal, Fort Chimo, and Great Whale River.
- 6) The accommodations and facilities for students proceeding south or returning from southern schools. The delegates wish to discuss Student Transient Quarters at Chimo and Creat Whale River beign established.
- 7) The delegates wish to discuss the lack of food for students and patients passing through Great Whale River and Fort Chimo, but especially Great Whale River.
- 8) The Indians of Quebec Association. The delegates will decide on membership in this

- Association at the Conference in Quebec on March 16th, 17th and 18th and their decision will be announced at the Port Harrison Conference. They may either decide to join this Association or decide to form an Association of their own.
- 9) The lack of interpretation in hospitals in the south: The Dept. of Indian Affairs will probably be asked to absorb the cost of Eskimo interpretors in southern hospitals and also the costs of services rendered to patients.

In the Port Harrison Conference, the Dept. will be asked to pay all the Transportation costs plus a daily allowance to each Eskimo delegate to cover his room and board and loss of salary. Eskimo delegates will stay in Port Harrison with families and pay for their food and lodging individually.

Mr. Gosselin then thanked the delegates and commented on the untiring efforts of all the delegates at this Fort Chimo Conference. He mentioned the careful taking of notes, the recording, discussions, and the active questioning on the part of all the delegates in order that they could take accurate accounts back to the people of their settlements. After many of the delegates had spoken, one delegate expressed the views of all, saying that they agreed that Eskimo Community representatives should meet more often in the same way as they had in Fort Chimo. He also expressed how pleased the Eskimo leaders were to hear that Mr. Gosselin would be visiting every settlement and talking to each Community Council.

The Conference ended with every delegate and Dept. Indian Affairs Representative weary but feeling that the long hours spent had been worthwhile.

On Sunday morning, two (2) planes took off from Fort Chimo and at noon one more left to take the Eskimo delegates back to their homes in the eleven settlements of Arctic Quebec.