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The inquest continues.

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arsenic levels in their bodies.

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It found 577 of the 700 people tested have levels less than five ppm, 60 had levels between five and 10 ppm, and 63, more than two-thirds of whom worked in the mine or mill, had levels higher than 10 ppm.

In a statement yesterday, the Indian group referred to five ppm as "the arbitrary level chosen by Ottawa as indicating arsenic exposure" and six of 18 people it tested, including four of six children under 13, were over this level.

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MEMORANDUM

NOTE DE SERVICE

PA 850-5-X751

TO
À

Mme Angèle C. Leduc
Chef de cabinet du
Sous-ministre (Santé)

FROM
DE

Chef de cabinet du
Sous-ministre adjoint
Services médicaux

SUBJECT
OBJET

Question possible en Chambre / 1'arsenic à Yellowknife.

La découpe de journal ci-jointe révèle l'existence d'une étude de la NIB suite à la publication des résultats de notre enquête sur 1'arsenic à Yellowknife.

1. Des officiers des Services médicaux viennent tout juste d'apprendre l'existence d'une telle étude faite ou commandée par la NIB. Dès que nous serons en possession de celle-ci (nous avons présentement un résumé d'une page) et que nous connaîtrons le protocole de recherche utilisé dans ce cas, nous serons en position de commenter.
2. Au dernier paragraphe de l'article, on parle de "The arbitrary level chosen by Ottawa". Notre communiqué de presse fait clairement ressortir que d'après la littérature scientifique existante il n'existe pas présentement de niveau reconnu. Nous avons précisé que les avis des scientifiques diffèrent sur ce qui constitue un taux élevé d'arsenic dans les cheveux.

"Des taux s'élevant jusqu'à 10 ppm ont été constatés chez des populations non reconnues comme exposées à l'arsenic et ces taux sont jugés admissibles par certaines autorités. D'autres cependant considèrent 5 ppm comme le taux admissible parmi les populations non exposées."

Ceci réfute donc "the arbitrary level" mentionné dans l'article.

En conclusion, il nous est impossible de commenter cette étude en ce moment-ci car nous n'en connaissons pas les détails. Toutefois, nous serons heureux de joindre les résultats de cette nouvelle recherche à la somme d'informations que nous possédons déjà à ce sujet, ce qui, sans aucun doute, constituera à la phase 2 de notre étude, annoncée dans le communiqué de presse de la semaine dernière (examen clinique des cas "critiques").

MA

Michel Fillion.

P.j.

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YOUR FILE - V/REFERENCE
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