



July 27, 1978

The Honourable Daniel MacDonald,
Minister of Veterans Affairs,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Mr. Minister:

Enclosed please find copies of letter to the Acting Secretary of Pensions, and reply to that letter.

In 1976, legislation in Ottawa, and also in Nova Scotia, dissolved the Halifax Relief Commission. The Minister of Finance was empowered to establish the Halifax Explosion Pension Account in the Consolidated Revenue Fund. The Act imposed a statutory duty on the Canadian Pension Commission to continue existing pensions, to make any required adjustments, and also to initiate new grants or pensions to any persons determined eligible.

Enclosed is a copy of the Nova Scotia Act.

My special interest is in the lump-sum settlements made shortly after the explosion to parents on behalf of their children. I am advised these were not legal because they were not approved by the court and therefore the claims for injuries were not satisfied. I have twenty letters with names and addresses, but the Commission will have complete records.

I suggest the Commission hold an inquiry in Halifax. This would be in line with their statutory responsibility:

1. to review existing pensions
2. to review the adequacy of early lump-sum settlements made to parents on behalf of minors
3. to consider any new claims. This is authorized in the Act 4(a) (11).

Page 2

July 27, 1978

The Honourable Daniel MacDonald

There are not many survivors who would qualify under the above three classifications. There is still a balance in the fund. On behalf of those injured who still survive, I respectfully request an inquiry to be held in Halifax.

Yours sincerely,

Ron Wallace, M. L. A.
Halifax Citadel

/sw
Encl.



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
NOVA SCOTIA

P. O. Box 998
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 1W1
June 21, 1978

Mrs. Joan Denis
Acting Secretary of Pensions
284 Wellington Street
Room 2033
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Mrs. Denis:

I have an interest in the original Halifax Explosion Fund. Could you bring me up to date on this? Any information will be appreciated. For instance, what is the balance? What is the annual (or monthly) pay-out on pensions? How many survivors are receiving pensions? What amount would be required in an insurance type fund to cover future pension payments? What is planned for any balance remaining? Is it planned to wait for the last claim to be paid before freeing the balance of the fund?

My interest is based on correspondence and contacts with a great many victims of the Explosion. My file contains reports on many claims satisfied in the early days of the Commission by one-time settlements. For instance: \$400 or \$500 for the loss of an eye. It is my conviction that it is still not too late to make some additional compensation. These victims were often underage and settlements were made by parents on their behalf. This would not be legal today without permission of the Court.

Please advise who is the Minister and the Deputy Minister responsible for the fund. Any answers, information or advice you can give in reply to this letter will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Ron Wallace, M.L.A.
Halifax Citadel

/rt

ms June 19/76

Federal auditors examining books

OTTAWA (Staff) — Federal auditors are auditing the books of the now-defunct Halifax Relief Commission in preparation for the Canadian Pension Commission's assumption of responsibility for administering pensions and benefits to the 65 remaining survivors of the 1917 Halifax explosion.

Commission deputy chairman Murray Forman said that at least \$729,000 has been turned over in trust to the minister of finance.

Mr. Forman said the CPC will use the funds to pay pensions to the explosion survivors. After all the survivors have died, the balance will be turned over to

Halifax for the purposes of a suitable memorial or further rehabilitation of the north end area which sustained the brunt of the 1917 blast.

Works June 9/76

Halifax Relief Commission

His Worship outlined representations made to governmental officials re the above and recorded that assurances have been given over the years that the City will be consulted at an appropriate point in the process of any dispersal of the residual fund.

An Act to Provide for the Dissolution
of the Halifax Relief Commission

(Assented to the 20th day of May, A.D. 1976)

Be it enacted by the Governor and Assembly as follows:

Short title 1 This Act may be cited as the Halifax Relief
Commission Dissolution Act.

Dissolution 2 The Halifax Relief Commission, incorporated by
Chapter 61 of the Acts of Nova Scotia 1918, is dissolved.

Transfer
of assets 3 (1) The moneys, securities and other assets held
by or in the name of or in trust for or on behalf of the
Halifax Relief Commission and the subsisting obligations and
liabilities of the Commission are hereby transferred to the
Minister of Finance for Canada to be held by him in trust.

Subsisting
obligations
and
liabilities (2) The said Minister of Finance shall be bound
by any subsisting obligations and liabilities of the said Halifax
Relief Commission that are transferred or assigned to him
pursuant to this Act.

Terms of
trust 4 The terms of the trust referred to in Section 3 are
such that:

(a) the said Minister of Finance shall establish in
accordance with the Halifax Relief Commission Pension
Continuation Act (Canada), An Halifax 1917 Explosion
Pension Account in the Consolidated Revenue Fund
(Canada) from which the Canadian Pension Commission
may

(i) continue to pay a pension, a grant or an
allowance to any person who, immediately before
the dissolution of the Halifax Relief Commission,
was receiving a pension, a grant or an allowance
from the Halifax Relief Commission in respect of
death or injury sustained in the explosion at
Halifax in 1917, and

C-78

C-78

First Session, Thirtieth Parliament,
23-24 Elizabeth II, 1974-75

Première Session, Trentième Législature,
23-24 Elizabeth II, 1974-75

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES DU CANADA

BILL C-78

BILL C-78

An Act to repeal An Act respecting the Halifax Relief Commission and to authorize the continuation of pensions, grants or allowances paid by the Halifax Relief Commission

Loi portant abrogation de la Loi concernant la Commission de secours d'Halifax et autorisation de prise en charge des pensions, subventions ou allocations versées par ladite Commission

First reading, December 4, 1975

Première lecture, le 4 décembre 1975

RECEIVED

JAN 2 1976

MAYOR'S OFFICE
CITY HALL

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

LE MINISTRE DES FINANCES

29549

SN XVJ17H
CITY HALL
CITY OF HALIFAX
MAYOR'S OFFICE
BS

Balance for
continued
rehabilitation

6. When, in the opinion of the Minister, no further amounts will be required to be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund pursuant to subsection 5(3), the Governor in Council may, after consultation with the Government of Nova Scotia, authorize the transfer of the balance to the credit of the Account to a provincial or municipal body in Nova Scotia to be used for the continued rehabilitation of the area of Halifax that was damaged by the explosion at Halifax in 1917.

