

33/970/L.

24th August, 1920.

Sir:-

Having reference to the application for Indian Reserves by the Port Simpson Indians to the Royal Commission of Indian Affairs, when visiting the Mass Agency, I beg to draw your attention to application No. 45 on Page 570 of Vol. III of the report of the Commission. This application was put in by Joshua Moody, Aleck Spencer, T. Tait et al, for ten parcels of land of five acres each on Zayas Island to be surveyed so as to include Indian improvements. The Commission were not in a position to entertain the application at that time as the land was covered by applications to purchase in good standing. These applications have evidently since lapsed for I am informed that a William A. Noble has published a notice of application to lease the said island, containing 3,000 acres, more or less. Had the land been open at the time the Royal Commission dealt with the case they would, without doubt, have approved of the request of the Indians that the ten small patches should be reserved for them.

I therefore respectfully beg to request that if it is the intention of your Government to grant the leasehold to the said William Noble or any other person that the ten small pieces referred to should be first eliminated and set aside for the Port Simpson Indians. By following this procedure it will avoid the necessity of the Indians making any claims for compensation for the improvements referred to.

G. R. Maden, Esq.,  
Deputy Minister of Lands,  
Provincial Parliament Bldgs.,  
Victoria, B.C.

Your obedient servant,

Chief Inspector of Indian Agencies.

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