

Kimberley Cliffe-Phillips

From: joeacorn@theedge.ca
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2004 1:13 PM
To: Fraser Fairman
Cc: Albert Lafferty; Kimberley Cliffe-Phillips
Subject: Fort Providence IR to INAC

Hi Fraser,

I've had a look at the letter you sent to Albert Lafferty.

The Rules of Procedure do not prevent or take away the right of parties to ask questions of other parties. The EA process allows the Fort Providence Metis to ask questions directly of INAC and allows INAC to respond. In fact, the parties dealing with each other directly is encouraged as a way to resolve issues and get information more quickly. The only reason to send IRs through the Review Board is if the recipient refuses to answer the questions. The Review Board will require answers to IRs issued by it but it will not require answers to IRs such as these that bypassed the Review Board.

The Fort Providence Metis placed their IR to INAC on the Public Registry and asked that INAC place your response on the Public Registry. In that way all parties, including the Review Board, will have the benefit of the question and answer during the EA process.

So, your letter is not clear on this but I would like to have INAC answer these questions.

- 1) Is INAC refusing to answer this question from the Fort Providence Metis; and
- 2) If yes, why?

Please note that this same issue also applies to the IR sent to INAC from the Ka'a'Gee Tu First Nation. I am assuming that your position will be the same for both communities.

Thanks,

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