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Federal Hostel at Broughton Island
IAP Hostel Narrative
11 12 2009

Federal Hostel at Broughton Island [Qikiqtarjuaq], Nunavut

A federally-employed teacher was posted to Broughton Island, a community off the east coast of Baffin Island, in 1959. Schooling took place in makeshift facilities (often in the homes of Inuit residents) until late 1959, when a Federal Day School was opened. A Federal Hostel consisting of three 8-bed residences opened shortly thereafter with the first hostel going into operation on October 22nd, 1962, though only two of these hostels housed pupil residents; the third was used as a storeroom or extra classroom. As of late 1964, it is reported all children attending the Federal Day School in Broughton Island resided in the Federal Hostel on a rotational basis. By January 1965, the third student hostel was in service as an adult education facility and nurse's room. The Federal Hostel at Broughton Island operated until the end of the 1965/66 academic year [June 30th, 1966¹] and by January of 1968, none of the hostel buildings were in use as pupil residences – one was used for staff housing, one was being renovated and one was vacant. Throughout this time Broughton Island remained a remote location, with no regular air service, mail, telephone.

NAME OF HOSTEL AND VARIANTS:

- 1962 – Broughton Island Federal School Hostel [BIS-000001]²
- 1963 – Broughton Island, N.W.T. – Hostel #3 [BIS-000004]
- 1964 – Broughton Island Hostels 2 and 3 [BIS-000005]
- 1964 – Broughton Island Hostel [BIS-000006]
- 1964 – Broughton Island School Hostel Residence [BIS-000007]

Years during which the hostel was operated solely or in part by the Federal Government as a residence for school aged students:

October 22nd, 1962 to June 30th, 1966 [operated solely by the Federal Government] [BIS-000001]; [BIS-000097]

Chronological History:

1960 – A memorandum reporting on the number of school aged children in Broughton Island dated October 18th, 1960 included a suggestion by the Community Teacher/Principal for a hostel to be constructed in the community in order to house the children of Distant Early Warning [DEW] Line employees who would otherwise be unable to attend school. [BIS-000119]

¹ Please note: the official closing date of the residence is extracted from a Service Agreement dated April 1st, 1966 which indicates a hostel parent was contractually obliged to work in the hostel until this date. It is currently unknown if the hostel facilities were vacated prior to this date. [BIS-000097]

² The prefix BIS indicates that this document is from the Federal Hostel at Broughton Island [Nunavut] document collection found in the National database.

By November of 1960, it was reported by the Administrator of the Arctic that 14 children were in regular attendance at the Broughton Island Federal Day School while nine other children would be able to attend school if hostel facilities were made available. [BIS-000120]

On November 16th, 1960, a memorandum from the Regional Administrator to the Administrator of Arctic advised the practice of local home boarding of children in Broughton Island would not prove feasible due to the overcrowding of community homes. The Regional Administrator further reported: 'in order to provide education to a maximum number of children a hostel will definitely be needed.' [BIS-000121]

The original plan to construct a hostel at Broughton Island [slated for a September 1961 opening] was ultimately rejected as detailed in a memorandum from the Administrator of the Arctic dated November 24th, 1960. The Administrator of the Arctic reported the Regional Administrator's concern over the lack of hostel facilities in the community to the Director of the Education Division [Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources] in response to the rejection of hostel construction plans. [BIS-000122]

1961 – In a memorandum dated January 20th, 1961, the Chief Superintendent of Schools recommended the construction of two hostels at Coral Harbour be postponed to address the more urgent need of hostel accommodation at Broughton Island. This recommendation was submitted with the announcement of the opening of a new one-room school complex to commence on September 1st, 1961. [BIS-000124]

In April of 1961, the number of school aged children in the local Broughton Island area living beyond a daily commuting distance who could attend school if local transportation [or hostel facilities] were provided was reported at 12. In addition, it was reported that 2 children were being boarded locally during the 1960/61 academic season. [BIS-000126-0001]; [BIS-000126-0002]

In July of 1961, the Administrator of the Arctic advised the Director of Education that Broughton Island was the most favorable site for education [and ultimately hostel accommodation] of Inuit children whose parents were employed on the Fox 5 Distant Early Warning Line site. [BIS-000128]

