DEPARTMENT OF

NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

Memorandum: D. Boop wind Mr. Monkman Mr. Wudich JPW. tonote blease

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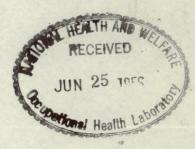
DEPUTY MINISTER

OF

NORTHERN AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL RESOURCES

Ottawa, 19 June, 1956.

G. D. W. Cameron, Esq., M.D., D.P.H., Deputy Minister of National Health, Department of National Health & Welfare, Jackson Building, Ottawa, Ontario.



Dear Dr. Cameron:

I have your letter of the 6th of June, 1956, in connection with the arsenic problem at Yellowknife.

The precautions taken and warnings given in previous years at spring run-off time consist of notices in the local newspaper to the effect that during the spring run-off snow water may contain quantities of arsenic and persons are warned not to use snow water for any purpose and to prevent children and animals from drinking it. This notice was inserted by the local Medical Health Officer, Dr. O. L. Stanton, in the issue of the 'News of the North' of May 4th, 1956.

With regard to the concentration of arsenic in Veronica, Jackfish, Frame, Long and Kam Lakes to the point where these waters are unsafe for drinking, I am having our Mining Inspector at Yellow-knife prepare notices which will be posted in conspicuous places around these lakes to the effect that the water in the lake is not safe for drinking.

Yours sincerely,

R. G. Robertson, Deputy Minister.

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