Credits to
Public Service
Superannuation
Account

7. (1) There shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund and credited to the account referred to in the *Public Service Superannuation Act* as the Superannuation Account (hereinafter in this section referred to as the "Public Service Superannuation Account"),

(a) the moneys accepted by the Minister pursuant to subsection 4(1) that were held by or in the name of or in trust for the Commission on account of the superannuation fund established under the Superannuation Plan and administered by the Commission; and

(b) the moneys realized from the liquidation made pursuant to subsection 4(2) of securities or other assets that were held by or in the name of or in trust for the Commission on account of the superannuation fund described in paragraph (a).

Charge to
Public Service
Superannuation
Account

(2) There shall be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund and charged to the Public Service Superannuation Account, subject to the terms and conditions of the Superannuation Plan, any benefit payable out of the superannuation fund described in paragraph (1)(a) pursuant to that Plan.

Definition of
"Superannua-
tion Plan"

(3) For the purposes of this section, "Superannuation Plan" means the Halifax Relief Commission Superannuation Plan, as it exists on the dissolution of the Commission, that was established for the benefit of employees, officers and members of the Commission pursuant to an Order of the Governor in Council dated January 24, 1945 (P.C. 163/505).

R.S. 1952, c.
148, 1970-71-72,
c. 65

8. Paragraph 81(1)(f) of the *Income Tax Act* is repealed and the following substituted therefor:

Utilisation du
solde

6. A l'épuisement, constaté par le Ministre, des prélèvements exigibles sur le Fonds du revenu consolidé visés au paragraphe 5(3), le gouverneur en conseil peut, après consultation du gouvernement de la Nouvelle-Écosse, autoriser le transfert du solde créditeur du Compte à un organisme provincial ou municipal de cette province afin de poursuivre la reconstruction du secteur de la ville d'Halifax endommagé par l'explosion du 6 décembre 1917.

Versement au
Compte de pen-
sion de retraite
de la Fonction
publique

7. (1) Sont versées au Fonds du revenu consolidé et portées au crédit du compte mentionné dans la *Loi sur la pension de la Fonction publique* sous le titre "Compte de pension de retraite" (ci-après dénommé "Compte de pension de retraite de la Fonction publique")

a) les sommes acceptées par le Ministre en vertu du paragraphe 4(1) et précédemment détenues par la Commission, en son nom ou en fiducie à son profit pour le compte du fonds, intitulé *superannuation fund*, créé en vertu du Régime de retraite et géré par la Commission; et

b) les sommes provenant de la liquidation effectuée en vertu du paragraphe 4(2) des valeurs mobilières ou autres biens précédemment détenus par la Commission, en son nom ou en fiducie à son profit pour le compte du fonds visé à l'alinéa a).

Prélèvements
sur le Compte
de pension de
retraite de la
Fonction publi-
que

(2) Sont prélevées sur le Fonds du revenu consolidé et portées au débit du Compte de pension de retraite de la Fonction publique, sous réserve des conditions du Régime de retraite, les prestations payables sur le fonds visé à l'alinéa (1)a) en vertu de ce régime.

Définition de
"Régime de
retraite"

(3) Dans le présent article, "Régime de retraite" désigne le *Superannuation Plan* de la Commission de secours d'Halifax, en son état à la dissolution de celle-ci, créé au profit de ses employés, de ses dirigeants et de ses membres en application du décret du gouverneur en conseil daté du 24 janvier 1945 (C.P. 163/505).

S.R. de 1952, c.
148, 1970-71-72,
c. 63

8. L'alinéa 81(1)f) de la *Loi de l'impôt sur le revenu* est abrogé et remplacé par ce qui suit:

HFX EXPLOSION

File



The Secretary of State for External Affairs

Secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires extérieures

Canada

RECEIVED

Ottawa, K1A 0G2

February 20, 1976 FEB 25 1976

MAYOR'S OFFICE
CITY HALL

Dear Mayor Morris:

Further to your earlier enquiry respecting the Halifax Relief Commission, I did want to indicate to you that I have spoken with my colleague, the Minister of Finance, respecting the final disposition of funds originally belonging to the Halifax Relief Commission. I believe that Mr. MacDonald may already have written to you regarding his decision respecting Section 6 of Bill C-78 which is now before the Senate.

Not received
as of 26 Feb 76
EON

As it is impossible to predict what funds may be required to support victims of the Halifax explosion until after the death of the last pensioner, no final decision will be taken respecting these funds until that time or at least until, in the opinion of the Minister, no further amount will be required to be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund pursuant to subsection 5(3). As this may be sometime off, Mr. MacDonald felt it would be necessary to have consultations with the Government of Nova Scotia prior to authorizing the transfer of the balance to the credit of a provincial or municipal body in Nova Scotia. As noted in the proposed legislation, the funds must be used for the continued rehabilitation of the area of Halifax that was damaged by the explosion in 1917.

See the Bill,
which I have
attached
EON

I, of course, was very happy that these funds were to be reserved for use in the area of Halifax that was so badly damaged, and I know that the views of the Halifax City Council will be very seriously considered when provision is made for distribution of any funds remaining.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Allan J. MacEachen

His Worship
Mayor Edmund Morris,
Office of the Mayor,
Halifax,

Director of Finance

From: *Allan* THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HALIFAX

To: *Bernie Smith*

Date: *Fri., Nov. 14/80*



231

Bernie

*Further to our
conversation last evening
it may be feasible for you
to draft a response
for Mayor's signature.*

*Thanks
Allan*



Minister
Labour Canada

Ministre
Travail Canada

NOV 4 1980

OTTAWA K1A 0X6

Donohy
B F
Nov. 24th
send a copy to Bernie
Smith, Director of Finance
for his consideration

His Worship Mayor Ronald Hanson
Mayor of Halifax
City Hall
1841 Argyll Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia

P.M.
14 Nov 80
Nov. 19. P.R.

Dear Mayor Hanson:

Further to our earlier correspondence concerning the Halifax Relief Commission, I am pleased to enclose copies of letters received from Mr. A. O. Solomon, Chairman of the Pensions Commission, and the Honourable Dan MacDonald.

In his letter of October 2, Mr. Solomon indicates two reasons why he believes that it would be impossible to fund either a memorial to the victims of the explosion or else street repair in the area most effected by the explosion. When the Halifax Relief Commission was dissolved in 1976, the Minister of Finance in assuming responsibility was bound by subsisting obligations and liabilities of the Commission. In Mr. Solomon's view, the Commission does not have the authority to expend the remaining funds for any purpose other than pensions, grants or allowances.