A November 1962 hostel evaluation form for the first hostel constructed at Broughton Island indicates the hostel was erected in 1961 however remained un-occupied until the 1962/63 academic year. [BIS-000060-0001]; [BIS-000057]

1962 – A letter from the Community Principal dated September 28th, 1962 reported the opening of the first small hostel at Broughton Island was delayed due to a larger than expected number of children needing accommodation ultimately exceeding the available amount of food rations. The opening of the hostel was to commence upon the arrival of additional hostel rations via sealift in October of 1962. It was further reported that two additional hostel buildings were slated for erection in the fall of 1962. [BIS-000057]

The first Quarterly Return filed for the Federal Hostel at Broughton Island, a December 31st, 1962 Return, indicates the first pupils to enter the hostel were admitted on October 22nd, 1962 marking the official opening of the residence. [BIS-000001]

On March 30th, 1963 it was reported by the Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School that 8 children were residing in the Federal Hostel for the 1961/62 academic year. [BIS-000139-0001]

1963 – A January 4th, 1963 memorandum from the Administrator of the Arctic to the Regional Administrator reported on the current status of the three hostel buildings at Broughton Island. The report indicated that one of the hostels was being used a second classroom for the Federal Day School, another was being used for purposes which it was intended while the third hostel was reaching its final stages of construction. The report further noted the third hostel building was intended to be used for children recruited from the ‘Kivitoo’ community/camp neighboring Broughton Island. [BIS-000134]

On March 30th, 1963 it was reported by Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School that 5 children were residing in the Federal Hostel at Broughton Island for the 1962/63 academic year. [BIS-000139-0001]

On June 11th, 1963 it was reported by the Regional Administrator that the opening/use of the third hostel at Broughton Island became unnecessary due to a tragedy which occurred in neighboring community ‘Kivitoo’ by which all residents of the community relocated to Broughton Island [including parents of children who originally required hostel accommodation]. [BIS-000068]

In a telegram dated June 25th, 1963, a recommendation was submitted to the Administrator of the Mackenzie for the two empty small hostels at Broughton Island to be filled by children from Cape Dyer [Distant Early Warning site ‘Fox Main’] and ‘Camp Three’. [BIS-000144]

On September 13th, 1963, the District Superintendent of Schools reported the hostels at Broughton Island would not open for the 1963/64 academic year until January 1st, 1964 due to the occupancy of the hostels by construction crew members working on the completion of the second Federal Day School classroom in the community. [This ultimately postponed the transfer of students from their home communities to the hostels at Broughton Island until December 11th, 1963]. [BIS-000148]; [BIS-000004]

On October 11th, 1963 it was reported to the Deputy Minister that the Broughton Island hostel facilities [with a capacity for 24 pupils] remained empty as only one teacher was employed in the community limiting additional classroom [and subsequent hostel] enrolment. It was expected that all three hostel buildings would be put into operation by January 1964 with the recruitment of additional teaching staff. [RCN-000861]³

In November 1963, it was suggested by the Acting Administrator of the Arctic that only one hostel open after Christmas due to the limited teaching staff in relation to the number of students enrolled the Broughton Island Federal Day School [recorded at 43]. However, by December of 1963 the District Superintendent of Schools reported that a second hostel building was to open in January of 1964. [BIS-000152]; [BIS-000156]; [RCN-003694]

On December 19th, 1963 it was reported by the Acting Administrator of the Arctic that one hostel building was open at Broughton Island and that a contract had been drafted for hostel staff. The December 1963 Quarterly Return further indicates this hostel building opened on December 11th, 1963 with the first admission of pupils being recorded on that date. [RCN-003696]; [BIS-000004]

³ The prefix RCN indicates that this document is from the Nunavut/Northwest Territories General document collection found in the National Database.

