

*→ Mr. Black  
To note please  
P.A.*



*PA*

MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE  
AND  
MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN

MINISTRE DE LA  
SANTÉ NATIONALE ET DU BIEN-ÊTRE SOCIAL  
ET  
MINISTRE CHARGÉ DE LA SITUATION DE LA FEMME

OTTAWA, K1A 0K9

850-5-X751 (Dr. L.M. Black)

MAR 22 1976

Mr. Bob Kaplan, M.P.,  
Parliamentary Secretary to the  
Minister of National Health  
and Welfare,  
House of Commons,  
OTTAWA, Ontario.  
K1A 0A6

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter of February 19, 1976 regarding correspondence from a Mr. F. Ford of Montreal relating to the health survey report on arsenic poisoning in Yellowknife.

Enclosed please find three copies of news releases relating to this matter dated January 9, 1975, May 27, 1975 and October 3, 1975.

There has been no cover-up whatsoever relating to this study. You will note from the first news release that, as a result of the survey, a number of steps were taken by the Federal and Territorial Governments and indeed copies of the report were made available at that time to the Territorial Government and to the town of Yellowknife.

These three news releases demonstrate conclusively that there has been indeed no cover-up and that information relating to this problem has been fully disclosed and widely disseminated.

Yours sincerely,

Original Signed By  
MARC LALONDE

Marc Lalonde

Encls.

To replace letter typed  
on March 8/76  
M100  
2-1805

849



010229

MEDICAL SERVICES  
HEADQUARTERS

MAR 22 1 30 PM '70

QUARTIERS GENERALES  
SERVICES MEDICAUX

NAVY TYPING UNIT  
CAMP DAVID

NAVY S S 1018





*P.A.  
registry recorded*

MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE  
AND  
MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN

MINISTRE DE LA  
SANTÉ NATIONALE ET DU BIEN-ÊTRE SOCIAL  
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OTTAWA, K1A 0K9  
850-5-X751 (L.M. Black)

Mr. Bob Kaplan, M.P.,  
Parliamentary Secretary to the  
Minister of National Health  
and Welfare,  
House of Commons,  
OTTAWA, Ontario.  
K1A 0A6

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These three news releases demonstrate conclusively that there has been indeed no cover-up and that information relating to this problem has been fully disclosed and widely disseminated.

Yours truly,

Marc Lalonde

Encls.

Typed March 8, 1976  
M100  
2-1805



MEDICAL SERVICES BRANCH  
RECORDING & TRANSMITTAL FORM  
MINISTER'S CORRESPONDENCE

SUBJECT: Arsenic poisoning - report of Mr. F. Ford					FILE NO: 850-5-X751 (#13459)		
FROM: Mr. Bob Kaplan, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, House of Commons, OTTAWA, Ontario. K1A 0A6					DATE: Feb. 19 '76		
TO: Minister					INITIATED IN BRANCH		
RECEIVED IN ADM'S OFFICE: <u>March 3 '76</u> (Date)					PASSED: <u>March 3 '76</u> (Date)		
ACTION: Please prepare a reply for Minister's signature by March 12 1976							
TO	DATE	REPLY			B.F.	DATE SENT TO MINISTER	SIGNED
		INTERIM	FINAL	DATE			
Dr. <del>Licks</del> <i>Black</i>	March 3 '76		X	<i>March 8</i>		<i>March 9</i>	

REMARKS:

PAGE: 849

18.33



All

850-5-X751

OTTAWA, K1A 0K9

MAR 2 1976

Mr. Bob Kaplan, M.P.,  
Parliamentary Secretary to the  
Minister of National Health  
and Welfare,  
House of Commons,  
OTTAWA, Ontario.  
K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Kaplan:

On behalf of the Minister, the Honourable Marc Lalonde, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 19, 1976, concerning Mr. F. Ford of Montreal, Quebec.

I shall be pleased to bring this to the Minister's attention and he will be replying to you shortly.

Yours truly,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
ANN C. JAMIESON

Ann C. Jamieson  
Executive Assistant

RECEIVED MEDICVOX

MAR 3 1976

RECEIVED

602810





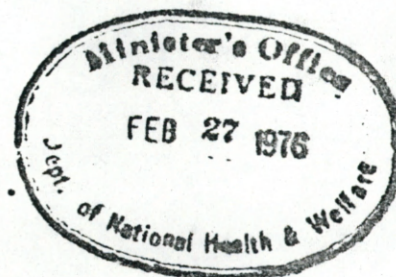
CANADA

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE  
MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH  
AND WELFARE

50-8-5

SECRÉTAIRE PARLEMENTAIRE DU  
MINISTRE DE LA SANTÉ NATIONALE  
ET DU BIEN-ÊTRE SOCIAL

Ottawa, Ontario.  
February 19, 1976.



The Hon. Marc Lalonde, P.C., M.P.,  
Minister of Health and Welfare,  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Minister:

I have received a letter from Mr. F. Ford  
of Montreal, suggesting that a health survey report done  
in 1969 concerning arsenic poisoning in Yellowknife, N.W.T.  
was "covered up" by our government.

I would appreciate clarification of the report  
so that I might correct Mr. Ford's accusation.

Yours very truly,

Bob Kaplan, M.P.  
York Centre

*encl: Ford's letter*



T. FORD,  
167 EST STE CATHERINE,  
MONTREAL. QUEBEC.

14th January, 1976.

Mr Bob Kaplan,  
Parliamentary Secretary,  
to the Minister of National  
Health and Welfare,  
House of Commons,  
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir,

Under normal circumstances, I thank people who take the time to write to me. However, in this case, the note you sent me dated December 15th, 1975 and the pamphlets enclosed lead me to wonder whether or not you are trying to insult me.

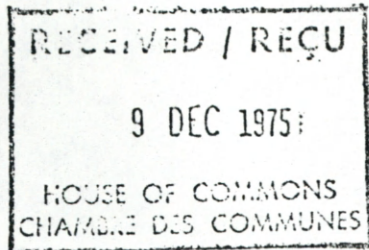
In my letter to you dated December 3rd, 1975, I quoted statements you had made in the 'House' (Hansard October 21st, 1975). I wrote to you about the five year cover up of an Arsenic report (Yellowknife N.H.T.) and the three year cover-up of a Mercury Report (H.M. Quebec).

The materials you sent me do not mention either of these, in fact they do not mention mercury or arsenic at all. Furthermore, the material you sent came from D.O.E. not H.H.&M., which could lead to some interesting speculations.

Yours truly,

T. Ford.

c.c. Flora MacDonald  
Stanley Knowles



167 Est. Ste. Catherine

Montreal, P.Q.

3 Dec 75

Dear Sir,

On 21 Oct. 1975, in answer to a question by the Hon. Stanley Harkin (Purdale), you made the statement and I quote from "Hansard" of that date, "I know the hon. member will agree with me that in general Canada does not ignore problems of pollution. In fact, in establishing legal frameworks and technological advances, Canada is a world leader."

What kind of a world leader would cover up the arsenic poisoning report in Yellowknife, N.W.T. for 5 years? What kind of world leader would allow the down-playing of mercury poisoning in Northern Ont and Northern Quebec?

I feel that if you feel the federal government is a world leader you had better take a good hard look at your past performance. You may find it easier to say the next.

Sincerely,  
J. J. F. J.