

Ottawa, 10th June, 1920.

Gentlemen,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, with reference to the adoption of Harriet King, the minor child of Sabrie B. King, by Mr. and Mrs. John Manitowaba, of the Barry Island band, enclosing a copy of your letter to Mr. King in this matter.

In reply I beg to say that the Indian Act does not specifically deal with the matter of the adoption of children. The Indians are in the same position as white people in a matter of this kind.

The position which you have taken in your letter appears to be quite regular, and the Department can only suggest that if King refuses to complete this matter by giving the certificate of adoption or other such paper of adoption, as may be necessary, the child should be returned to him. If the adoption is completed and the documents filed with the Department, the certificate of adoption should make it plain that the child's share of the band property is to go to the foster father. These papers should be forwarded to the Department to authorize the payment accordingly.

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]
Asst. Deputy and Secretary.

Messrs. Pine & Stone,
Barristers, etc.,
Barry Sound,
Ont.

Indian Affairs. Letterbook,
5 June 1920 - 18 June 1920, (R.G. 10, Volume 5814)

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