

Nov. 21st, 1936.

Honourable Mr. Crerar,
Minister of the Interior,
Parliament Buildings,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Crerar:

You will recollect meeting a delegation of the Vancouver Parks Board at the Vancouver Hotel on the occasion of your last visit here. I have not written to you as promised in implementation of that interview, as in the meantime matters have been developed, and I desired to wait until the picture was crystalized before communicating with you.

I am enclosing herewith map of the City of Greater Vancouver, outlining in red ink that section of the Kitsilano Reserve lying west of the Burrard Street Bridge, which we desire as a Parks Board to have the right to remove the debris from and to keep clean and also to maintain law and order over.

We want this badly because it has gradually become a dumping place for refuse. The people have been cutting wood from it without any selectivity, old boughs and branches have accumulated, and every winter burglars and hold-ups escaping from the police find refuge there. The squatters who without hindrance have been allowed to build their unsightly shacks on the fore-shore, to hang out their clothes, and to pile their wood, have spread from Burrard Street Bridge, around the half circle, to where the Reserve touches our Park at Kitsilano Beach, and right there in the center of the City this eyesore that breaks the orderly cleanness of the beach line, is to be seen from all along the drive from Stanley Park to the Bridge, over the Bridge, and from various sections of the beach drive thereafter.

As a health menace the problem has become acute. The tide washing their undrained beach, which has no sanitary conveniences of any kind, deposits the debris all along our English Bay bathing beaches, and this year the protests have increased tremendously, people believing that the situation arises from trouble with septic tanks, etc.

The problem up to date has always been approached from the view-point of title to the property, which, as you know, lies in the Dominion Government, Department of Indian Affairs, for the Indians of the Squamish Reserve. This Reserve, where the

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Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 7797, File 29167-5-3 Pt.4)

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