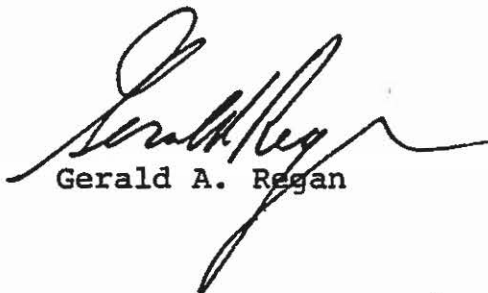
The second and more important reason is that the funds remaining in the Trust are limited. Over the years the Commission has received voluminous correspondence specifically requesting that the question of additional pensions be raised. After considerable study the Commission was able to make some substantial changes in 1978; while not all the pensions were increased at the same rate, there was a minimum increase of 8.5%. In 1980, however, the increase amounted to only 5.3%, while the Consumer Price Index authorized for veteran's pensions was 8.9%. The funds presently on hand will not permit a greater increase at this time; therefore it would be extremely difficult to justify allotting a portion of the remaining funds for a memorial or street repair, even if it were within the mandate of the Commission.

Although this letter addressed some of your concerns, I felt that it left unanswered the important issue of the eventual disposal of the funds in the Trust. Consequently, my office made further inquiries and Mr. Solomon provided me with a second letter containing more specific information.

The letter of October 15 indicates that the current value of the fund is approximately \$1,320,000. At the present time pension payments are running at the rate of \$155,587 a year. Mr. Solomon states that no thought has been given to the idea of making lump sum payments to the remaining pensioners to free up the remaining sum for other purposes.

I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,


Gerald A. Regan

*Ron this letter was written
some time ago but I
guess it outlines the situation
YAR*

RECEIVED

NOV 12 1980

MAYOR'S OFFICE

CITY HALL



Minister
Labour Canada

Ministre
Travail Canada

NOV 4 1980

OTTAWA K1A 0X6

Case 6497 (Shirley)

Dorothy

B.F. 29th Nov. Dec. 2

send a copy to Bernie Smith, Director of Finance for his consideration

(P.A.) 14 Nov. 80

Completed Nov. 19. DR. and again Nov 25/80 DR. -

His Worship Mayor Ronald Hanson
Mayor of Halifax
City Hall
1841 Argyle Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Dear Mayor Hanson:

Further to our earlier correspondence concerning the Halifax Relief Commission, I am pleased to enclose copies of letters received from Mr. A. O. Solomon, Chairman of the Pensions Commission, and the Honourable Dan MacDonald.

In his letter of October 2, Mr. Solomon indicates two reasons why he believes that it would be impossible to fund either a memorial to the victims of the explosion or else street repair in the area most effected by the explosion. When the Halifax Relief Commission was dissolved in 1976, the Minister of Finance in assuming responsibility was bound by subsisting obligations and liabilities of the Commission. In Mr. Solomon's view, the Commission does not have the authority to expend the remaining funds for any purpose other than pensions, grants or allowances.

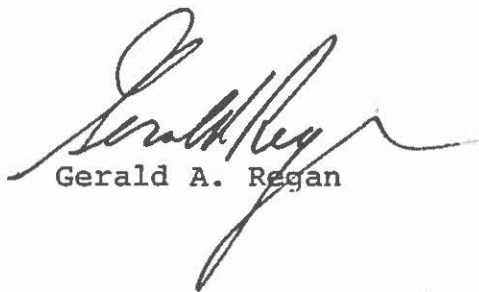
The second and more important reason is that the funds remaining in the Trust are limited. Over the years the Commission has received voluminous correspondence specifically requesting that the question of additional pensions be raised. After considerable study the Commission was able to make some substantial changes in 1978; while not all the pensions were increased at the same rate, there was a minimum increase of 8.5%. In 1980, however, the increase amounted to only 5.3%, while the Consumer Price Index authorized for veteran's pensions was 8.9%. The funds presently on hand will not permit a greater increase at this time; therefore it would be extremely difficult to justify allotting a portion of the remaining funds for a memorial or street repair, even if it were within the mandate of the Commission.

Although this letter addressed some of your concerns, I felt that it left unanswered the important issue of the eventual disposal of the funds in the Trust. Consequently, my office made further inquiries and Mr. Solomon provided me with a second letter containing more specific information.

The letter of October 15 indicates that the current value of the fund is approximately \$1,320,000. At the present time pension payments are running at the rate of \$155,587 a year. Mr. Solomon states that no thought has been given to the idea of making lump sum payments to the remaining pensioners to free up the remaining sum for other purposes.

I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Gerald A. Regan

*Ron this letter was written
some time ago but I
guess it outlines the situation
YAR*

RECEIVED

NOV 12 1980

MAYOR'S OFFICE
CITY HALL

File

B3J 3A5

December 19, 1975

Dear **Mrs. Bayley**

The Halifax Relief Commission on Young Street is the agency which handles claims arising from the Halifax Explosion. This Commission administers the "explosion fund" and the City of Halifax has no authority over the manner in which this Commission processes new claims.

Because you mentioned in your letter to the Mayor that you had lost your hearing, I took the liberty of telephoning the Halifax Relief Commission and asked if new claims were being accepted. I was advised that new claims are not being considered. The Commission now administers only those claims which were approved a number of years ago.

If you are unable to buy a hearing aid, it may be possible for our Social Planning Department to assist you in this purchase. With your approval, the Mayor's Office would be pleased to arrange for a social worker to visit you, at your home, to discuss this. Likewise, if your physician feels an eye specialist may be able to save your eyesight, our Social Planning Department may be able to assist in any cost. Please call me, or have someone call on your behalf, at 426-6429 or write to me if you are willing to have someone from our Social Planning Department visit you.

The Mayor wishes to help in any way he can and we look forward to hearing from you. Wishing you the compliments of the Season.

Yours very truly

J. J. McKim

(Mrs.) J. J. McKim
Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Jessie Bayley
3792 Gottingen Street
Apartment 304
Halifax, N.S.
B3K 3G5

JM/rem

RECEIVED

Dear Mayor Morris

DEC 17 1975

MAYOR'S OFFICE
CITY HALL

it is possible for me to get money from that 1917 explosion fund to buy myself a decent hearing aid? I was living alone at Dartmouth with Mr & Mrs Jones Dewolf I was about 2 yrs old I cannot find my Birth Certificate I went totally blind 3 yrs after for one year then again when was 9 or 10 yrs old my late mother said it was from the explosion lately a Dr at the eye clinic operated on one of my eyes supposed to be restored now I am going blind again Please answer

Mrs Jessie Bayley

3792 Yutongon apt 304
Halifax B3K-3G5

I get one hundred, fifty one
dollars a month

my mother's name

was Annie May McKay

or McFie

She said my name was

Jessie Elizabeth McDonald

Born May 8th 1915 or 1916

She married Walter H. Fries

1918 My Grandmother

was Mrs Paul Thorne

P.S. Do you think its possible to
get an eye operation now even
though I have no money to
pay? Maybe able to save my
sight yet? Lost my hearing
when I got my sight back when
I was 2 or 10 yrs old.

re Relief C.

