00° LCLCDENS Legislative Assembly of Nunavut



Nunavut Maligaliurvia Assemblée législative du Nunavut

October 3, 2018

Tabled Document

171-5(2) June 3/19

Hon. Carolyn Bennett, P.C., M.P. Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations House of Commons Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Bennett:

I am writing to you as the Member of the Legislative Assembly of Nunavut representing the constituency of Amittug, which includes the community of Hall Beach and a portion of the community of Igloolik.

For many years, representatives from the community of Hall Beach have made significant efforts to seek recognition and compensation for the devastating impacts that resulted from the events of 1968, when the federal government of the day caused the Hall Beach graveyard to be re-located. As you are likely aware, this incident was authoritatively and recently documented by the Qikiqtani Truth Commission as part of its work to move towards reconciliation.

Previous federal governments refused to acknowledge and recognize any federal involvement in, or responsibility for, this tragic situation.

Recognizing that our current federal government has committed itself to respecting the rights and experiences of indigenous peoples, and having shown that it is willing to redress past abuse. I am therefore requesting that you re-open this file and give further consideration to providing compensation to the last remaining survivor of this traumatic episode for what they went through.

I am attaching copies of a number of items of correspondence related to this issue for your reference.

I look forward to your reply.

Joelie Kaernerk, MLA

Amittuq

Member of the Legislative Assembly for Aggu C.C.

Member of Parliament for Nunavut

Senator for Nunavut

Mayor and Council of Hall Beach

President, Qikiqtani Inuit Association Junavutmi Maligallokviop Makplgaakakvia

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Ministre des Relations Couronne-Autochtones



Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

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The Honourable Joelie Kaernerk, M.L.A. Legislative Assembly of Nunavut PO Box 1200 Igaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Jkaernerk@assembly.nu.ca

Dear Mr. Kaernerk:

Thank you for your letter of October 3, 2018, regarding the Government of Canada's position concerning the matter of compensation for the community of Hall Beach. I regret the delay in responding.

We recognize that this event has been documented in the Qikiqtani Truth Commission's community profiles. As a member of the Qikiqtani Truth Commission's Saimaqatiingniq Working Group, we will be working together with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and other stakeholders to continue finding ways to support and implement the Qikiqtani Truth Commission's recommendations while advancing reconciliation.

Moving forward, Government of Canada officials will be in contact to further discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

Hon. Carolyn Bennett, M.D., P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Dennis Patterson, Senator The Honourable Hunter Tootoo, P.C., M.P.

The Honourable Paul Quassa, M.L.A. His Worship Mayor Peter Siakuluk

Mr. P.J. Akeeagok