1964 – A March 18th, 1964 memorandum from the Acting Administrator of the Arctic to the Regional Administration reported that only two of the three Broughton Island school hostels were being used. It was recommended the third hostel be temporarily transitioned into a fourth school staff housing unit for the 1965/66 academic year. [BIS-000164]

In November of 1964, the Area Administrator reported that the two full capacity school hostels at Broughton Island were in need of an adequate water supply. [BIS-000171]

1965 – On January 31st, 1965, the Community Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School compiled a Principal Half-Yearly Progress Report detailing the current state of the three school hostels in the community. The report notes that ‘hostel 3’ was the first hostel building to open for the 1964/65 academic year under the management of a hostel parent with two children. ‘Hostel 2’ was reported as having been painted and cleaned by a construction crew who were previously living there – the hostel was managed by a hostel parent couple and housed only older boys and girls. ‘Hostel 1’ was reported as being used for general/medical storage, lay dispensing duties and sewing classes. [BIS-000174-0001]

The report further notes that during the 1964/65 academic year, all students attending the Broughton Island Federal Day School were rotated in and out of the hostels. As reported by the Community Principal: ‘Hostel Residents: An over-abundance of hostel rations arrived in the settlement this year. Much was left over from last year. Although there are not enough children to fill both hostels and there were too many for one, it was decided to let all the school children in the settlement experience hostel living. Each week six new students go to live in the hostel for six days. Using a rotation basis it means that every school child can live in the hostels once every three weeks. Not only does this use up hostel rations, it provides the children with well-balanced meals, adequate sleep and a chance to wash and bathe. Everyone goes home on the weekends to help their parents. Most of the permanent residents come from nearby camp. We believe we have been able to eliminate any feelings of prejudice towards a few who might be in the hostels all the time.’ [BIS-000174-0001]

On April 2nd, 1965 a Community Teacher of the Broughton Island Federal Day School reported that only two of the three school hostels were utilized a student hostels for the 1964/65 academic year. [BIS-000088]

On April 5th, 1965 the Community Principal reported that the need for student hostel accommodation in Broughton Island was subsiding, indicating that a vacant hostel could be utilized for other purposes. [BIS-000178-0002]

In June of 1965, it was agreed by both the Administrator of the Arctic and the Acting Regional Administrator that one of the vacant student hostel buildings at Broughton Island be used by Northern Health Services in addition to being used for adult education classes. [BIS-000090]

On June 25th, 1965 the Administrator of the Arctic advised the Acting Regional Administrator the third vacant school hostel at Broughton Island not be used for a laundry/bath house [due to high renovation costs] as originally suggested by both the Community Teacher/Regional Administrator. The Administrator of the Arctic further suggested pupils be relocated from Pangnirtung to fill the hostel vacancy. [It was ultimately discovered later the parents of children at Pangnirtung did not wish to send their children to Broughton Island]. [BIS-000092]; [BIS-000093]

On September 1st, 1965, the Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School recommended the school hostels open only on a part-time basis to maintain the provision of proper food/nourishment and accommodation during the freeze-up/break-up period for children of the outlying Anintilik camp. [BIS-000096]

1966 – A letter dated January 5th, 1966, from the Regional Superintendent of Schools to the Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School reported on the over abundance of hostel rations held by the school. Extraneous rations were ordered to be sent back to Frobisher Bay in addition to schools at Arctic Bay and Padloping Island. [BIS-000188]

On March 31st, 1966 the Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School reported that two of the school hostels were unused and that the hostel buildings would likely be used to accommodate teaching staff. [BIS-000200-0000]⁴

A Service Agreement dated April 1st, 1966 indicates a ‘hostel mother’ was to serve at Broughton Island from April 1st, 1966 to June 30th, 1966 suggesting at least one hostel was in operation until the end of the 1965/66 academic year [June 1966]. [BIS-000097]

MANAGEMENT OF HOSTEL:

Dates managed by Church:

The operation and management of the Federal Hostel at Broughton Island was entirely secular with no Church involvement.

Dates managed by Government:

October 22nd, 1962 to June 30th, 1966 [operated solely by the Federal Government] [BIS-000001]; [BIS-000097]

The 1950s gave rise to the construction of numerous Large Hostel student residences in the western Arctic. These were built in part to provide centralized residential schooling for the growing and rapidly urbanizing population of the Mackenzie. In the eastern Arctic, with its small and dispersed population, similar Large Hostels were a not viable or effective way to provide residential accommodation. Consequently, in 1960 the Arctic Division of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources launched its “Small Hostels” program.

