

News release

Statement of Claim filed against Government of Nunavut

IQALUIT, Nunavut (January 26, 2001) – The Government of Nunavut confirms it has been advised that a Statement of Claim has been filed beginning legal action in the Nunavut Court of Justice on behalf of 49 men who allege that they were sexually assaulted by Edward Horne between 1971 and 1985.

The Statement of Claim alleges Mr. Horne was employed at that time as a teacher by the Government of the Northwest Territories. He worked in an area that is now part of Nunavut.

Mr. Horne was convicted of sexual assault in the Nunavut Court of Justice on September 7, 2000 in cases that involve some of the claimants in this legal action. The Government of Nunavut is currently seeking advice to determine its options concerning this claim.

The government is mindful of the trauma already caused to these claimants. It is hoped that the litigation can be conducted using alternative dispute processes available in order to arrive at a just resolution of these claims in the most reasonable and compassionate manner possible.

As this matter is now before the courts, the Government of Nunavut will have no further public comment.

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