

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Meeting with Indian Edgar Sidney, representing the Teslin Lake Band or
Tribe of Indians at Atlin, B. C.

June 17th. 1915.

Edgar Sidney addresses the Commission as follows:

I would like to know what you want me to say?

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: Can you tell me what piece or pieces
of land is required by the Indians of your Band?

A. I cannot say because it is hard for me to say - The Indians
want to be free in the country, and they think if they take
or ask for a piece of land that it will be no good for them.
I heard that the Indian Agent was coming up here some time ago
but he never came, and I also heard that this Commission was
coming up here to see us but the Indians never showed up - they
never waited - I told them to ~~not~~ stay until you came but
they went off. I don't belong to Teslin - I belong to Alaska
and I have done lots of work there interpreting and these In-
dians are against me because I belong to Alaska. These Indians
say it is no good for us to have one piece of land - we want to
be free as we were before.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: Why did not the Teslin Chief come in?

A. I don't know - because I heard that the Liard Indians were
coming out this summer. Mr Brick, the minister, told me that
and he said that the man that had told him had died and they
blamed the Teslin Indians about it. They would not come be-
cause they had some trouble with the Liard Indians.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: They had better make friends quickly so
that they will be able to give Mr Simpson all the information
he wants.

Indian Agent Simpson: They left their guns half way between here
and Teslin lake when this man died and they all went back with
the body.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall (to Edgar Sidney) Do the Teslin Indians
make their living by hunting and fishing?

A. Yes.

Q. Have they any school there?

A. Yes.