

CONFIDENTIAL

WPC

Mr. G. R. Brown, Property Administrator

A. W. Churchill

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thank you for bringing to my attention the problem of the disposition of the personal effects of the late Mr. [REDACTED]. I presume that since he died intestate the Court will appoint an administrator. [REDACTED]

In any event, we have to be very careful in our handling of the situation both from the legal and moral points of view. I understand you will be discussing our position with the City Solicitor and since the lease ended on [REDACTED] death, you will take up the question of whether we will permit access to the premises by anyone other than the administrator of the estate. Alternatively, you might find out whether it would be preferable if we remove the household effects and place them in safe storage as a temporary measure.

A. W. Churchill
A. W. Churchill
Supervisor
Real Estate Division
Development Department

AWC:sat

cc: Mr. H. D. Crowell ✓
Mr. R. B. Grant



Department of Public Welfare

1805

NOVA SCOTIA

OFFICE
OF
THE DEPUTY MINISTER

March 4, 1970.

Mr. H. D. Crowell,
Social Planner,
City of Halifax,
Scotia Square,
HALIFAX, Nova Scotia.

Dear Mr. Crowell:

Africville Credit Union

I am now in receipt of a report on the Seaview Credit Union, which is actually the Africville Credit Union. The report is far from satisfactory, in respect to the maintenance of records, collection of loans and general growth and development of the project.

There are, for example, twelve irregular loans in amounts varying from \$ 600. - \$ 1,500., where the loan was improperly secured with no chattel mortgage or insurance on file. In addition, there are eighteen delinquent loans. The cash, share and loan accounts are not regularly balanced. The auditors had to spend considerable time reconciling these accounts.

I have looked back over correspondence with your Department and I find an Africville Follow-Up Proposal submitted by the Social Planning Staff of the City of Halifax, dated February 4, 1969. I replied to that proposal on March 5th. I stated that we were prepared to advance the City of Halifax \$ 50,000. and "if the project works out.... there should not be too much difficulty in arranging for an outright grant of approximately \$ 50,000. which was the suggestion made in your brief." I went on in that letter to Mr. Ward to say that "we cannot afford to have this project turn out to be a failure." I suggested to Mr. Ward that someone very skilled and experienced should be charged with the responsibility of collecting outstanding loans. Reading my letter now, it seems almost prophetic as to the dangers that you would run into and the likelihood of mistakes.

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Mr. H. D. Crowell

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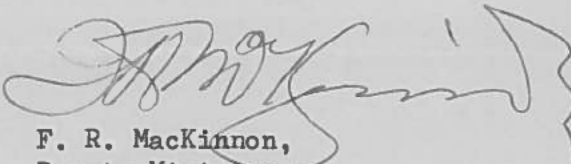
March 4, 1970.

Mr. Ward replied on March 12th accepting the proposal and expressing the appreciation of the City of Halifax. The only other correspondence I can find on file is a letter from you dated July 24th in which you enclosed a copy of the City Manager's report to Council. There is nothing in the report to indicate that all is not well. Indeed, you would assume that everything is successful. Now I have the Private and Confidential report referred to above regarding the status of this particular fund and Credit Union. What has happened does not inspire confidence! If things were not going well why was not the Minister informed about it immediately? We are all well aware of the hazards and risks inherent in a project of this kind and I think we are quite prepared to run these risks and not expect perfection. I do think we have a right always to know the worst and be prepared for it. Otherwise, the Minister may be attacked in the press, in the House or elsewhere, regarding the status of something which I have been informing him is going reasonably well, about which I simply do not have the facts.

To make matters worse I have just been handed a file of correspondence containing the approval of [REDACTED] as the Manager of this particular project. Apparently it was approved for provincial cost sharing on May 5, 1969.

I would appreciate having some explanation so that I can immediately inform the Minister in respect to what is happening.

Yours faithfully,



F. R. MacKinnon,
Deputy Minister.

FRM/vsw