


254004-54

Ottawa, April 29, 1909.

Sir,-

In reply to your letter of the 13th inst. protesting against the election of Frank Toney as chief, I beg to say that the Department is not disposed to attach importance to the grounds raised by you in support of your protest. First of all, it is a very significant fact that, although you knew long before the election that Frank Toney was going to be a candidate for the office of chief, you did not protest against him or try to have him declared disqualified until the result of the voting was known; also when it was proposed to withdraw the nomination of Frank Toney and substitute another, who might be more popular, you objected. Also, as the election was by ballot, every effort was made to enable the majority of the Indians to express their views free from intimidation or fear of any unpleasantness afterwards. Lastly you had the advantage of holding office for six years without the risk of an election, as the expiration of the first term of three years was overlooked. It is considered, therefore, that you have no cause for complaint, and the election has been confirmed.

Your obedient servant,


Secretary.

Mr. Joe. Knockwood,
Brooklyn Corner,
King's County, N.S.

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