B3J 3A5

December 11, 1975


Dear Mrs. Frizzle

Thank you for your letter of December 9.

The question of entitlement, if any, to the assistance about which you have enquired is a matter in every case for the Halifax Relief Commission, the administration of which is quite separate from City government.

I would suggest, therefore, that you communicate with the Commission, which is about to cease active operations as such, at its offices at 5555 Young Street.

Yours sincerely


EDMUND MORRIS
M A Y O R

Mrs. J. R. Frizzle
Allen Heights
RR 1
Armdale, Nova Scotia

EM/rem

Allen Heights,
P.O. 3 Ardendale, N.S.
December 9, 1975

Mayor Edmund Morris
City Hall,
Halifax, N.S.

Dear Mayor Morris:

I first heard of the Halifax Explosion Relief Fund on the news a few days ago.

At the time of the Explosion, I was an infant living on Vernon Street in Halifax. Both my mother and I were severely injured by flying glass. Does this fact entitle me to compensation?

My father and mother are now gone, but am sure they were not assisted at any time by the Relief Fund.

Yours truly,

E Bernice (Phineas) Trigg
(Mrs J. R. Trigg)

RECEIVED

DEC 11 1975

**MAYOR'S OFFICE
CITY HALL**

March 12, 1973

Mr. F. A. Clarke,
6429 Norwood Street,
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

I am very sorry for the delay in getting back to you. I have arranged a meeting with Mr. Allan Butler, the Chairman of the Halifax Relief Commission and we will be meeting on March 26, 1973 to discuss a number of matters, one of which is the possibility of getting an increase in pension for those people who were injured in the Halifax Explosion.

I have had the City Manager and the City Solicitor look into this particular matter and I have talked to Mr. John Young, the Executive Assistant to the Honourable Allan MacEachern, and Mr. Young has informed me that the first step is to work through the Halifax Relief Commission and it will be their recommendation that is acted upon.

Yours sincerely,

WALTER R. FITZGERALD
M A Y O R

TO _____ TELEPHONE
TELETYPE
VISIT
DATE Jan. 18/73 TIME 9.15 am

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Clarke

OF _____

TELEPHONE NO. 439-5721

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Telephoned | | Will Telephone Again | |
| Wants To See You | | Please Phone | |
| Called To See You | | Returned Your Call | |

MESSAGE: _____

ENCLOSURE SLIP (OVER)

TO _____ TELEPHONE
TELETYPE
VISIT
DATE Jan. 19/73 TIME 11.10 a

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Clarke

OF _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Telephoned | | Will Telephone Again | |
| Wants To See You | | Please Phone | |
| Called To See You | | Returned Your Call | |

MESSAGE: _____

*Gov't
Authorities
Re Aff. Relief
Commission
promised to send
him a copy
of your letter*

ENCLOSURE SLIP (OVER)

TO _____ TELEPHONE
TELETYPE
VISIT
DATE _____ TIME _____

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M F.A. CLARKE

OF _____

TELEPHONE NO. 453-0620

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Telephoned | | Will Telephone Again | |
| Wants To See You | | Please Phone | |
| Called To See You | | Returned Your Call | |

MESSAGE: Letter to Govt. Dept in
connection with persons blinded
in Hfx Explosion

VTR Industries
6429 Newwood St

ENCLOSURE SLIP (OVER)

February 6, 1973

Mr. E. W. Crooks
Secretary-Manager
Halifax Relief Commission
5555 Young Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Dear Mr. Crooks:

In response to your letter of January 30, I would like to clarify the outstanding points regarding taxes to be paid by the Halifax Relief Commission.

First, regarding the land at the corner of Roone and Devonshire, research has uncovered the two attached letters between the City and the Commission, dated 1953, showing that the transfer of land to the City took place without the inclusion of a covenant restricting the future use to which the land might be put. The City is firmly of the opinion that the use or disposal of this land is completely at our discretion.

Second, your Notice of Assessment is returned herewith, and you have probably received your partial billing for 1973 taxes already. The Commission's 1973 taxes, and any arrears, are to be paid in the normal fashion.

The only possibility for relief from these taxes would be to apply to the Tax Concessions and Grants Committee for a grant to offset your taxes, but I rather doubt such an application would receive favourable consideration under the circumstances.

Though this will doubtless not be to your satisfaction, I believe the attached letters clearly show that the matter of restricting use of the concerned property was dropped specifically because the City felt it must have full control of City-owned lands. The 20 years which have passed since 1953 have witnessed many changes in Halifax which demonstrate the need for flexibility in land use.

I trust this will clarify the matter at hand, and we will anticipate receipt of a cheque to cover current taxes plus arrears.

Yours truly,

WALTER R. FITZGERALD
M A Y O R

CS

Attachments

cc: City Manager
Director of Finance

February 6, 1973

Mr. E. W. Crooks
Secretary-Manager
Halifax Relief Commission
5555 Young Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Dear Mr. Crooks:

In response to your letter of January 30, I would like to clarify the outstanding points regarding taxes to be paid by the Halifax Relief Commission.

First, regarding the land at the corner of Roome and Devonshire, research has uncovered the two attached letters between the City and the Commission, dated 1953, showing that the transfer of land to the City took place without the inclusion of a covenant restricting the future use to which the land might be put. The City is firmly of the opinion that the use or disposal of this land is completely at our discretion.

Second, your Notice of Assessment is returned herewith, and you have probably received your partial billing for 1973 taxes already. The Commission's 1973 taxes, and any arrears, are to be paid in the normal fashion.

The only possibility for relief from these taxes would be to apply to the Tax Concessions and Grants Committee for a grant to offset your taxes, but I rather doubt such an application would receive favourable consideration under the circumstances.

Though this will doubtless not be to your satisfaction, I believe the attached letters clearly show that the matter of restricting use of the concerned property was dropped specifically because the City felt it must have full control of City-owned lands. The 20 years which have passed since 1953 have witnessed many changes in Halifax which demonstrate the need for flexibility in land use.

I trust this will clarify the matter at hand, and we will anticipate receipt of a cheque to cover current taxes plus arrears.

