

33/S/8/17152.

March 25, 1930.

Your File 123413.

Sir,-

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th instant in reply to mine of the 6th March regarding nineteen small parcels of land on the upper reaches of the Nass River, which the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs allotted as Indian reserves, but up to the present time have not so far been located or surveyed.

With regard to your desire to be furnished with reasons why my Department should be given until December 1, 1932, to have these parcels surveyed, I beg to say that while the suggestion came from my Deputy Minister, I am of the opinion that his idea was that the Indians be given a sufficiency of time to furnish the information as to the location and make the same known to the Indian Agent before some date in 1931, after which the surveys would be made in 1932. Providing, however, the necessary information is obtained during the present year of 1930, the survey work will be arranged to be taken in hand during the summer of 1931. I take it that the main object which Doctor Scott had in view is not to give the Nass River Indians any grounds for complaint.

If you can give this matter your favourable consideration, I will immediately write the Nass River Council on the subject, and I am personally of the opinion that there is every likelihood that if these parcels are to be obtained for the Indians, the whole matter can be cleared up by the beginning of 1931. It may be possible, though, that the Indians may not be able to locate all the areas during the time available before the fishing season commences which is about the 20th of June in that particular section of the Province.

Your obedient servant,

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

WED/HM.

H.Gathcart, Esq.,  
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