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R.C. Watt
0239674

June 8, 1970

Alex V. Fraser, M.L.A.
P.O. Box 501
Quesnel, B. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of May 28, 1970 concerning certain applications to lease by s.22 and the lease issued in the name of R. Krause, covering Crown lands near Anahim Lake in Range 3, Coast District.

As you pointed out in your letter, the Land Inspector is fully aware of the situation relative to the acquisition of Crown land in the Anahim Lake area. According to the records of this Department there are three subsisting applications to lease by s.22 covering a total of 1,640 acres. The areas applied for are Lots 390, 391, 388, 389 and certain unsurveyed vacant Crown land in the vicinity of Lot 1766, Range 3, Coast District. The Department is currently awaiting receipt of the necessary field reports and no doubt the conflict relative to those lands occupied by s.22 will be the subject of comment and recommendation by the Land Inspector.

The application to lease in the name of s.22 for agricultural purposes covering the Northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Lot 674 containing 145.5 acres, and a further application by s.22 covering unsurveyed vacant Crown land in the vicinity of Lot 1208, Range 3, Coast District are also being held in abeyance pending receipt of field reports.

With respect to s.22 above mentioned application, our records indicate he owns a 160 acre portion of Lot 675 adjacent to the area being applied for. Our file further indicates that s.22 owns certain buildings located on the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of Lot 674. The Land Inspector will no doubt consider this aspect when making his recommendation.

In dealing with the lease which was issued to s.22 covering a 74 acre portion of said Lot 675 adjacent to his own privately held land, the field report dated November 6, 1969 indicated that s.22 had not developed his own leased land. The Indian Agent concurred with the Land Inspector's recommendation that a lease be issued to s.22

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With regard to the lease which was issued to Mr. R. Krause, the report on file dated August 13, 1959 indicates the trespass by Indians in the area; however, it was also pointed out that the Indian occupants of Crown land were not making full use of the lands already occupied by them. It was considered in the public interest to dispose of Lot 392, Range 3, Coast District by way of tender between Robert Krause and the Superintendent, Williams Lake Indian Agency. Mr. Krause's tender was accepted and a lease issued. This lease was duly recorded as cancelled on the records of the Department on March 17, 1970 by reason of non-occupation and failure to make diligent use of the land. The area is currently under application to lease by s.22 who has apparently acquired substantial improvements which Mr. Krause placed on the land.

With respect to the Indians' interest in the area, the Department attempted to enter into an exchange with the Department of Indian Affairs whereby certain unused Indian Reserves were to be conveyed to the Crown Provincial in exchange for other Crown lands apparently used by the Indians (0239674). This exchange has not been finalized because the Federal Government insisted on retaining the mineral rights on the Indian Reserves to be relinquished.

You may be assured that during the course of the field examination, should any of the applications on hand conflict with Indian interests in the area, the disposition of such land will be made in the best interest of all concerned. The Department has not issued any leases over lands resided on by members of an Indian Band.

I would particularly point out that s.22 submitted application to purchase covering the Northeast $\frac{1}{4}$ of Lot 674, Range 3, Coast District under date of August 11, 1966. A lease for agricultural use was eventually prepared in his name on March 8, 1967. However, neither this Department or the Indian Agency at Williams Lake, after many attempts, were able to obtain the necessary rental from s.22 to complete the final issuance of the lease. The application was subsequently disallowed on November 20, 1969. This area is now being applied for by s.22 who holds the adjacent land.

Yours truly

RCW:cg

W. R. REDDL
Director of Lands

CC 19 Williams Lake