Yours truly,

WALTER R. FITZGERALD
M A Y O R

CS

Attachments

cc: City Manager
Director of Finance

A. M. BUTLER, CHAIRMAN
E. W. CROOKS, SECRETARY-MANAGER

HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION
5555 YOUNG STREET
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

January 30, 1973.

Mayor Walter Fitzgerald,
City of Halifax,
Halifax, N. S.

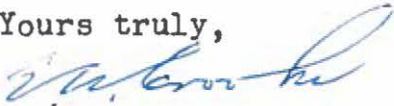
Your Worship:

I am directed to return assessment notice on which we will take no action in relation to the payment we normally would make re your budget for 1973.

You will recall that Mr. Butler conferred with you and Mr. Hyndman as to this Commission's wish for a clarification of the City's position re the possible future disposal of certain lands.

We have had no word from your officials, and bring the matter to your attention for the reason that there is still ample time to clear away our old account and allow you to count our payment in your 1973 Budget

Yours truly,


E. W. CROOKS.
SECRETARY-MANAGER.

EWC/Y.





TO: His Worship Mayor Walter Fitzgerald,
FROM: D. B. Hyndman, Director of Finance,
DATE: 1st December, 1972,
SUBJECT: Halifax Relief Commission Lands.

1. FOLLOW UP
2. FOLLOW UP
3. FOLLOW UP
4. COMPLETION DATE

This memo refers to the meeting held in your office with Mr. A. M. Butler and the writer regarding the land at the corner of Roone and Devonshire, on which the Knox Presbyterian Church wanted to construct a church and church hall. The Commission, through Mr. Butler, felt that the City was not living up to its moral commitment with respect to the original receipt of land by the City, from the Commission, on free of charge basis.

Staff have again reviewed all the related correspondence and minutes, plus some that we had missed previously, with respect to the matter in hand.

Relative Council minutes do indicate that discussion did take place with respect to a possible covenant on the use to which the land could be put. However, the recommendation by the City Solicitor of the day was accepted by City Council and it was that the land not be accepted by the City if there was a restrictive covenant on it. His idea was that times change and should the Relief Commission be terminated and the land in question had a covenant on it that the City's hands would be tied with regard to the use of the land at some future date in time. In fact, the Solicitor suggested that if there was a desire for restriction on the use of the land that it be done by legislative act so that should time require that the covenant be lifted it could be done so by an amendment to the legislative act. Correspondence relative to the particular problem was reviewed and two letters have turned up which are very pertinent. The first one from the City Solicitor to Mr. Butcher of the Halifax Relief Commission is dated June 3, 1953, and the answer from Mr. Butcher to Mr. Bethune dated August 20, 1953. Mr. Butcher's letter states and I quote as per the paragraph in his letter "We have decided to omit the covenant in the deed restricting the use to which the lands (open spaces) could be put". Copies of these pertinent letters are attached for your information, and I believe clearly indicate that the Commission of the day saw the wisdom in Mr. Bethune's request that the covenant not be included and accepted the transfer of the lands to the City without covenant.

His Worship Mayor Walter Fitzgerald

- 2 -

This entire problem revolves around the Commission's refusing to pay back taxes to the City, which are in excess of \$ 11,000. At the time of the City's claim to the Commission, following the original explosion, settlement was based on the fact that the City agreed to no further claims being submitted to the Commission for damages and that the Commission would pay full taxes on all its properties from the date of settlement onward. I feel that they have a moral obligation here to pay these taxes and the question of a moral obligation by the City with respect to the use of the land in question, I think is clearly not valid in light of the fact of the correspondence which has been turned up. I would suggest that Mr. Butler be advised that we do not agree with his thinking or his philosophy and that he be requested to fulfill the Commission's moral obligation to pay its back taxes.

If Mr. Butler feels that strongly against it, I would suggest that he appear before the Council of the day and make his pitch.

75-6-110



D. B. HYNDMAN
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

DBH/db
attachments

August 20th, 1953.

Carl P. Bethune, Esq.
City Solicitor,
City Hall,
City.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of June 3rd, 1953 was brought up
at the last meeting of the Commission.

We have decided to omit the covenant in the deed
restricting the use to which the lands (open spaces) could be
put.

Regarding the Boulevard streets, Mr. Tibbs does not
remember having them included in the draft deed prepared by him.
Those boulevard ~~streets~~ in the hydrostone district were taken
over by the City with the rest of the streets years ago, so it is
not necessary to have them included in the deed.

If you will have a new deed made out omitting the
above we will have it signed and returned to you.

Yours truly,
Halifax Relief Commission.



F. H. SHEPHERD.
SECRETARY.

FHB/v.

CITY OF HALIFAX



R. L. ROONEY
T. C. DOYLE
ASSISTANT SOLICITORS

JUN 4 1953

Law Department, City Hall
Halifax, N. S.

June 3, 1953.

F. M. Butcher, Esq.
Secretary-Treasurer
The Halifax Relief Commission
139 Young Street
Halifax, N. S.

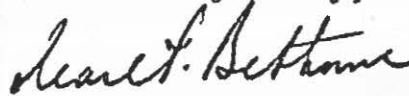
Dear Sir:

I acknowledge your letter of May 30th, 1953, returning draft deed covering the boulevards, open spaces and lanes in the Hydrostone District and note that you state that I have left out the boulevard at Columbus Place. I have no record of ever having received from you a description of this open space but it is possible that I may have received it some time ago. I do have a list of descriptions that was left at my office by Mr. Tibbs but I do not think that this particular open space is included. The list contains 13 descriptions. I have a second list which contains 14 descriptions but the boulevard at Columbus Place, if it is included, is not capable of identification. Would you therefore please let me have a copy of the description to which you refer and I will arrange to have it included in the deed.

I also note that you state that a provision stating that the open spaces will always be kept as open spaces and not be used for building purposes should be included in the deed. I do not think that this would be a wise provision since we cannot tell what may be necessary in the future and if the Halifax Relief Commission should cease to exist this covenant may make it absolutely impossible to make any changes in the area and may result in certain lands being left which cannot be used for any purpose although due to a re-arrangement of the district such lands are no longer needed as open spaces. So far as I am aware this is a new condition and if it is insisted upon I will have to place the matter before the City Council for its decision in the matter. The City Charter provides that any land no longer required as a City street may be

sold. If the open spaces are to be kept as parks might I suggest that the best method of doing this would be to have appropriate legislation enacted which would be subject to change as conditions require. I would be pleased to hear from you in this connection.

