

121698-54

Ottawa, March 31, 1911.

Sir,—

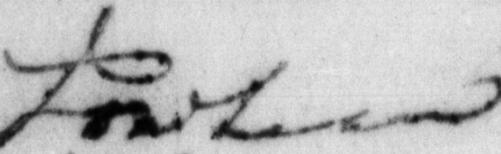
I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th inst. in reply to a circular dated the 10th ult. addressed to former Indian Agent Irwin, in which you report the death of Narcisse, chief of the Halkum band of Indians, Kamloops agency; and you say that the Indians are desirous of having a chief appointed.

In case you may not be aware of the system of appointment generally followed in British Columbia, I may inform you that, while until a few years appointments were generally hereditary and for life, for some time the Department has been introducing the system of making appointments for an indefinite term, that is to say, during good behaviour, and under the 96th section of the Indian Act you will observe that any chief or councillor may on the ground of dishonesty, intemperance, immorality or incompetency be deposed by the Governor in Council.

If, therefore, the majority of the members of the Halkum band agree in the nomination of a man whom you consider suitable for the office of chief, on your reporting the fact, the Department will be prepared to make an appointment for an indefinite term.

Your obedient servant,

K.C. MacDonald, Esq.,
Inspector of Indian Agencies,
Vernon, B.C.



Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Dept. of Indian & Northern Affairs, Letterbook,
29 March 1911 - 10 April 1911, (R.G. 10, Volume 5338)

Poor
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