The Federal Government operated the Small Hostels program exclusively from 1960 until the transfer of educational authority to the Government of the Northwest Territories for Arctic District schools in 1970. The Small Hostels program was entirely conceived, developed and implemented by the Northern Affairs Branch (NAB) of the Federal Government. In 1966 this Department was amalgamated with the Department of Indian Affairs to form Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, which managed education in the North from 1966 through 1970. Throughout the 1960s, the Small Hostels program operated in conjunction with a program of “local boarding” of pupils in private residences in many communities. Small Hostels

⁴ By the 1970’s, children requiring accommodation while attending the Broughton Island Territorial Day Qikiqtarjuaq/School were maintained in private homes by local community members. [BIS-000108]

were a priority for communities where private boarding was inadequate for educational needs. [RCN-004411-0000]; [RCN-003468-0001]

The Small Hostel setting was intended to approximate the traditional home life of Inuit children instead of the highly formal, institutional context of Church-run Large Hostels. Local community members, typically Inuit women, were employed as “Hostel Mothers” or “Hostel Parents”, who managed the residences under the supervision of the Federal Day School Principal. Their salaries were paid by the Federal Government, and in addition to supervising the children they carried out most of the domestic tasks performed in a typical household – washing clothes, cleaning, meal preparation, etc. [RCN-003483-0000]; [RCN-003483-0001]; [RCN-003468-0001]

Generally, two pairs of hostel parents were granted service contracts for each academic year children were residing at the hostel. The hostel parents would normally be under the supervision of a ‘Hostel Supervisor’ and all known occurrences of this hostel management type has been documented below:

1962 - Two Service Agreements dated September 1st, 1962⁵ indicate that two individuals were to carry out the duties of hostels parents at Broughton Island from September 1st, 1962 to November 30th, 1962 as instructed by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. [BIS-000062-0001]; [BIS-000062-0002]

Similarly, two Service Agreements dated December 1st, 1962 indicate that two hostel parents were to be employed at Broughton Island from December 1st, 1962 to March 31st, 1963. [BIS-000062-0003]; [BIS-000062-0005]

1963 – On April 1st, 1963, the Service Agreements for two hostel parents were renewed to cover the period April 1st, 1963 to June 30th, 1963. On November 30th, 1963, a Service Agreement for a hostel parent was again renewed to cover the period December 1st, 1963 to July 15th, 1964. [BIS-000062-0004]; [BIS-000062-0006]; [BIS-000081]

Similarly, another Service Agreement dated November 30th, 1963 indicated that a separate hostel parent was to serve at Broughton Island from December 1st, 1963 to July 15th, 1964. [BIS-000082]

1964 – On December 16th, 1963, a Service Agreement was signed indicating that two hostel parents were to serve at Broughton Island from January 1st, 1964 to June 30th, 1964. [BIS-000083]

On August 31st, 1964, the Service Agreement for two hostel parents was renewed to cover the period from August 31st, 1964 to June 30th, 1965. In addition, a new Service Agreement was drafted on August 31st, 1964 for a third hostel parent covering the period from August 31st, 1964 to June 30th, 1965. [BIS-000086-0002]; [BIS-000086-0001]

On September 29th, 1964, a Service Agreement was drafted for an individual to carry out the duties of ‘Hostels Supervisor/Instruct’ at Broughton Island from September 1st, 1964 to June 30th, 1965. [BIS-000087]

⁵ Please note: it is probable these positions were not filled on exactly on September 1st, 1962 as the Federal Hostel did not open until October 22nd, 1962 as indicated on the December 1962 Quarterly Return. [BIS-000001]

1965 – A January 31st, 1965 Principal’s Half-Yearly Progress Report indicates that a hostel mother was employed at ‘hostel #3’ for the 1964/65 academic year. In addition, the report also indicates that two hostel parents were in charge of the care of older children residing in ‘hostel #2’. The wife of the Area Administrator at the time was also reported as being the hostel supervisor during the 1964/65 academic year. [BIS-000174-0001]

A Service Agreement dated September 1st, 1965 indicated that a hostel parent was to serve at Broughton Island from September 1st, 1965 to June 30th, 1966. [BIS-000095]

1966 – On April 1st, 1966, a Service Agreement was signed indicating that a hostel mother to serve at Broughton Island from April 1st, 1966 to June 30th, 1966. [BIS-000097]

Associated Federal Day School – Broughton Island

A Federal Day School was constructed in the community of Broughton Island in 1959 to in effort to accommodate the educational needs of children [mainly Inuit] whose parent’s were employees of the nearby Distant Early Warning [DEW] Line site known as ‘Fox 5’. The new one-room school went into operation for the 1959/60 academic year [September 1959] with an enrollment of approximately 19 children. The requirement for regular attendance at the Federal Day School for DEW Line employee children ultimately resulted in the construction/operation of the Federal Hostels in the community.

