

26th April

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Sirs:-

I am directed by the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs to acknowledge the receipt of your petition, dated the 21st ultimo, <sup>praying</sup> for the reasons stated therein, that your Agent, Mr. Reader, may be appointed to perform the marriage ceremony between any of the parties described therein as having identified themselves with Christians known as Brethren, in order to avoid the necessity which at present exists for those of you who desire to enter into the contract of marriage having the ceremony performed by a Minister of a religious denomination.

In reply I have to inform you that your petition having been referred to the Department of Justice, this Department is advised that His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of the Territories has power under Chapter 29 of the Revised Ordinances of the North West Territories to appoint Commissioners to solemnize marriage, and that probably you could attain your object under this provision.

You will perceive, therefore, that your petition should be addressed to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of the North West Territories if you still desire that your request be given effect to.

Messrs. H. Thomas,  
W. Harris, and other  
Members of the Pas Band  
of Indians, Treaty No. 6,  
c/o Joseph Reader, Esq.,  
Indian Agent,  
The Pas, N.W.T.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient servant

*[Signature]*  
Deputy Supt. General of Indian Affairs

Indian Affairs, Letterbook,  
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