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Ottawa, April 18, 1911.

Dear Mr. Rowell,-

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 13th instant in reference to the Oka Indian case in which you state that Mr. McGoun, who holds the brief in the case, had been discussing the matter with you, and you ask the official relation of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs to the Oka Indians is the same as that to any other Indian band, and whether the Superintendent General has authority under any statute to represent the Indians for the purpose of maintaining them in the possession of their lands or their rights.

In reply I have to say that I am not sure that I understand exactly what you mean by "official relation," as this is a rather general term. However, speaking generally I may say that under sub-section 24, section 91, B.N.A. Act, and Chapter 81, R.S.C. I understand the relation of the Superintendent General to the Oka Indians to be the same as that to any other Indian band, and these enactments appear to give the Superintendent General authority to represent the Indians for the purpose of maintaining them in the possession of their lands or their rights.

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]
Deputy Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs

N. W. Rowell, Esq., K. C.,
Messrs. Rowell, Reid, Wilkie & Wood,
Barristers, &c.,
Toronto.

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