Name of Federal Day School and Variants:

1963 – Broughton Island Federal Day School [BIS-000145-0000]

1965 – Broughton Island School, N.W.T. [BIS-000176]

1966 – Qikirtarjuaq School [BIS-000016-0000]

1959 – A memorandum dated March 17th, 1959 from a Distant Early Warning Line employee to the Administrator of the Arctic recommended a school be placed in the community of Broughton Island to accommodate the ‘large number of school aged children’ directly in the community, surrounding camps and in thee surrounding communities of Kivitoo, Padloping and Durban. [BIS-000118]

A 1964 Broughton Island community report indicates the Federal Government constructed a new one room school in the community in 1959. The school originally consisted of one classroom and held an initial enrolment of 19 pupils as of September 30th, 1959. [RCN-003889]; [RCN-005891-0001]

1960 - By November of 1960, 14 children were in regular attendance at the Broughton Island Federal Day School with 5 of the children commuting from the Baffin Island mainland to Broughton Island each day. [BIS-000120]

1961 – A January 20th, 1961 memorandum from the Chief Superintendent of Schools to the Administrator of the Arctic reported that a new one-room school complex in Broughton Island would be completed for opening on September 1st, 1961. [BIS-000124]

In April of 1961, the present enrolment of pupils at the Broughton Island Federal Day School was recorded at 19. [BIS-000126-0001]

On April 4th, 1961, it was reported the construction of a new school complex at Broughton Island was to be completed by March 1st, 1962. [RCN-006235]

1962 – On March 27th, 1962, the Administrator of the Arctic reported that the total enrolment of pupils at the Broughton Island Federal Day School consisted of 30 Inuit children. [RCN-002124]

1963 – In a January 4th, 1963 memorandum from the Administrator of the Arctic to the Regional Administrator it was reported that one of the three recently constructed hostel buildings in Broughton Island was being utilized as a second classroom for the Federal Day School. [BIS-000134]

In February of 1963, the average number of children attending the Broughton Island Federal Day School was reported at 31. By March of 1963, this number had increased to 39. [BIS-000136]; [BIS-000138]

In March of 1963, it was reported that the Broughton Island Federal Day School had a principal, one teacher and one janitor on staff. In addition, it was reported that construction on a new classroom was scheduled for completion for the beginning of 1963/64 academic year. [BIS-000139-0001]

An April 1963 report on the community of Broughton Island indicates the Federal Day School also served as the recreation centre and was the main building in the community utilized for activities, hosting both monthly dances and movies. [BIS-000142-0001]

In June of 1963, it was reported that 31 Inuit Boys and 16 Inuit Girls were enrolled at the Broughton Island Federal Day School. [BIS-000145-0000]

On August 26th, 1963, the Administrator of the Arctic reported that the opening of Broughton Island Federal Day School was delayed for the 1963/64 academic year due to the resignation of the school principal. [BIS-000147]

On September 13th, 1963, the District Superintendent of Schools reported construction on a second classroom for the Broughton Island Federal Day School would be completed by December 1963. [BIS-000148]

A school term opening report dated October 21st, 1963 indicates the Broughton Island Federal Day School opened for the 1963/64 academic year on October 16th, 1963. [BIS-000150]

On October 23rd, 1963 it was reported the Broughton Island Federal Day School consisted of only grade 1 to grade 3 pupils with the exception of one pupil who was in grade 5. It was further reported that students requiring class instruction above these grade levels would routinely be sent to Yellowknife to continue their education. [BIS-000151]

1964 – A Principal's Annual Age-Grade Report indicated that as of January 1964, the Broughton Island Federal Day School held an enrolment of 30 Inuit Boys and 19 Inuit girls with classes being provided for grade 1 to grade 5 students. [BIS-000158]

On November 1st, 1964, the Community Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School reported the following about the school's curriculum: 'The education program in the Federal School in Broughton Island is reared to the primary teaching of local Inuit children and any

children transferring from southern schools in upper grades find it necessary to study by correspondence.’ [BIS-000170]