Yours very truly,



CARL P. BETHUNE
CITY SOLICITOR.

CPB/EHJ

May 24, 1972.

Mr. Allan M. Butler
Chairman
Halifax Relief Commission
5555 Young Street
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Mr. Butler:

In the Mayor's absence from the City, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 23rd.

Your letter will be brought to the attention of Mayor Fitzgerald immediately upon his return to the city next week.

Yours very truly,

(Miss) Elizabeth H. Jamieson
SECRETARY TO THE MAYOR

Friday Sept 29
10 am

Allan M. Butler } notified
City Manager } Sept 18/72
City Solicitor. } J2

A. M. BUTLER, CHAIRMAN
E. W. CROOKS, SECRETARY-MANAGER



HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION

5555 YOUNG STREET
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

May 23, 1972.

Dear Walter:

I am attaching a copy of my letter written November 24, 1971 in which I made a proposal for a meeting to include you. Also enclosed is Mr. Hyndman's letter of October 19, 1971.

Undoubtedly the matter has been referred to you but perhaps the pressure of business has stood in the way of an arrangement.

The Halifax Relief Commission would like to resume voluntary payments to the city treasury.

Could I have word from you to explain why we have heard nothing from your officials?

Yours very truly

A. M. Butler

AMB/Y.

ENCLS.(2)

Mayor Walter Fitzgerald
City Hall.

A. M. BUTLER, CHAIRMAN
A. M. CROOKS, SECRETARY-MANAGER

HALIFAX RELIEF COMMISSION

5555 YOUNG STREET
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA

November 24, 1971.

Mr. D. B. Hyndman,
Director of Finance,
City of Halifax,
N. S.

Dear Mr. Hyndman:

I regret the delay in acknowledging your letter written October 19, 1971 addressed to our Secretary-Manager and related to an extensive correspondence we have had with the offices of the City Solicitor and the City Manager. I thought it well that I should answer your letter as Chairman of the Commission.

It would seem that our position and the position of the City is far apart, and to offer a solution, I suggest a meeting be arranged to be attended by the officials concerned together with the Mayor. A fresh mind on the matter could be beneficial. At that time the whole question could be reviewed. I have in mind, speaking for the Commission, that the Mayor could offer a solution which he would feel would take into account the interest of both sides and I feel that the matter could be finalized in this way.

Any settlement, I want it understood, will not involve payment of any interest.

Please advise Mr. Crooks, if such a meeting can be arranged, when it will take place.

Yours truly,

A. M. BUTLER
CHAIRMAN.



19th October, 1971

Mr. E. W. Crooks,
Secretary-Manager,
Halifax Relief Commission,
5555 Young Street,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Crooks:

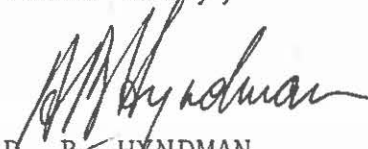
During a recent review of outstanding problems in the City Collector's Division, Mr. R. G. Hann advised that your Commission does not intend to pay its grant in lieu of taxes pending the City clarifying its position on the land on Devonshire at Roome.

The City's position was made in letters dated September 10, 1969, by Mr. S. A. Ward, and September 13, 1971, by Mr. C. McC. Henderson, City Manager.

We appreciate the fact that your Act of Incorporation exempts you from taxes. However, we would refer you to Commission Reports issued to the Governor General of Canada dated November 30, 1955 and May 1, 1958. These state that full taxes will be paid subject to the City not presenting any further claims and dating from December 30, 1926.

Would you please clarify the Commission's stand in view of the subject reports to the Governor General of Canada.

Yours truly,


D. B. HYNDMAN
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE
CITY OF HALIFAX

DBH/db
c.c. to Mr. C. McC. Henderson
Mr. R. G. Hann

January 8, 1973.

Mr. Lewis T. Smith
L. T. Smith & Associates Ltd.
29 Micmac Drive
Dartmouth, N. S.

Dear Mr. Smith:

I would like to thank you for your letter of December 11, 1972, expressing your willingness to discuss the possibility of using the services of your company to do an actuarial study with regard to the funds and obligations of the Halifax Relief Commission.

Although I feel this is needed if the fund is to be closed out, this decision is not mine to make but belongs to the Halifax Relief Commission or the Provincial and Federal Governments. If I have an opportunity to discuss the matter with these officials I will make sure your company's offer is noted.

Yours very truly,

WALTER R. FITZGERALD
M A Y O R

WRF/EHJ

ACTUARIAL &
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT
PLAN CONSULTING

L. T. SMITH & ASSOCIATES LTD.

PHONE ~~(506) 475-1370~~

~~105 PROSPECT STREET, P.O. BOX 1104, FREDERICTON, N.B.~~

(902) 434-8450

29 Micmac Drive, Dartmouth, N.S.

PRESIDENT
LEWIS T. SMITH, C.L.U.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
DOUGLAS R. BUTT, F.S.A., F.C.I.A.

December 8, 1972

Mr. Walter Fitzgerald, Mayor
City of Halifax
City Hall
Halifax, Nova Scotia



Dear Mr. Mayor:

I noted from the article on Page 1 of the December 6th issue of the MAIL-STAR that "Mayor Fitzgerald said the immediate priority is to have an actuarial study made to determine the financial resources needed to look after the remaining obligations of the commission", with respect to the Halifax Relief Commission.

I would like to point out that our company has recently relocated offices in temporary facilities at 29 Micmac Drive, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. Our telephone No. is 434-8450. Whereas we are new to the Halifax area as far as office facilities are concerned, we are certainly familiar with the City and Province, and we have carried out projects for several Nova Scotia clients. We intend to establish facilities here and continue to serve our New Brunswick clients as well.

I attach herewith Curriculum Vitae with respect to the principles of our firm and we would very much welcome an opportunity to discuss the possibility of providing services to your Commission.

Yours faithfully,

Lewis T. Smith

L. T. SMITH & ASSOCIATES LTD.

DOUGLAS R. BUTT

CURRICULUM VITAE

DATE OF BIRTH:

August 26, 1932

EDUCATIONAL TRAINING:

After completing two years of University, he undertook to write the actuarial examinations sponsored by the Society of Actuaries, and completed his fellowship in 1963. As well as being a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries, he is also a Fellow of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Includes seven years with the National Life Assurance Company of Canada working in the latter part of that time with various duties relating to Group Insurance and Pension Plans. For four years following this, he was Actuary for Armstrong & Taylor Limited in Winnipeg and Toronto, offering actuarial advice to a number of that firm's clients across the country. In this employment he worked closely with the University of Saskatchewan, the City of Saskatoon, and the Pension Plans for hospitals in Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

In 1965, he joined Johnson & Higgins (Canada Limited) now Johnson & Higgins Willis Faber Limited, and became Vice-President and actuary of its Toronto office. His responsibilities included pension and actuarial advice to numerous large corporate clients as well as McMaster University, Trent University and direction of the Group Insurance Consulting Operations of the company.

