

and members of the Macleod Town Council, with regard to this matter, and they have expressed their approval of the location of a road as above suggested. These gentlemen, however, have expressed their anxiety that the North West Government should undertake the survey and improvement of the road during the present Summer Season, so that it will be completed before the heavy fall teaming.

I am unable to specify and estimate the cost of improving the portions of the road requiring it without making a survey, but I am prepared to undertake the work, provided your Department obtains the necessary authority from the Department of Indian Affairs instructing me to incur the necessary expenditure.

In suggesting my own services in this connection, I have in view the urgency of opening a road to serve the Kootenie River settlement and the absence at the present time of Surveyors from the district.

I may add that while the opening of a road following the old Fishburn trail through the Reserve would save a few travellers about three miles in distance at the expense of crossing the range of hills known as the "ridge between the Rivers", the necessity for opening a road to serve the list of settlers above quoted, and future settlement, would still exist, and I am of opinion that one good trunk road, towards which all other roads could converge, would better meet the requirements of the district than several almost parallel roads leading to the same point.

I am anxious to have your views in connection with above suggestions before finally reporting to the Department and will be pleased to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Your obedient servant

*A. W. Poulton*

In charge of I.R. Surveys.

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