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Original on 27126-13

Ottawa, 23rd ~~Jan~~ 1880

Sir,-

On completion of the work for which instructions were issued to Mr. H. A. Sayne, I have to request you to undertake the survey of an addition to the Cumberland House Indian reserve, at or near Cran Point on Cumberland Lake. This work requires to be performed by a Dominion Land Surveyor.

You should arrange with the Indian Agent, Mr. J. W. Waddy, The Indian Agent, as to the date it is expected the party will proceed from The Pass to Cumberland Lake and request him to notify the Chief and Council as to the probable date of your arrival at the reserve, in order that the Indians may be consulted as to the land which is to be surveyed.

The area to be given to them is 540 acres but it is not certain whether it is desired in one or two parcels. While it is the usual desire of the Department to meet with the wishes of the Indians as to the location of the lands allotted to them, it is nevertheless the custom of the Department to advise the Indians where it is seen that their choice could be improved upon in the same locality. The inclination of the Indians is of course usually to have their land located so as to give them a very considerable length of shore line but the Department is always careful to guard against a block of land being laid out in such a manner as to make the shore line in excessive proportion to the depth and it is thought that the blocks at Cumberland Lake should not be less than half a mile in depth. Mr. H. F. Archibald, who will be the assistant on the survey is fully conversant with departmental procedure and should be permitted to take charge of the negotiations with the Indians from a departmental standpoint.

Messrs. Walker, Sayne & Hyde,
Land Surveyors,
1302 Union Trust Building,
Winnipeg, M. N.