

very desirable. You are aware that this company, three or four years ago, purchased 100 acres of land at Kuper Island, adjoining the reservation, with that intention. The Rev. Mr. Roberts is in charge of this land, but no attempt has, as yet, been made to establish a school there. The island is central, and sufficiently removed for the purpose from all white settlement. It would also have the advantage of being under exclusive control, as the island is all reserve, except the plot owned by the company, as above noted.

The company would, no doubt, undertake the erection of such buildings as they found necessary, and if any were required from the Government, I presume it could be arranged so as to have them built upon reserve land. I suggest that a beginning might be made, in a small way at first, and a few pupils would soon be trained who could assist in teaching others.

The necessary buildings, if erected by the Department, should be designed so that additions might be made, from time to time, as required.

It must be remembered that building costs much more on this coast than in the Eastern Provinces, but a start may be safely made with an erection which will cost \$2,000 or \$2,500.

Mr. Roberts states in his letter that the number of officials required for a school of twenty or thirty pupils would be three, namely, a matron capable of giving ordinary instruction, farm instructor and a servant girl. The instructor could at once make himself very useful in putting the reserve under cultivation, and teaching the Indians how to utilize it. His example would be copied by the Cowichan Indians generally, with great benefit, in teaching them how to develop the important reservation at Cowichan. The estimated cost of such an undertaking by the Government would probably be:—

Buildings.....	\$2,500 00	
Furniture.....	800 00	
Farming implements.....	250 00	
Yoke of oxen.....	100 00	
Cattle (2 cows).....	100 00	
	<hr/>	\$3,750 00
Matron.....	600 00	
Instructor.....	800 00	
Servant girl.....	300 00	
	<hr/>	1,700 00
Clothing (20 children).....	300 00	
Board (23 persons, \$10 per month, including medicine, &c).....	2,760 00	
	<hr/>	3,060 00
		\$8,510 00
Deduct cost of buildings &c. ....		3,750 00
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		\$4,760 00

Were the New England Company to carry out their original proposal to establish an industrial school on their farm at Kuper Island, I have no doubt that they would be glad to do so for a certain annual subsidy for each boarding pupil, and the usual rate allowances for day scholars, and I am of opinion that this would be the best and most economical arrangement for the Government.

The second school would be at St. Mary's, on Fraser River, where the Roman Catholic mission have the requisite buildings already erected and a school in operation. At present most of the attendants are half-breeds, but His Lordship Bishop D'Herbomey is most anxious to extend the usefulness of this institution, and were the Government to increase the present grant, so as to enable them to take thirty or forty Indian children, board and clothe them, His Lordship would maintain the school under such an inspection from time to time as might be deemed requisite.