

Department of  
Indian Affairs and  
Northern Development



P.A.

Ministère des  
Affaires indiennes et  
du Nord canadien

Ottawa 4, August 7, 1970

N.D.	
CENTRAL SERVICES REGISTRY	
AUG 11 1970	
FILE No.	318-10
CORR. No.	
REFER. TO	

MR. GORDON

our file/notre dossier  
your file/votre dossier

I refer to our recent discussion about setting aside land in Wood Buffalo National Park for the Fort Chipewyan (Cree) Band of Indians. My officers have spoken to your Parks officials and it was agreed that I should write you requesting you to officially authorize National Parks to recommence negotiations with Provincial officials and the Band. You will recall that these negotiations were halted when we were considering the possibility of fulfilling Treaty 8 and 11 land obligations. Our officials also agreed that, as they have in the past, the negotiations should take place at the Regional level.

As soon as you have advised your Director of National Parks to proceed, I will write a letter to the Chief of the Fort Chipewyan Band to inform him that officials will be in touch with him shortly.

J.B. Bergevin,  
Assistant Deputy Minister,  
(Indian and Eskimo Affairs).

- CC Director, National Parks
- Western Regional Director, National Parks
- Director, Canadian Wildlife Service
- Director, Economic Development
- Alberta Regional Director (Mr. Jutras)

"P.A".

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ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
J.B. BERGEVIN

KOZAR:PW

J.B. Bergevin,  
Assistant Deputy Minister,  
(Indian and Eskimo Affairs).

CC Director, National Parks  
Western Regional Director, National Parks  
Director, Canadian Wildlife Service  
Director, Economic Development  
Alberta Regional Director (Mr. Jutras)

Deputy Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Sous-ministre des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien

TO: *M. Benjamin*  
A:

Date *7/8/70*

- Approval / Approbation
- Signature
- Comment / Commentaire
- Action / Donner suite
- Direct Reply / Répondre directement
- Copy for this office / Copie pour ce bureau
- Preparation of reply by / Réponse d'ici le
- May we discuss / Discussion avec nous
- As requested / Selon indications
- Note / Noter
- Note and return / Noter et retourner
- Note and forward to / Noter et faire suivre à
- Information

*Lesaux 2-01-48*

*I should have made it clearer. National Parks will make all the arrangements with the Province and will involve them in all negotiations and when it will be necessary I bury them into the story.*

*Wally* 000008

Department of  
Indian Affairs and  
Northern Development



Ministère des  
Affaires indiennes et  
du Nord canadien

*[Handwritten signatures and dates]*  
B.F. 15/9/70  
11/70

**RECALL**  
15/9/70  
236  
Noted *[Signature]*

Ottawa 4, August 7, 1970

I.A. & N.D.  
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MR. BERGEVIN.

I refer to your request for me to pursue the problem regarding the establishment of reserves in Wood Buffalo National Park. You indicated to me that you had met with Mr. Gordon and that he had indicated that there was no problem from his point of view to proceed with negotiations. You also mentioned the implications of an agreement with the Crees and Chipewyans vis-à-vis Treaties 8 and 11 Indians in the Northwest Territories.

I initially met with Mr. Vergette to become familiar with the background. At that time, I raised the question about the reaction which we might receive from Treaties 8 and 11 Indians in the Northwest Territories. Mr. Vergette believed that there would be little or no reaction from the Indians North of 60 if we were to proceed with setting aside land for Treaties 8 and 11 Indians South of 60.

I then met with Mr. Eidsvik, National Parks Branch, to discuss how we should recommence negotiations. Mr. Eidsvik suggested that negotiations up until this time with the Crees and the Chipewyans and the Provinces have taken place at the Regional level, i.e., the Western Regional Director of National Parks and our own Alberta Regional Director. Mr. Eidsvik felt that from the point of National Parks, this was the best way to continue. I was inclined to agree with Mr. Eidsvik and we therefore agreed to the following:-

1. I would prepare a memorandum from you to Mr. Gordon indicating that we would like National Parks to re-open negotiations to set aside certain areas in Wood Buffalo National Park as reserve lands for the Cree and Chipewyan Indian Bands and that these negotiations should take place at the Regional level as they have in the past.
2. We would send copies of this memorandum to the Western Regional Director of National Parks, and to Mr. Jutras; also to the Director of National Parks and the Director of the C.W.S.

*done*  
*done*

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3. You would write to the Indian Bands concerned with a copy to the Alberta Indian Association indicating to them that you had asked National Parks and our Western Regional Director to meet with the Chiefs of the Cree and Fort Chipewyan Bands as soon as possible in order to proceed with negotiations for setting aside certain areas within Wood Buffalo National Park as reserve lands.

*in process*  
*done*  
*24/8/70*

If you agree with this method of handling the problem, I will prepare the necessary correspondence immediately.

*I agree but somehow we got to involve the Province in these negotiations. Where & when do you see the Province participating?*

*JAB*  
*7/8/70*

*Wally*  
W.D. Kozar,  
Executive Assistant.