

INDIAN COMMISSIONER
BRITISH COLUMBIA
30/5/2045.



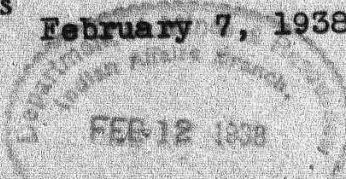
CANADA
DEPARTMENT
OF

MINES AND RESOURCES
Vancouver, B.C.,

204 36155-6
P. O. Box 8,

INDIAN AFFAIRS
BRANCH

February 7, 1938.



Dear Mr. Christianson:

I have received your 36155-6 of January 5th regarding possible discussions on further dyking operations involving Indian Reserve lands along the Kootenay River, Kootenay Agency.

I may say that I have discussed the question of the reclamation of these lands with Mr. C.E. Webb, District Chief Engineer, Dominion Water and Power Bureau, Department of Mines and Resources, and he gave as his considered opinion that our engineers should first investigate and report on the feasibility and cost of any project involving Indian lands along the Kootenay River. This would no doubt be necessary before the application for approval of plans of works of construction for the reclamation of the lands would be considered by the Provincial Government of British Columbia, and also in support of the application before the International Joint Commission. Mr. Poole informed me some time ago that his company was in a position to undertake reclamation work, having had considerable experience in the Kootenay Valley on large projects, some of which included Indian lands. I acknowledged Mr. Poole's letter and informed him that to my knowledge the Department was not considering at the time the reclamation of further lands. There is a large area of Indian Reserve lands south of Creston and east of the Kootenay River, probably some 3500 acres of excellent land which could be reclaimed, provided the necessary approval could be obtained from the Government of the Province and the International Joint Commission. No concrete proposal, however, to my knowledge, for the reclamation of this acreage has been submitted to the Department.

No doubt the Department will refer to this office, for consideration and report, any proposals made respecting the reclamation of these lands.

Yours faithfully,

M. Christianson, Esq.,
General Superintendent of Agencies,
Indian Affairs Branch,
Department of Mines and Resources,
Ottawa, Ont.

D.M. MacKay
D.M. MacKay.
Indian Commissioner for B.C.

EM/AC

Indian Affairs. (RG 10, Volume 7888, File 36155-6-1 Pt.3)

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