1965 – A Principal’s Annual Age-Grade Report indicated that as of January 1965, the Broughton Island Federal Day School held an enrolment of 28 Inuit Boys and 17 Inuit girls with classes being provided for grade 1 to grade 4 students. [BIS-000178-0003]

A February 16th, 1965 Superintendent’s School report indicates the average enrolment for the Broughton Island Federal Day School for the 1964/65 academic year was 43. [BIS-000175]

1966 – A Principal’s Annual Age-Grade Report indicated that as of January 1966, the Broughton Island Federal Day School held an enrolment of 27 Inuit Boys and 17 Inuit girls. [BIS-000195-0001]

In a letter dated January 6th, 1966 from the Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School to the Administrator of the Arctic, the Principal requested that the name ‘Broughton Island Federal Day School’ be changed to ‘Qiqitakjuak’ [meaning ‘Big Island’] to help promote Inuit culture in the Broughton Island community. On January 28th, 1966, the Acting District Superintendent of Schools forwarded the request the Administrator of the Arctic who eventually submitted it to Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources for decision. [BIS-000189]; [BIS-000193]; [BIS-000194]

In February of 1966, the Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School addressed the Chief Superintendent of Schools regarding a trip to a boarding school in Egedesminde, Greenland in which one Inuit boy and one Inuit girl would be selected to represent the Broughton Island community and school. On April 21st, 1966, the Chief of the Education Division approved the proposed trip and agreed to the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources covering cost of travel expenses. [BIS-000197]; [BIS-000205]

In October of 1966, the Administrator of the Arctic reported the total enrolment of students at the Broughton Island Federal Day School at 51. A portable for additional classroom space was requested for September 1967 and the construction of a new classroom was slated for a September 1968 completion date as the anticipated enrolment for the 1967/68 and 1968/69 academic years was increasing [projected at 56 for 1968/69]. In addition, the Administrator reported that the construction of 25 new Inuit houses in the community was nearing completion suggesting additional classroom space would be required in the near future. [RCN-004103]

1967 – In February of 1967, the Chief of the Education Division reported that a portable classroom would not be placed in Broughton Island as the projected enrolment of 56 pupils for the 1967/68 academic year did not warrant the need of space additional to the two-classroom 50 pupil facility. A new permanent school classroom addition was reportedly planned to be constructed commencing in the summer of 1967. [RCN-004116]

A student Promotion Form dated June 30th, 1967 recorded the death of two students of the Broughton Island Federal Day School. A second Promotion Form for the same academic year further indicates a third student of Federal Day School drowned. [BIS-00017-0000]; [BIS-000017-0001]

1969 – In January of 1969, the Broughton Island Federal Day School was operating with a total of four classrooms with a projected enrolment of 93 for the 1969/70 academic year. [RCN-004177]

In February of 1969, the Administrator of the Arctic reported that an activity room in the Broughton Island Federal Day School would be partitioned into two classrooms in effort to be ready for the high enrolment anticipated for the upcoming 1969/70 academic year. [September 1969]; [RCN-004175]; [RCN-004184-0000]

By September of 1969, the Broughton Island Federal Day School was reported as having an enrolment of 102 Inuit Students and 5 non-Inuit students [classified as 'other']. [RCN-009757-0001]

Hostel/School Life:

1963 - A January 30th, 1963 report on the hostel situation at Broughton Island indicates that students of the hostels were to receive four 'B' type rations per each 8 person hostel and that this ration system consisted mainly of fish and seal meat. The report also indicates that there was a lack of heated warehouse space for the hostels making efforts to keep perishable food items from freezing a tribulation. [BIS-000135-0001]

A November 5th, 1963 memorandum from the Acting Administrator of the Arctic reports the Broughton Island Federal Day School did not open until October of 1963 due to a measles epidemic outbreak in the community. [BIS-000153]

1964 - A memorandum dated January 7th, 1964 from the District Superintendent of Schools to the Administrator of the Arctic describes the washrooms facilities for both the old and new classrooms at the Broughton Island Federal Day School. The report states: 'The available toilets are situated in a small room immediately to the rear of the old classroom, almost in the classroom itself. Lighting in this room is poor, ventilation almost nil, and the odor pervades the whole areas.' Furthermore, the report states: 'At present only two toilet units and one sink serve over fifty children. No doubt you will concur that these facilities are overtaxed.' [BIS-000157]

