

20. In view of interview had at Ottawa during the past two weeks and in particular discussions relating to the McKenna-McBride Agreement, which it would appear the Government of Canada regards as governing the situation, it has become very clear that the allied Tribes are more than ever before under the necessity of establishing their aboriginal land and other rights.

21. It is submitted on behalf of the allied Tribes that as between the Indian Tribes and the Government of Canada such rights have already been authoritatively established by the Report of the Minister of Justice made and adopted in the year 1875 as above set out.

22. It is further submitted that the principles upon which that Report of the Minister of Justice was based have been confirmed by the Judgment delivered by the Judicial Committee of His Majesty's Privy Council in the Southern Nigeria case.

23. If the Government of Canada should see fit to accept the Report of the Minister of Justice and the Judgment delivered in the Southern Nigeria case as sufficiently establishing the rights of the Indian Tribes of British Columbia and as providing the main basis of all dealings and adjustments, it is submitted that the way would thus be opened for negotiating upon the conditions proposed by the allied Tribes and presented at Victoria in August last.

24. In that event, as is submitted, there would appear to be good reason for hoping that by co-operation between the Government of Canada and the allied Tribes a radical change on part of the Province of British Columbia might be brought about.

25. The allied Tribes beg to submit the following summary of the chief grounds upon which they oppose the passing of Order-in-Council