

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Meeting with the Atlin Band or Tribe of Indians at Atlin, B.C.

on Tuesday, June 17th, 1915.

EDGAR SIDNEY is sworn to act as Interpreter.

MR COMMISSIONER MACDOWALL explains to the assembled Indians as to the scope and power of the Commission, and

TAKU JACK (CHIEF) ADDRESSES THE COMMISSION AS FOLLOWS:

I want you to explain to me what it is you want me to do?

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: I want you to tell me if you have any special piece of land that you want the whites kept off so that no white man can settle on it and it will be kept for the Indians?

The Chief: Do you want to move the Indians anywhere besides this place?

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: This Commission has no power to remove the Indians. Can you show me any special piece of land on this map that you don't want the whites to take and that the Indians will have forever?

The Chief: I don't know anything about a map - I cannot read, and you know how big this land is and I know it because it belongs to me.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: We are not here to do you any harm - we are here to help the Indians and do them good.

The Chief: I am asking you what are you going to do for me?

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: That is just what I want - I want you to explain to me what you want?

The Chief: This is the only country we have here - You know how big this British Columbia is and this all belongs to me and this is my country.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: But you don't want the whole country do you?

The Chief: I like this country - I was born here and this country belongs to me.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: You don't want to turn the white men out of the country do you?

The Chief: No, there is no trouble about the whites - we don't bother them and they don't bother us - we are just like brothers.

Mr Commissioner Macdowall: When a white man wants land the first thing