

33/S/8/17733.

May 16, 1930.

Sir:-

Referring to your letter of the 17th February in regard to further effort being made to obtain information of the location of nineteen small parcels of land on the Upper Nass River as recommended by the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs for reserves, I beg to inform you that the matter of granting an extension of time for the survey of these lots was taken up with the Provincial Lands Department on the 6th of March, but it was not looked favourably upon and I was asked for further reasons why such a length of time was necessary, as it was difficult to understand why the matter could not be completed at a much earlier date. After my giving the best explanation I could with regard to the situation, I got a more favourable reply saying that if there is a bona fide need for these extra lands, it is incomprehensible why the Indians can not locate them immediately, and it had been decided to grant an extension of time for the location and survey of these Reserves to the 31st of December, 1930. It was expected that the matter would be completed by that date.

In view of this I wrote to the Chief and Council of the Aiyansh Indian Band on the subject and furnished them with a list of the parcels of land with the descriptions as shown in the Royal Commission Schedule, explaining the whole situation. I informed them that unless they could give definite information as to where these several parcels could be found and surveyed by the 31st of December next, the Department would take it for granted that they were not needed and consequently abandon all claim to them.

I sent my letter to the Aiyansh Council in care of Constable Newnham, to whom I furnished a copy, and instructed him to proceed to Aiyansh immediately and call a meeting of the Chief and Councillors and explain the situation to them very fully in order that they may have no reason for saying they were not made fully acquainted with the possibilities of their losing the areas mentioned in the list.

Your obedient servant,

WED/HM.

W.E.Ditchburn.
Indian Commissioner for B.C.

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