

DRS. STANTON AND BICKFORD
YELLOWKNIFE
N.W.T.

July 18, 1951.

Dr. K. Charron,
Dep't. National Health & Welfare,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Doctor Charron:-

*Dr. Kay -
To Bureau
please
1261*

I had a talk with Doctor Kay a few days ago and he felt that you would be interested in the enclosed laboratory reports. These are copies of arsenic analyses done by Mr. J.J. Kelso, or his assistant, at the Provincial Laboratory in Edmonton.

I have sent out urine specimens from time to time from a group of hospital patients, usually when I had a patient whose symptoms, such as diarrhoea, might be ascribed to arsenic. At the same time I included specimens from patients with other conditions.

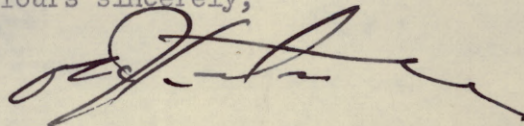
You can see that all these urine specimens are consistently very low in arsenic content. There is very little difference between patients from outside the district who have had no contact with arsenic and those from Yellowknife, even those with arsenic dermatitis or with symptoms which might be ascribed to arsenic. The only exception is the first report of February 8th, 1950, which is fairly high and I am inclined to think must be due to laboratory error.

— The findings for hair can only mean surface contamination.

From these results I do not feel that the local population can possibly be absorbing arsenic in any dangerous amounts. I have seen no cases of chronic arsenical poisoning.

Kindest personal regards,

Yours sincerely,



O.L. Stanton M.D.

OLS/mb



DRS. STANTON AND BICKFORD
YELLOWKNIFE, N. W. T.

February 8, 1950.

Urine

Parts per million

Beveridge	.12	Giant- Diarrhoea 1 mo.
Manchur	.32	Con. commissary-2 yrs.
LaPlante	.08	Con. 4yrs. Severe arsenical dermat

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May 19, 1950.

Urine

Arsenic Mgms per litre

Forward	0.01	Yk. 1 yr. Undiagnosed wasting illness. Later complete recovery.
LaPlante	0.016	Con. 3-4 yrs. Severe As. dermatitis
Penston	0.02	Yk. 2-3 yrs. Frostbite.

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October 24th. 1950.

Urine

Vincent McCaffrey	0.020 B.B.D.D. Co. Bush camp
Cpl. Ropchan	0.017 Hay River. No As. contact
Douglas Bull	0.026 Giant-roaster & Mill-6 mos Diarrhoea & vomiting.

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December 2, 1950.

Urine

Arsenic parts per million

Stimach

.004

Underground-Giant-several years.

Severe dermatitis-legs(not arsenical)

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December 2/50

Urine

Mosling	.004	Giant UG. Several yrs.
Louttit	.005	Snowdrift-no contact
Larocque	.00035	Old town & Giant 10 yrs.
Kirk	.004	Con. 3 months.

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December 16/50

Hair

Parts per million

Mansell 2.5. Cook-Negus -YK 2-3 years.

Dale 13.9 Driller-bush camps.

Sczyzyc 13.9 Con. U.G. YK 2-3 years.

Robinson 14.6 Giant mill carpenter.

Stanton 2.0 Yellowknife 10 years.

Dr. Stanton 8.1 Yellowknife 13 years.

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December 19/50

Urine-

Eye. .017 mgs. per litre. Con carpenter.
Arsenical dermatitis face

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January 23, 1951. Urine

Mgms per litre

Holman	.005	Negus 2 yrs.
Hewitt	.007	YK. 5 yrs. Trucker. Pneumonia
Piche	.002	Giant mill since inception. Low back strain
Mulholland	.004	Negus 12 yrs. Cookee. Ca. of stomach.

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March 6, 1951. Urine
 Parts per million

Clarke	.0015	Burns, Kamcon. YK-1yr?
Sachik	.0007	Low back pain YK 3-4 yrs.
Pocruick	.0023	Suspect appendix. Con. 1 yr?
Gavin	.0023	Dermatitis legs. Giant. 2 yrs.
Margash	.0015	Dermatitis hands. Discovery(60 miles)
Priske	.0007	Subocromial bursitis YK 3-4 yrs.

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April 16, 1951.

Urine

John Wyss

Arsenic - Nil

3 1/2 years.
Gastroenteritis-2 wks- occasional vomiting(once
contained blood)

Stool positive Benzidrene 4 + + + +

Had been eating snow and sucking icicles.

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May 12/51.

Hair-:

Parts per million-

Frank Abel

19.4

Christine Abel

34.8

Both in hospital with acute gastroenteritis
due to arsenic poisoning.

*named Indian shield
who died.*

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May 25/51.

Hair-

Bearlake, Mary-

Parts per million-
21.4

Mandeville-

37.4

Both in hospital with gastroenteritis.

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July 4, 1951.

Urine-:

R. Gale-	Con. 4 1/2 mos.	Intervertebral disc.
W. McDermott-	Giant 2 mos.	Low back strain.
Hopper-	Hay River.	Fracture ankle.
Gee-	Con. 10 yrs.	Dermatitis.
McLeod-	Ft. Providence.	Virus pneumonia.

These specimens all showed traces of arsenic (less than .005 mgs. per litre.