

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Mr. George Robinson, J.P., of Kitimat, who was instructed by the Commission under date of March 1st, 1916, to investigate the additional land requirements of the Kitikata (Hartley Bay) Tribe and report thereupon, attended at the Board Room, Victoria, Wednesday, April 5th, presenting sundry written recommendations for the allowance of additional Reserves for the Kitikata Tribe, being then examined with respect thereto:

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: You proceeded to Hartley Bay on receipt of your instructions, dated the 1st of March, and you picked out several pieces of land for the Indians; the first is numbered 1, and is situated on Devastation Channel - now what do the Indians require that land for - it contains 100 acres?

A This is timbered land and they want it for the timber.

Q (Ex. blueprint) This lies between Timber Limits 5605 and 30890?

A (Ex. blueprint) I don't think it will join on to them.

Q Do you think that is particularly suitable for them?

A That has got the most timber of any place there.

Q Do the Indians cut any timber there now?

A No, they haven't cut any.

MR. COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL: Is it cedar?

A It is all mixed.

Q Is there sufficient cedar there for the Indians to use in making their canoes?

A No, in order to get sufficient cedar for that purpose they would probably have to go 100 miles, and not only that but the day of the canoe is passing if it has not already passed - they all use boats now.

MR. COMMISSIONER MCKENNA: The timber then is more required I suppose for firewood?

A Yes.

Q The point marked "No. 2" is in the valley of the river Quaal, which is also the name of Reserve No. 3 of the Kitikata Band - do you mean to increase the 71½ acres to 160 acres?

A If you see fit - if you think they have too much land I would cut the whole thing out.

Q What use is made of the 71½ acres now?

A They are making no use of it at all.

Q Is it agricultural land?

A Yes, that is the only land in the whole of that district which is suitable for agriculture.