On January 1, 1970, he established his own actuarial consulting practice, providing similar service for his clients including Trent University, the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company Ltd., and many companies who are clients of an associated firm, Retirement Plan Services Limited, which offers consulting and pension administration services in the Toronto area. In 1971, he became associated with L. T. SMITH & ASSOCIATES LTD. and has since been elected to the Board of Directors.



L. T. SMITH & ASSOCIATES LTD.

CURRICULUM VITAE - DOUGLAS R. BUTT - 2

SPECIALTIES:

Apart from his technical qualifications, which will enable him to perform all actuarial calculations and provide the appropriate certifications to governments, he has established a reputation of being imaginative and a clear thinker. He rarely follows traditional routes and methods unless he has satisfied himself that they are correct and most suitable under the circumstances. As a result of this attitude, he has frequently been active in pioneering new insurance ideas and streamlining and simplifying procedures which had become unnecessarily complicated.

L. T. SMITH & ASSOCIATES LTD.

LEWIS T. SMITH

CURRICULUM VITAE

DATE OF BIRTH:

June 30, 1938

EDUCATIONAL TRAINING:

Following two years at Dalhousie University he entered the insurance business and received initial agent training from Prudential Assurance Company and Group Representative training from Zurich Insurance Company. In 1968, 1970, and 1971 he attended the School of Management Studies at The Banff Centre. He was awarded the C.L.U. designation by the Institute of Chartered Life Underwriters of Canada in 1971.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

In 1964 he joined Associated Insurance Managers Ltd. (AIM) as Group Insurance Supervisor, opening an office in Halifax. AIM is a wholly owned subsidiary of Johnsons Ltd., St. John's, Newfoundland. His initial responsibility was a study of employee benefits for the Nova Scotia Teachers Union. Following design of plan and brokerage thereof, he was required to arrange for payroll deduction facilities, which entailed visits to every City, Town, Municipal and Regional School Board in Nova Scotia, thereby gaining valuable experience via an understanding of employee benefits plans in effect for public employees within the entire Province. In 1965 he opened a second AIM office in Fredericton, engaging in a similar project for the New Brunswick Teachers Association (NBTA) which also resulted in visits to every City, Town, and Municipality, gaining knowledge similar to that gained in Nova Scotia.

In 1967 he established a sole proprietorship to engage in employee benefit brokerage, as well as joining The Maritime Life Assurance Company field force in junior management. During the next two years he designed and



L. T. SMITH & ASSOCIATES LTD.

CURRICULUM VITAE - LEWIS T. SMITH - 2

brokered employee benefit plans for several New Brunswick firms.

In 1969 he became completely self employed and added general insurance lines (fire, auto, liability) to his proprietorship, expanding to the point where it was necessary to incorporate LEWIS T. SMITH INSURANCE LTD. and L. T. SMITH & ASSOCIATES LTD. with sales, service and management transferred to others for the former, enabling him to concentrate his efforts to the latter, along with sales of life insurance to his business and professional clientele.

SPECIALTIES

L. T. SMITH & ASSOCIATES LTD. has become involved with New Brunswick public employee benefit plans through continued service to certain Crown Corporations, as well as other clients. We installed a new program for Saint Thomas University in 1971; were awarded a study for the University of New Brunswick in 1971, resulting in the installation of one of the most modern plans in Atlantic Canada in 1972; were awarded a study by the Province of New Brunswick on group travel accident benefits in 1971; completed a study for the New Brunswick Nurses Provincial Collective Bargaining Council in 1972- a large portion of this work involved study of existing pension plans in effect for nurses in the various Hospitals in New Brunswick, as well as the newly established Provincial Hospital Pension Plan.

January 5, 1973.

The Honourable George M. Mitchell
Speaker
Nova Scotia Legislature
B. O. Box 2380
Halifax, N. S.

Dear George:

I have received your letter of December 12, 1972, concerning insufficient support for an individual who suffered as a result of the Halifax Explosion. I would suggest that you contact Mr. Allan Butler, who is Chairman of the Halifax Relief Commission.

Mr. Butler is usually in his office every morning at 5555 Young Street, and his phone number is 454-1228.

Yours sincerely,

WALTER R. FITZGERALD
M A Y O R

WRF/EHJ



THE SPEAKER
HALIFAX



P.O. Box 2380
Halifax, N.S.

December 12th, 1972

Office of the Mayor
City Hall
Duke Street Tower
Scotia Square
HALIFAX, Nova Scotia

Your Worship:

I have been contacted by an individual who feels that they have received insufficient support from the fund which has been established to assist victims who suffered in the Halifax Explosion.

I would appreciate it very much if you could arrange to have someone in your office advise me of the persons that I should contact to attempt to obtain a more equitable benefit for this particular individual, who was injured in the explosion.

Any assistance you can provide to me would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

George M. Mitchell

GMM/ssd

December 11, 1972.

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben George
R.R. #2, Head of Jeddore
Halifax County, N. S.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. George:

I would like to thank you for taking the time to send me your suggestions regarding the Relief Commission Funds.

If and when the Government decides to close out the fund you can rest assured that I will attempt to have the remaining money used for a fitting memorial to those who died and suffered as a result of the Explosion.

Yours very truly,

WALTER R. FITZGERALD
M A Y O R

WRF/EHJ



R.R.#2, Head of Jeddore,
Halifax Co., N. S.,
Dec.7th./72.

The City of Halifax,
City Hall,
Halifax, N. S.

Attention: His Worship, Mayor Fitzgerald

Gentlemen:-

We are two survivors of the December 6th. 1917 Halifax Explosion: (my husband, Reuben George, was on the "Niobe" and I was at High School in the Halifax County Academy Building, corner of Sackville & Brunswick Sts.) and we can recall very vividly the happenings of that sad morning.

Out of the funds mentioned and to close out the books for the Halifax Relief Commission, may we suggest the following:

1. As a fitting Memorial to the 200 school children killed at Richmond School that morning, a Scholarship Fund be set up to help all school children of Halifax towards higher education.
2. As a fitting Memorial to the many Catholic and Protestant families losing loved ones that morning, a Scholarship or Bursary Fund be established at The Atlantic School of Theology to help all Theologs in their training towards the Christian Ministry.

