

Ottawa 2, December 11, 1964.

139/28-3 (Ad.1)
JDD/FL

Mr. A. H. Markuson,
Superintendent,
Yellowknife Indian Agency,
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Dear Mr. Markuson:

Mr. B. G. Sivertz, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, met with Chief Joe Sangris and two Councillors at Yellowknife recently when the Chief asked Mr. Sivertz to attempt to get \$25.00 a year salary for him.

It is not clear to me just what the Chief meant since, according to our records, he was paid the chief's annuity of \$25.00 in July in accordance with the terms of the Treaty. His cheque also included \$5.00 for his wife and \$5.00 for each of his five children. Similarly the Councillors of the Band were paid \$15.00 each as provided for by the Treaty and a further \$5.00 for each family member. On the other hand the Chief may be referring to payment which would be in addition to the annuity he is entitled to under Treaty. As you know it has not been the practice of the Department to make such payments, the view being that band councils are similar in form and function to non-Indian councils in small rural communities where councillors do not usually receive salaries.

I would like you to explain to Chief Sangris what our policy is regarding payment to chiefs and councillors and refer to Mr. Sivertz having brought this matter up with me.

I would also appreciate receiving a report on the outcome of your talk with the Chief.

Yours sincerely,

Original Signed by
R. F. BATTLE

R. F. Battle,
Assistant Deputy Minister
(Indian Affairs).

c.c. Regional Supervisor, District of Mackenzie.

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 6880, file 191/28-3 pt.2C)

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