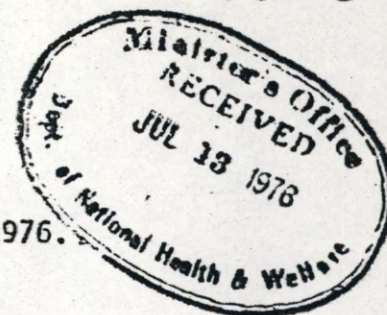


GIANT YELLOWKNIFE MINES LIMITED  
YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.  
XOE 1HO  
CANADA

50-8-2



July 7, 1976.

Dr. R. D. P. Eaton,  
Program Medical Officer,  
N.W.T. Region,  
Medical Services Branch,  
Dept. of Health and Welfare,  
EDMONTON, Alberta.

Dear Dr. Eaton:

Last July, two consultants, Reg Ross and R. Rispler, from the Dept. of Health and Welfare, Ottawa, paid a visit to the Mill at Giant to do a dust survey. They were treated with courtesy and given every assistance needed to complete their work.

Last week we learned that they were returning to Giant to conduct a similar survey. We thought it strange that we hadn't heard about the results of their first survey yet, when a copy of their 1975 report was pushed under the door of the Mill Superintendent's office on June 30th.

This week Messrs. Ross and Rispler arrived at Giant. We learned that their report on their 1975 visit had been completed in July of last year, and that a copy had been marked for the attention of Giant. We also learned that Local 803, U.S.W.A. (the Giant Local) had received a copy of the report last year, but evidently it was not considered important enough for Health & Welfare to send one to Giant.

Had the report been unfavourable, I'm sure that Giant would have been the first to be notified.

This attitude of "using" industry as a testing ground, as a whipping post, seems typical of government officials and Ministers generally. It would appear that the object of the game is to show industry in an unfavourable light in every instance, at every opportunity, forgetting that without a healthy industry, there would be fewer jobs, fewer tax dollars to blow on non-productive programs, and indeed, to pay for our government bureaucracy.

... 2

9-1-403

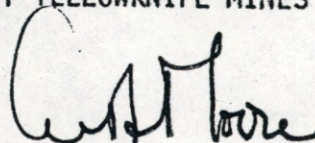
555 1212.



This company expects to, and is, indeed, eager to conform with increasingly higher standards of health in the working conditions in its plant. But we expect to be treated as partners in this endeavour and not be ignored. It hurts us to be treated in this fashion. We see Labour, which hasn't contributed a cent towards research in industrial health in the area being toadied up to by government, socialists, professors, and the government news media, while the efforts of companies, that have poured an increasingly greater amount of their technology and dollars into improvements in working conditions are largely ignored. It is a sad commentary on the state of government-industry relations in Canada.

Yours very truly,

GIANT YELLOWKNIFE MINES LIMITED.



W. A. Moore,  
Mine Manager.

WAM\*mb

c.c. Marc Lalonde, Minister Health & Welfare ✓  
Joe Clarke, Prog. Conserv. H.Q.  
John H. Parker  
D.J.E.

Giant yellowknife 873-2512.  
No.



Dr. R. D. P. Eaton  
Northern Medical Research Unit  
Charles Cammell Hospital  
12815 - 115 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta

July 20, 1976

Mr. W. A. Moore  
Mine Manager  
Giant Yellowknife Mines Limited  
Yellowknife, N. W. T.  
XUE 180

Dear Mr. Moore,

I was most distressed to receive your letter of July 7th, which for reason of a slightly deficient address did not reach me until today (July 20th).

Though I am no longer acting in the position of Program Medical Officer, having returned to my former position in the Northern Medical Research Unit, I am replying personally since I enjoyed such cordial relations with your predecessor during the time of our association.

I am frankly unable to understand why a copy of the previous report was not received by you.

I personally carried, as I remember, six copies of this report to Yellowknife the day after we received them in Edmonton. Distribution included the Mine Managers at Con and Giant, the Union local, and the D. I. N. A. mines inspector, Mr. Hal Brown.

Because of a requirement for my attendance at a deadline for a meeting all copies were handed by me either to Mr. Brown or Mr. Patrick - and at this time I cannot remember which - in the D. I. N. A. office in the Ballance building who agreed to circulate them on my behalf.

I was at some pains to obtain assurance that this would be done without delay, not because I thought Giant mine would not get a copy but at the time there was a confusion as to which Union was properly representing the mine employees and we were concerned that the Union representative would be missed.

The names of the intended recipients were noted by Mr. Brown (or Mr. Patrick) and I watched him write them down.

Your letter of today is the first intimation that the report was not delivered as expected.



This quite obviously does not exonerate me as I patently failed to carry out completely a task I had undertaken. However I hope that you will realise that Medical Services as a whole cannot be faulted since all concerned, and especially Messrs. Ross and Riepler, had made every effort to ensure that the reports would be delivered promptly.

Your last but one paragraph is perhaps unfortunate in that it voices a criticism of Medical Services which could hardly be less true. Our department is and will always be concerned to work with industry to achieve total cooperation in health matters.

However I can fully appreciate your obvious annoyance and I can only apologise for having been instrumental in causing it.

Yours sincerely,

H.D.F. Eaton, M.B., Ch.B., D.F.R.,  
Ph.D.  
Northern Medical Research Unit