In a letter addressing attire at the Broughton Island Federal Day School [dated September 21st, 1964], the School Principal noted: 'These children cannot get their clothing washed too easily so the must keep them clean as long as they can.' [BIS-000169]

1965 - A January 31st, 1965 Principal's Half-Yearly Progress Report indicated that approximately 12 children at the Broughton Island Federal Day School had lice. The report details the school bathing program in which it was reported 'every second week and sometimes every third week we manage to give the children a bath in the hostels after school. This supplements the weekly bath some are able to have when they live in the hostels.' [BIS-000174-0001]

The same report further indicates the school had regular film showings, birthday party events and a Halloween and Christmas party during the 1964/65 academic year. [BIS-000174-0001]

On April 21st, 1965, the Acting Regional Administrator reported that all school and community activities at Broughton Island were suspended from March 23rd to March 29th, 1965 due to a meningitis epidemic outbreak in the community. [BIS-000179]

HOSTEL/SCHOOL BUILDINGS

A report on the hostel situation at Broughton Island dated January 30th, 1963 indicates that the three student hostels in the community were designed to house eight pupils each. [BIS-000135-0001]

An April 1963 report on the Broughton Island community notes: 'The school is composed of one classroom and one of the three hostel buildings is used as a second classroom.' [BIS-000142-0001]

On September 19th, 1963, the Broughton Island Community Welfare Officer reported that of the three school hostels in the community, one was unusable due to a severe leak in the roof, while the others were used as a classroom and living quarters for a construction crew. [RCN-010142]

A December 12th, 1963 memorandum from the District Superintendent of Schools regarding Broughton Island school staff accommodation reported: 'Present Staff accommodation at Broughton Island is as follows: 1. an apartment in the school complex suitable for one single person [if absolutely necessary, a married couple with no children]. 2. a two-bedroom house originally designated for teacher accommodation [now used by single mechanic]. 3. a three bedroom Northern Service Officer's house to be occupied by N.S.O. in summer of 1964.' [BIS-000156]

1964 – In 1964, a former teacher of the Broughton Island Federal Day School reported: 'The school has two rooms, one for children from six to ten years and one for children of ten years and more.' [A separate 1964 report indicates that these two classrooms were often referred to as 'Junior Room' and 'Senior Room.']. [BIS-000159-0001]; [BIS-000173-0000]

In January of 1964, the District Superintendent of Schools wrote a memorandum concerning the classroom washroom facilities at the Broughton Island Federal Day School to the Administrator of the Arctic. In the memorandum it was reported: 'The available toilets are situated in a small room immediately to the rear of the old classroom, almost in the classroom itself.' [BIS-000157]

On February 10th, 1964 the Acting Administrator of the Arctic requested the Regional Administrator construct a washroom at the Broughton Island Federal Day School using the small room next to the boiler room being used as storage. On March 2nd, 1964, the Regional Administrator advised the Acting Administrator that both the boys and girls washroom renovations at the school were complete. [BIS-000160]; [BIS-000162]

On March 18th, 1964, the Acting Administrator of the Arctic reported that the teachers of the Broughton Island Federal Day School lived in two apartments and a three bedroom house in the school complex. [BIS-000164]

In June of 1964, financial arrangements were made for the shipment of a Triodetic Playdome [children's outdoor climbing equipment piece] to the Broughton Island Federal Day School. [BIS-000167-0000]; [BIS-000167-0001]

A 1964 report on school facilities for the Broughton Island Federal Day School for the 1964/65 academic year indicates the school consisted of 1 school complex, a 2 bedroom teacher apartment, 1 dispensary, 1 small kitchen, three eight-pupil hostels and one two bedroom house occupied by engineers. [RCN-002205-0004]

1965 - A January 31st, 1965 Principal's Half-Yearly Progress report indicates the Broughton Island Federal Day School complex consisted of three teachers living quarters, a janitor's living

quarters, two classrooms and three hostels.’ The report also makes reference of a softball diamond located adjacent to the school. [BIS-000174-0001]

A Superintendent’s School report dated February 16th, 1965 indicates the two classroom school complex building [including a utility room] at Broughton Island was framed and pre-fabricated with a roof made of aluminum shingles. [BIS-000175]

1966 – On March 31st, 1966, the Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School reported that classes of 25 pupils were ‘difficult’ to handle due to the lack of classroom space. In addition, the Principal commented on the lack of available play area in the school. It was recommended the existing teacher quarters near the school be converted into a third classroom and unused hostel buildings be transitioned into teachers living quarters. [BIS-000200-0000]

LAND

The Federal Hostel buildings at Broughton Island were an addition to the existing Federal Day School facility and located within close proximity to the Federal Day School. They were therefore on the same physical property and this land title situation reflects that for the Federal Day School.

