

Pouliot complains about high gas prices in Terrace Bay

In a letter sent earlier this month to both the federal and provincial Ministers of Energy, Lake Nipigon MPP Gilles Pouliot complained that the current price of leaded automobile gasoline in Terrace Bay and Schreiber is "unjustified" compared to the prices of the same product in Thunder Bay, Nipigon, and Toronto.

He noted in the letter than on April 3, leaded gas was selling for as low as 44.5 cents per litre in Thunder Bay and 47.1 cents in Nipigon, while the same day in Schreiber leaded gas was being sold for

between 53.0 and 58.0 cents per litre.

"What is the nature of contracts between oil companies and retailers and who is setting the price at each station?" Pouliot demanded. "How can an oil company charge 54 cents per litre for their product in one town while it is 47.1 cents just 56 miles away on the Trans-Canada Highway?"

He also said that on the same day, April 3, leaded gas was 33 cents per litre in Regina.

"A comparison of prices today reveals that the prices in Schreiber and Terrace

Bay are higher than they were in Toronto on February 12, even though the world price (for oil) has dropped over 50 per cent in that time," he said.

"What possible justification is there for a price of 61 cents per litre in Armstrong, while the same product sells for 44.5 cents just 170 miles away?" he added.

Pouliot noted in the letter that both governments have said that one cannot compare the price spread from one jurisdiction to another, "but surely it is valid to question a wide price differential for the

same product in neighbouring communities, particularly communities on the same railway line and same highway."

He added in the letter than both Ministers' unwillingness to act on behalf of northern motorists has placed senior levels of government in the debit column in their account with Northern Ontario

residents.

"If you are not prepared to intervene to correct the wide disparity in gasoline prices between the north and south or between northern communities, why don't you give northerners a tax credit to compensate for the extra they must pay, since a large portion of the retail cost is for federal and

provincial taxes," he suggested.

Pouliot concluded the letter, dated April 7, by asking the Ministers to correct this "longstanding in-

justice." Copies of the letter were also sent to the Ontario Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations and the Terrace Bay-Schreiber News.

School begins program

As a result of parental requests, the Terrace Bay Public School launched a Sexual Assault Prevention Program in February, 1986, according to a news release.

Drawing from the resources and personnel of Marathon Public School which has implemented "Red Flag, Green Flag", staff reviewed several prevention programs. It was decided that "Feeling Yes, Feeling No" from the National Film Board of Canada would meet the needs of the pupils, parents, and staff of the school.

adults.

Students responded with interest and enthusiasm and gave evidence of learning many Personal Safety Skills. The staff of Terrace Bay Public School feel that "Feeling Yes, Feeling No" is an important addition to their program and

appreciate the support shown by the parents as well as the trustees of the Lake Superior Board, the release noted.

This year's program is now down to its last two sessions, and a survey form will be sent to parents next month.

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