



CANADA

NORTHERN ADMINISTRATION
AND LANDS BRANCH

DEPARTMENT
OF
RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Ottawa, 19 June, 1951.

W.G. Jewitt, Esq.,
Manager of Mines,
Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co.
of Canada, Limited,
Trail, B.C.

Dear Mr. Jewitt:

I am sending you herewith a copy of the minutes of a meeting held at Ottawa on June 1, 1951, to discuss the arsenic problem at Yellowknife in view of the recent death of an Indian child, as the result of arsenic poisoning.

You will note that considerable concern was expressed at the situation now existing owing to large concentrations of arsenic in certain areas, and that it was decided that the precautions which were put into effect in January, 1950, for the protection of the public should be intensified. In this connection, I am also enclosing a copy of a letter forwarded to Dr. O.L. Stanton, Medical Officer of Health, Yellowknife, which is self-explanatory. It is hoped that your Company will co-operate with Dr. Stanton in every way possible in carrying out the precautionary measures set out in the letter.

While a fence has been placed around your Company's arsenic disposal area, this office would not appear to have been furnished with the results of any samples which may have been taken around the periphery of the contaminated area. It is most important that these samples be taken, and every effort made to check seepage from the new and old disposal areas. I would appreciate advice from you as to the present situation as indicated by tests made by your Company.

Yours sincerely,

G.E.B. Sinclair,
Director.