

850-5-X751



Government
Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

MEMORANDUM

NOTE DE SERVICE

TO
À File

FROM
DE M 14

SUBJECT
OBJET Arsenic Program
in Yellowknife

SECURITY - CLASSIFICATION - DE SÉCURITÉ

OUR FILE - N/RÉFÉRENCE

YOUR FILE - V/RÉFÉRENCE

DATE

April 7, 1975

Information relayed from Information Directorate that consideration was being given to a press release on the arsenic testing results in Yellowknife in the near future. A phone call was made to Dr. Covill on this matter. He advised that he and Mr. Carlsson, the Information Officer had simply been having a planning meeting for a press release when the results were available. I advised Dr. Covill of my concern in this matter that no release was made until Headquarters had been involved and all concerned were in agreement with the information in the press release. The type of information required was outlined in a memo sent to Dr. Covill previously. Dr. Covill stated he was in agreement with this. He expected he would have some difficulty with the delay in providing the test results. I advised him that he was not to make any results available until all results were in and that if he encountered any pressure he should let me know.

L.M. Black

MEMORANDUM

NOTE DE SERVICE

TO
ÀDirector General
Program Management

ATTENTION: Dr. PATTERSON

FROM
DERegional Director
Northwest Territories RegionSUBJECT
OBJET

ACTION		PA date	BF date
M 19			
INFORMATION			
M 14	M	M	
M 17	M	M	
M (EC)	M	M	

SECURITY - CLASSIFICATION - DE SÉCURITÉ

OUR FILE - N/RÉFÉRENCE

151-1-5 (N3)

YOUR FILE - V/RÉFÉRENCE

DATE

April 4, 1975

As promised, I am enclosing a copy of the proposed letter to be sent to hair sample contributors.

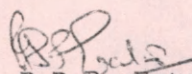
However, I am instructed by Dr. Black to hold release of any figures until we have the go ahead from your end.

Our desire to move faster than this was prompted by the Ministerial promise made earlier in the year and our understanding that the promise to keep people fully and promptly informed was to be met.

Since I have already been approached by two or three newspapers and have led them to understand that results would be forthcoming in the immediate future, any proposal now to withhold information may lead to quite intensive pressure being applied, and any suspicion on their part that information is being held up could lead to further striking headlines.

For these reasons, I think that if we experience such pressure, rather than do a local stalling job, we will say we are awaiting the complete results of the survey - to avoid going off half-cocked - and refer the enquiries for interim information to Dr. Patterson's office.

I don't like to pass the buck in this manner, but in the light of the Minister's commitment, and our commitment made on the basis of it, it seems the only route to take. I hope it won't happen.



R.D.P. Eaton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
for Regional Director

Att.

/sa