

7. APPOINTMENT AND POWERS OF INDIAN AGENTS

The Six Nations Council endorses and supports the recommendations made by the Okanagan Society for the Revival of Indian Arts and Crafts as outlined in the special joint committee's report No. 14, dated Thursday, July 18, 1946, page 615, regarding the appointment, training, and definition of the powers of the Indian Agents:

8. THE RIGHT TO VOTE

We recommend that the revised Act should provide citizenship without loss of lands or rights as at present. Such was given without question in the United States. At the present there is the anomaly of the government conscripting for military service, demanding income tax, collecting certain other taxes, and yet saying that Indians cannot be citizens, cannot have old age pensions, and other matters of social security and benefits. The vote should be given to all Indians on the same basis as at present provided for Indian veterans.

9. VOTES FOR WOMEN

The women of the Six Nations are fully qualified to vote intelligently, and it is the wish of this council that some provision be made at this time to give them this right. In this connection we unanimously support the recommendations made on page 632, section 4, of Report Number 14, 1946, to which we have previously made reference.

10. RE-INSTATEMENT OF ENFRANCHISED MINORS

It is our opinion that some provision should be made so that any Indian, who was enfranchised by his or her parents, as a minor, and who is now prepared to reside on the Six Nations reserve, and providing that he or she is prepared to repay their share of Six Nations funds, should be allowed to return, and after a probationary period of two years, may be accepted and restored to membership by the Six Nations council.

11. INDIAN ACT

Section 2 (i) should be deleted and where "person" is mentioned in the Act, it should be made to read "anyone other than an Indian". Although this definition is only in the interpretation section and is used only as a definition in the Act itself, it has been misunderstood in so far as the Indians are concerned, and they have taken it to mean that they are not a "person" and have been placed in the same category as minors and lunatics.

Section 3 should be amended so that it would read "The Governor-in-Council, upon the application of the Indians, or non-treaty Indians, or any of them, or any band or irregular band of them, or the reserves or special reserves, or any portion of them, in any province or in the territories, or in any of them, may be proclamation exempt such from the operation of this part".

Section 13 should be amended by deleting the words "with the approval of the Superintendent General" and substituting therefor "Band or Council of the Band".

Section 14 should be amended by adding thereto "and any property held by such Indian woman shall be sold by her within one year from her marriage and if not sold, to be purchased by the Band or Council of the Band to which she belongs at a price to be determined in such a manner as the Band or Council of the Band may direct based on reasonable prevailing values".

Section 17, subsection 2, should be amended so as to read "The Superintendent General may, with the consent of the Band or Council of the Band, cause to be deducted from the capital of the Band of which such Indian was formerly a member . . ."

Section 18 should all be deleted and these new subsections substituted therefor.