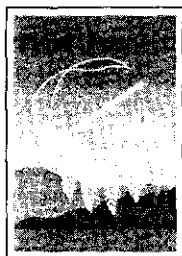

INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

A PUBLICATION OF
THE INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION



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P.E. James Prentice, QC

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FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

This is the third volume of the *Indian Claims Commission Proceedings* to be published and we are pleased to present it on behalf of the Commissioners and staff of the Indian Claims Commission. This volume includes five reports of the Commission. Three are reports of full inquiries. The first is the inquiry into the claim of the Fond du Lac, Black Lake, and Hatchet Lake First Nations of northern Saskatchewan (collectively known as the Athabasca Denesų́łíné) regarding their rights north of the 60th parallel. This report was released in December 1993.

The second report, released in June 1994, is on the inquiry undertaken at the request of the Lax Kw'alaams Indian Band, which related to the compensation criteria in Canada's Specific Claims Policy and whether Canada was justified in demanding an absolute surrender as a condition to settling the claim.

The third report, released in December 1994, is on the inquiry into the rejection of the claim of the people called the Young Chipeewayan Band regarding Stoney Knoll Indian Reserve No. 107.

The final two reports of this volume of the *Proceedings* are on inquiries into the claims of the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag to "Horse Island" in the Cascapedia River, Quebec, and of the Chippewas of the Thames to the "Muncey" land in southern Ontario. Both these claims pre-date Confederation by many years. In both these cases, the usefulness of the Commission's planning conferences in promoting discussion and clearing up misunderstandings was demonstrated, and in neither case were full, formal inquiries required. The Commission was able to release the reports of its involvement in these two claims in December 1994. We also add here a preamble to the Chippewas of the Thames Report detailing the final settlement of the Muncey claim.

In the section Responses, we are pleased to be able to reproduce the letter dated March 3, 1995, from Ronald A. Irwin, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, in response to the Commission's report on its inquiries into the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range claims of the Cold Lake First Nation and the Canoe Lake Cree Nation. That report was released in August 1993 and published in the first volume of the *Proceedings* in 1994. In its response the Government of Canada agreed to enter into negotiations for compensation with the two First Nations. We are encouraged that, although the government does not recognize a lawful obligation, it does accept a moral responsibility, and that some long-overdue justice may come to these people.

FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

Also included are a letter from the Minister in response to the Commission's report on the Young Chipeewayan Inquiry and one responding to the reports on the claims of the Micmacs of Gesgapegiag and the Chippewas of the Thames.

Daniel J. Bellegarde
Co-Chair

P.E. James Prentice, QC
Co-Chair

ABBREVIATIONS

AFN	Assembly of First Nations
AIAI	Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians
ANQ	Archives nationales du Québec
AO	Archives of Ontario
BCJ	British Columbia Judgments
BCCA	British Columbia Court of Appeal
BCSC	British Columbia Supreme Court
CA	Court of Appeal
Can. Bar Rev.	Canadian Bar Review
Can. J. Law & Jur.	Canadian Journal of Law and Jurisprudence
CBA	Canadian Bar Association
CCC	Canadian Criminal Cases
CNLC	Canadian Native Law Cases
CNLR	Canadian Native Law Reporter
DIAND	Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
DLR	Dominion Law Reports
FCA	Federal Court Appeal Division
ICC	Indian Claims Commission
ICCP	Indian Claims Commission Proceedings
ICO	Indian Commission of Ontario
MNR	Ministry of Natural Resources (Ontario)
NA	National Archives of Canada
ONC	Office of Native Claims
OR	Ontario Reports
RSC	Revised Statutes of Canada

ABBREVIATIONS

SCC	Supreme Court of Canada
SCR	Canada Supreme Court Reports
TARR	Treaty and Aboriginal Rights Research Centre
UOI	Union of Ontario Indians
WWR	Western Weekly Reports

REPORTS



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INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION

ATHABASCA DENESULINE INQUIRY

**Into the Claim of the Fond du Lac, Black Lake, and
Hatchet Lake First Nations**

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Commissioner Carole Corcoran
Commissioner Carol Dutcheshen

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To the Indian Claims Commission
Robert F. Reid, QC / William Henderson
Kim Fullerton / Ron S. Maurice

DECEMBER 21, 1993

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