An April 1963 Broughton Island community report notes: ‘The Broughton Island settlement is approximately one mile from the Distant Early Warning site Fox 5.’ [BIS-000142-0001]

PHOTOS, PLANS AND OTHER MEDIA

Item #	Date	Description
BIS-000167-0001	June 18 th , 1964	Broughton Island Federal Day School playground equipment

GENERAL ENROLMENT STATISTICS

Year	Number of Students
1962/63	8 students in hostel [5 boys; 3 girls]
1963/64	7 students in hostel [5 boys; 2 girls]
1964/65	14 students in hostel [8 boys; 6 girls] ⁶
1965/66	Hostel enrolment unknown

⁶ During the 1964/65 academic year all students attending the Broughton Island Federal Day School were rotated in and out of the hostels to use up an overabundance of ration supplies [see ‘Chronological History’ section above]. [BIS-000174-0001]

STUDENTS FROM OTHER LOCATIONS

Students from, at least, the following locations attended the Federal Hostel at Broughton Island:

1963 – In January of 1963, the Administrator of the Arctic reported the nearly completed third student hostel at Broughton Island was intended to be used for children recruited from the neighboring community of ‘Kivitoo’. [BIS-000134]

In June of 1963, it was reported two empty hostels at Broughton Island were to be filled by children from Cape Dyer [Distant Early Warning Site Fox Main/Dye Sector] and ‘Camp Three’. [BIS-000144]

In October of 1963, it was reported that students requiring instruction beyond the grade 3 and grade 5 levels at the Broughton Island Federal Day School would routinely be sent to Yellowknife to continue their education. [BIS-000151]

1965 – A July 5th, 1965 memorandum from the Acting Regional Administrator to the Administrator of the Arctic indicates the Regional Administrator intended to ‘canvas’ Padloping Island and Clyde River for students to fill hostel vacancy at Broughton Island. [BIS-000093]

1966 – A June 1966 student Promotion Form indicates that children who advanced past the Grade 5 level would be recommended by the Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School to continue education at the Churchill Vocational Centre in Churchill, Manitoba. [BIS-000016-0005]

There may be alternate ways of spelling these locations.

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Please note: The management of the Federal Hostel at Broughton Island was entirely secular with no Church Involvement.

WRITTEN AGREEMENTS

As a result of the Government running the Federal Hostel at Broughton Island directly with no Church involvement, no operational agreements were signed with religious organizations.

Contracts were signed with various community members to act as “Hostel Parents” or “Hostel Mothers” to manage the residences. [See ‘Management of Residence’ section of narrative for all individual contracts located for hostel parents of the Federal Hostel at Broughton Island].

DOCUMENTS REFERRING TO HOSTEL INCIDENTS

To date, we are unaware of any convictions for abuse at the Federal Hostel at Broughton Island or of any convicted abusers having been present at the hostel.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1965 – A January 31st, 1965 Principal’s Half-Yearly Progress report indicates students of the Broughton Island Federal Day School and associated hostels had medical examinations conducted via annual visits of the medical ship ‘C.D. Howe’. [BIS-000174-0001]

In March of 1965, the Community Principal of the Broughton Island Federal Day School reported that arrangements would be made for teachers visit outlying camps along the coasts of both South and North Broughton Island for the purposes of teaching. [BIS-000177]

PRINCIPALS/ADMINISTRATORS

Name	Position	Tenure Dates
Hughes, John G.	Principal	1962 to 1963
Buell, W. Wm	Principal	1963
Smith, Shirley M.	Principal	1963 to 1964
Larson, Orland M.F.	Principal	1964 to 1966

Narrative Completed: November 13th, 2008
Narrative Updated: November 12th, 2009

The original school narrative document produced by Canada also contains a number of records that have been separated pending review.



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