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MUNICIPALITY OF RANKIN INLET

Box 310, Rankin Inlet, Nunavut
X0C 0G0

March 3, 2022

Lorne Kusugak
MLA, Rankin Inlet South

Dear Lorne,

Thank you for taking the time today to meet with Hamlet Council and MLA Alex Sammurtok to discuss the urgent concerns council has with the utilidor and water supply system in Rankin Inlet.

The condition of the utilidor system has reached a critical point where it is now exceeding capacity limits and is causing the council to delay and even stop development of the community.

Council has had a moratorium on new development in old town for the past 3 years as a result of the Johnson Cove lift station being at maximum capacity. This has stopped a number of new housing and commercial developments in that part of town. While the Johnson Cove lift station is scheduled for upgrade this summer, this will only address part of the current problems.

Just this morning, a developer of a 16-apartment complex nearing completion, contacted the hamlet to advise that CGS may not allow him to connect to the sewer utilidor because the system is at max capacity. Here will be 16 apartments, ready for occupancy, that will possibly end up sitting empty for some time in a community where housing supply is extremely short.

The water supply side of the system is so taxed that it cannot supply adequate flow to allow both potable water and fire suppression at the pressure needed to safely accommodate some of the high-density buildings being developed. Not including the above development, NHC is nearing completion on two 5 plexes and have 3 other 5 plexes that will be completed this fall. Additionally, another development involving commercial space with 16 apartments will be completed late this fall. Combined that is 57 units that will need connection to a system already at capacity. This doesn't even factor in the requirements of the long-term care facility or the new air terminal beginning construction this summer nor does it factor in any other new development.

We are currently ready to go to tender for a new subdivision to add 26 new lots for development and because of the system's lack of capacity, we are already being advised that we will need to restrict zoning for that subdivision to accommodate buildings no larger than a 5 plex. This will not permit the development of higher density housing projects that are able to more effectively address the critical shortage of housing in the community.

So far, I have addressed supply. There also remains other items, such as two of the towns five utilidor loops being identified in a 2019 report commissioned by CGS, as being in critical condition and requiring replacement before catastrophic failure.

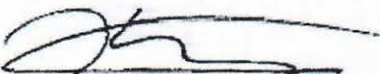
The system is and has always been owned and operated by the GN. Without going on listing many more issues that are well known, it is obvious that investment in the system has been lacking and now needs immediate and significant investment by the GN in order to maintain service and to allow for the growth that Rankin Inlet is experiencing.

The Hamlet Council has listed the water system on our ICSP as the community's number 1 priority for the past couple of years because we recognize the importance of supplying clean water and having safe sewer systems. No other project ranks higher.

With your assistance, we need to advance this as a critical capital priority for our government.

Together we need to address this now.

Sincerely,



Harry Towntongie
Mayor.

CC: Alexander Sammurtok, MLA Rankin Inlet North/Chesterfield Inlet