

agitation may be called mischievous, by which the Indians are deceived and led to expect benefits from claims more or less fictitious. Such agitation, often carried on by designing white men, is to be deplored, and should be discountenanced, as the Government of the country is at all times ready to protect the interests of the Indians and to redress real grievances where such are shown to exist.

Counsel representing the Allied Indian Tribes continued to press the aboriginal title claim upon the attention of successive Governments, and although the Government was willing to litigate the claim, Counsel for the Indians sought permission to take the matter direct to the Imperial Privy Council, instead of first submitting it for judicial decision to the Courts of Canada. This the Government very properly declined to do; but at the same time it made a generous offer to the Indians, the details of which are embodied in an Order in Council passed on June 20th, 1914. The full text of this Order in Council was as follows:—

P.C. 751

Privy Council
Canada

Certified Copy of a Report of the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His Royal Highness the Governor General on the 20th June, 1914.

The Committee of the Privy Council have had before them a Report from the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, dated 11th March, 1914, submitting the accompanying memorandum from the Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs upon the Indian claim to the lands of the Province of British Columbia, in which he concurs.

The Committee, on the recommendation of the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs, advise that the claim be referred to the Exchequer Court of Canada with the right of appeal to the Privy Council under the following conditions:—

1. The Indians of British Columbia shall, by their Chiefs or representatives, in a binding way, agree, if the Court, or on appeal, the Privy Council, decides that they have a title to lands of the Province to surrender such title receiving from the Dominion benefits to be granted for extinguishment of title in accordance with past usage of the Crown in satisfying the Indian claim to unsurrendered territories, and to accept the finding of the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs in British Columbia as approved by the Governments of the Dominion and the Province as a full allotment of Reserve lands to be administered for their benefit as part of the compensation.
2. That the Province of British Columbia by granting the said reserves as approved shall be held to have satisfied all claims of the Indians against the Province. That the remaining considerations shall be provided and the cost thereof borne by the Government of the Dominion of Canada.
3. That the Government of British Columbia shall be represented by counsel, that the Indians shall be represented by counsel nominated and paid by the Dominion.
4. That, in the event of the Court or the Privy Council deciding that the Indians have no title in the lands of the Province of British Columbia, the policy of the Dominion towards the Indians shall be governed by consideration of their interests and future development.

All which is respectfully submitted for approval.

RODOLPHE BOUDREAU,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

The Honourable
The Superintendent General
of Indian Affairs.