

Ministre des Affaires indiennes et  
du Nord canadien et interlocuteur fédéral  
auprès des Métis et des Indiens non inscrits



Minister of Indian Affairs and  
Northern Development and Federal Interlocutor  
for Métis and Non-Status Indians

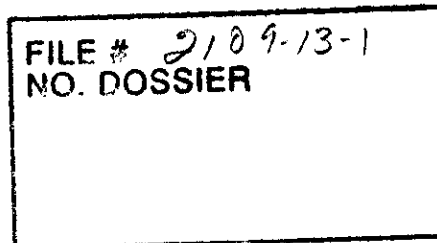
Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

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**WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

JUN 16 2005

Ms. Renée Dupuis  
Chief Commissioner  
Indian Specific Claims Commission  
PO Box 1750, Station B  
OTTAWA ON K1P 1A2



Dear Chief Commissioner Dupuis:

I am writing with respect to the Sumas First Nation's Vancouver, Victoria and Eastern Railway and Navigation Company Right-of-Way Claim. As you will recall, the Indian Specific Claims Commission's 1995 report recommended that Canada accept this claim for negotiation.

My predecessor, the Honourable Ron Irwin, informed the Indian Specific Claims Commission that prior to re-assessing the Sumas First Nation's claim, Canada would await guidance from the courts, as the issues raised by the Sumas First Nation were being litigated in a number of court cases.

I am pleased to inform you that, after a careful review of the Sumas First Nation's claim and in light of the current case law, Canada has chosen to accept the Sumas First Nation's Railway Right-of-Way claim for negotiation.

I appreciate the consideration that the Commission brought to the issues, and would like to thank you for its work on the Sumas First Nation's claim.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Andy Scott, PC, MP

c.c.: Chief Dalton Silver