

→ { Jan. 5
c. c. to Mr. Lesaut

Department of
Indian Affairs and
Northern Development



Ministère des
Affaires indiennes et
du Nord canadien

PA

Mr. Bergevin

Ottawa, December 8, 1970

REGISTRY
CENTRAL SERVICES

MAN 6 1970
318-10

our file/notre dossier FILE No. _____
your file/votre dossier CORR. No. _____
REFER. TO _____

-- We discussed the two attached memoranda dealing with the interest of Indians in northern Alberta in acquiring lands within the boundaries of Wood Buffalo National Park to satisfy the land entitlement they enjoy under Treaty 8.

I have asked the Branch to suspend these negotiations in the light of the information you gave me regarding the general position with regard to Treaties 8 and 11 in so far as it relates to the territory above the 60th parallel.

ck.
by
action
from
ma?

The hazard I see in a prolonged suspension would be the negative reaction of the Alberta Indian bands concerned. I am not sure, for example, whether the Alberta bands participating in Treaty 8 have been in the past or will be in the future included within the scope of the government policy being considered for satisfaction of these treaty obligations in the Northwest Territories.

Correct -
Article 10 of
the Reserves
Transfer Agreement
of 1930.

For example, it is my understanding that the obligations to provide the land in provincial areas to meet the treaty obligations rests upon the province. In making lands available from the National Parks area we are, to some extent, absolving the province from this obligation even though the process requires that the land revert to the province and then be conveyed by the province to the Indians. || ?

May I suggest that you review this rather carefully to ensure that it is taken into account within the scope of the much broader problem which has different characteristics above the 60th parallel.

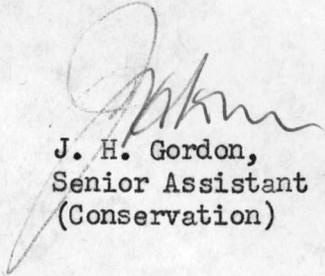
In particular, I would be nervous about adding fuel to the northern Alberta Indians' dissatisfaction.

So far as the Conservation Program is concerned, we will be pleased to co-operate in every way we can. Although the allocation of the lands in which the Indians are interested is inconvenient and inappropriate in some respects, in terms of park values I have taken the view that the first priority must be given to meeting any legitimate demand made by the Indians -- and we can live with the result. As the attached memorandum indicates,

YES. BUT SHOULD WE
HONOR OUR LAND OBLIGATION
AFFECTED ONLY FOR THE INDIANS
AFFECTED BY THE PARK?

- 2 -

the Indians are agreed. There might be a great deal to be said for clearing this obligation off the books unless there is concern that a deal made with the Chipewyan band now might be considered by them as a bad bargain if their neighbours north of 60 do much better under the deal proposed in that area.



J. H. Gordon,
Senior Assistant Deputy Minister
(Conservation)

c.c. The Director, National & Historic Parks Br.

Would you please note from the attached that we are to suspend negotiations with the Indians in regard to lands they are interested in in Wood Buffalo Park pending further advice from Mr. Bergevin.

gmk.

J.H.G.

Mr. Bergevin

Ottawa 4, December 12, 1969.

I. A. & N. D. REGISTRY	
DEC 15 1969	
FILE No.	318-10
CORR. No.	
REFER. TO	6-25-5

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J. H. GORDON

Gordon/eml

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Senior Assistant Deputy Minister
(Conservation)