

ADDRESS REPLIES:  
NORTHWESTERN HEALTH SERVICE,  
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE



500 Chancery Hall, Edmonton, Alta

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES  
CANADA

29. YOUR FILE NO.....

850-5-X751  
OUR FILE NO. 151-1-5-N (N1)

November 16 1970

Mrs. A. J. Richardson,  
Secretary,  
Consumers' Association of Canada,  
Yellowknife Branch,  
P O Box 2000  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

			REMARKS	DISPOSAL AND DATE
<del>10</del>	10	10	Noted	23-11-70

Dear Mrs. Richardson:

I regret the delay in replying to your letter of October 16, 1970.

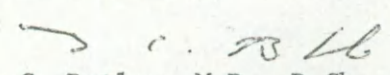
We arranged for a lot of vegetables from the Yellowknife area to be tested this summer and we were very pleased to find that the arsenic content was much below the levels found in 1965. Most of the vegetables were below the level recommended by the Food & Drug Directorate and the remaining few samples were only slightly above the limit. In testing the vegetables unwashed samples were used and it is probable that washed samples would have an even lower content.

You are probably also aware that since installation of the new intake the water supply to Yellowknife is now excellent and this in turn means that the amount of arsenic in circulation has been reduced considerably.

We will continue to monitor the situation and we will be collecting more samples of vegetables next year, but meanwhile I am satisfied that the situation as regards arsenic in water and vegetables is now under good control and that there is no danger to the health of the public.

Thanking you for your interest in this matter,

Yours sincerely,

  
G. C. Butler, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.  
Chief Medical & Health Officer

cc - Director General, M.S.  
- Commissioner, N.W.T.

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MEDICAL SERVICES  
SUB-REGISTRY

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