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LANDS BRANCH  
AUG 5 1924

INDIAN OFFICE

DEPT. OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
JUL 2 1924  
RECORDS

At Lytton. B. C.

July. 28th. 1924

Dear Sir.

Application has been made to this Office for a Mining Lease in Favor of Mr Donald A McKinnon on the Kanaka Bar I.R.#4.

According to the Act I called a meeting of Kanaka Bar Indians for the purpose of drawing up terms upon which a lease could be drawn up by the Department.

I explained the whole matter to the Indians and told them that Mr McKinnon had made an offer of 10% net of any gold obtained, but I regret to state that the Indians would not listen to any lease being given

I tried hard to make them understand that the Act allowed the Indian Dept. to issue Mining Leases on Indian Reserves, but they always tried to get the Indians to state upon what terms these should be issued on so that the Indians themselves would be better satisfied, but they simply turned a deaf ear to everything I had to say.

They asked me to give them time to put xx their reply in writing, which they have now done, and a copy of which I am enclosing.

The great trouble with this is, their Chief is getting an old man, and he is always at logger heads with white men, with the result that he has made up his mind that he is not going to let these men mine on the reserve, and his people dare not say a word against him.

The only solution that I can suggest is for the Department to draw up a lease upon the usual terms given, and to write the Chief what you have done.

I can see no reason why this lease should not be granted.

I have the honor to be  
Sir.  
Your Obedient Servant

*Th. Raban*  
Indian Agent.

Asst. Dept. & Secretary.  
Dept of Indian Affairs.  
Ottawa. Ont.