

ROYAL COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Meeting with the Seton Lake Band or Tribe of Indians on Thursday,
November 5th.1914, at Seton Lake I.R.

JOE DE'SHIELDS is sworn to act as Interpreter,

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

CHIEF PETER addresses the Commission as follows:

I am very pleased to see you gentlemen - I am very glad
and welcome you here - I am the Chief. I am the last one
for two of the Chiefs died before me and I am all alone
now, and I am looking after these two places - I am not
very strong and they told me to be Chief. I pray to God
to help me, but I cannot see God - I cannot see him be-
cause he has no body. Well the people now have a body and
I can see you fellows - I am raised among whites. When
the first whites came to this country I was a little
fellow and they seemed to like me until now. Now you people
5 of you, I hope you will like me, but I guess someone sent
you up here to settle the grievances - may be the Almighty
God sent you up here to settle my grievances; that is why
you fellows ain't going to laugh at my words. I am glad to
see you fellows come here - May be you are my children -
I am over 60 years old - Before the whites came there were
no houses and they lived on one Reserve. The Indians they
have not got any land or cultivation and still they keep
their water to drink that was the condition of the Indians.
Our old forefathers are all gone and we are now living on
our own land and are looking after it - That is why we are
saying we are the original inhabitants of the land. (He here
produces map shewing his Reserves) I am pointing out on the
map where the Indians had trouble about their land on No.1.
When the surveyors came to measure up this land, when they
got down to the N.W. corner they asked me if the line will
go through this way (indicating on map) will it take all
the land in that you will require, and I said that might take
in all the land that I will require, so they ran that line
through, and when they went through we found that we did
not get the place that we wanted and I told the surveyor