Sincerely yours,

Reuben George
.....
(Reuben George)
Emma A. George
.....
(Emma (Hartling) George)



HALIFAX
QUEBEC
MONTREAL
OTTAWA
TORONTO
WINDSOR
WINNIPEG
EDMONTON
CALGARY
VANCOUVER

WILLIAM M. MERCER LIMITED

5161 GEORGE STREET, HALIFAX, N.S.

TELEPHONE 429-9600

Bank of Montreal Tower

December 7, 1972



Mayor Walter Fitzgerald,
City Hall,
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Dear Mayor Fitzgerald:-

I am writing to you in connection with recent newspaper publicity given to your comments about the Halifax Relief Commission. The December 7th. Halifax Herald reports you to have said that "the immediate priority is to have an actual study made"; it is assumed that the word "actual" used by the newspaper is a mis-print, and the word intended is "actuarial".

If an actuarial study is to be carried out, we would be very interested in undertaking the project. As you know, our company is currently involved in carrying out an actuarial study of the pension fund of the City of Halifax.

The newspaper story also refers to your concern about making provision for an adequate payout to the 76 pensioners still on the rolls of the Commission. We can provide valuable services to the Commission in connection with this situation by conducting an objective survey among insurance underwriters for annuity quotations for these pensioners. The immediate annuity market is a constantly-changing one, and our close involvement with it on a daily basis could be advantageous to the Commission and the pensioners.

We would welcome an opportunity to furnish details, through discussions with you, of our possible involvement in these related projects.

Yours truly,

R. M. Swetnam,
Manager, Atlantic Provinces

RMS/mp

Licensed to transact life insurance business in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Nova Scotia.

In Nova Scotia license sponsored by The Executive Life Insurance Company.

March 13, 1972.

Dr. H. D. Smith
Ombudsman
806 Royal Bank Bldg.
P. O. Box 2152
Halifax, N. S.

Dear Dr. Smith:

I have delayed answering your letter of January 31, 1972, awaiting information with respect to the current financial position of the Halifax Relief Commission, but a search discloses that such information is not available on City files. The latest information on our files is the Auditor's report (Price, Waterhouse & Company) of the Commission's finances as at December 31, 1962.

The Halifax Relief Commission was created by Acts of the Federal and Provincial Governments, (Chapter 2 of the Statutes of Canada 1918, and Chapter 61 of the Acts of Nova Scotia 1918), to administer the funds received by donations and grants following the terrible explosion of December 7, 1917. Present members of the Commission are:

Mr. A. M. Butler, Chairman
Mr. F. H. Flinn
Mr. W. E. Tibbs

The Commission is neither accountable nor responsible to the City of Halifax and, therefore, I would respectfully suggest that any information respecting its finances should be sought from the Secretary, whose office is located at 5555 Young Street in Halifax.

If I can be of further service to you, please do not hesitate to write to me.

Yours very truly,

WALTER R. FITZGERALD
M A Y O R

OFFICE CALLS

To

Date Time A.M.
P.M.

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

Mr.

of

Phone

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Telephoned | | Please call him | |
| Wants to see you | | Will call again | |
| Called to see you | | Returned Call | |

Message

Secretary Manager
Mr E.W. Crooks
5555 Young St.

Call Received by

Mr. Clancy


OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN
806 ROYAL BANK BUILDING
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA



P. O. Box 2152
PHONE: 424-6780

OUR FILE:

31 January, 1972.

Mayor Walter Fitzgerald,
City Hall,
City of Halifax,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Mayor:

I should appreciate very much if you could throw some light on the fund which apparently still exists and which was set up following the Halifax Explosion in 1917: it is under the management, I understand, of the Halifax Relief Commission.

My particular question is the following: would there be some possibility of tapping the fund for a person who worked for the Halifax Relief Commission for 24 years, namely, Mr. Murray L. Ward?

It seems to me that if it is not known what to do with surplus funds, a case could be made for Mr. Ward of 5514 Sebastian Place, Halifax, to receive some recognition of his 24 years with the Relief Commission.

I shall be grateful to you for any information and pertinent comments that may be provided for me to pass on to Mr. & Mrs. Ward.

Very best wishes.

Sincerely,

H. D. Smith

Dr. H. D. Smith,
Ombudsman.

HDS:fm
ENCS.



LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION - CHEF DE L'OPPOSITION

August 4, 1971

Mrs. Murray Ward,
5514 Sebastian Place,
Halifax, N.S.

Dear Mrs. Ward,

Thank you very much for your letter of June 15, 1971. I share your concern over the circumstances both you and your husband have been experiencing in the last few years. Your position is not an unfamiliar one to many Canadians.

I have had my office contact you to obtain further details from you to clarify your position and ours. Since you have expressed anxiety as to the future, that is, namely when Mr. Ward reaches age 65, my office has contacted the appropriate offices for information concerning this matter.

Mr. Ward, when he attains age 65 will at that time, upon the information we have obtained from you, cease to be employed at the Nova Scotia Institute of Technology. At that time, he of course will be eligible to receive the Old Age Security Pension and either the Canada Pension Plan benefits as determined on the basis of his total earnings since 1966 until the time of his retirement or in the event that he can continue to work but can't find employment, he can register with the Unemployment Insurance Commission and collect benefits from that office. That is he can only collect Canada Pension benefits or Unemployment Insurance benefits, not both. I have been informed that you should contact your local Unemployment Insurance Commission and speak to a counsellor and with him determine which program is appropriate and most beneficial to you.

In addition to Mr. Ward's Old Age Security Pension he is also entitled to a supplement to a maximum of \$55.00

... 2

2.

depending upon his income for each year. For further information concerning the Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement my office has informed me that you should contact:

Canada Pension Plan,
Room 517,
Sir John Thompson Building,
1256 Barrington Street,
Halifax, N.S. Tel. No. 429-8843

A field officer there will be able to answer any questions you may have concerning these plans. There is of course the Provincial Welfare Office which should also be contacted to clarify their position in regard to the whole matter.

Thanks once again for your letter, I appreciate your confidence on this matter. I feel the Government can and should do more on behalf of our senior citizens to prevent greater hardship and injustice. For our part, the Progressive Conservative Party will continue to insist on a fair deal for senior citizens.

Yours sincerely,

Robert L. Stanfield

Robert L. Stanfield