
RETURN

To an Order of the House for a Return of all petitions or correspondence in possession of the Government, or any member thereof, in reference to the construction of a bridge over the Fraser, near Chimney Creek.

*Provincial Secretary's Office,
28th March, 1898.*

JAMES BAKER,
Provincial Secretary.

Copy of a letter dated Chilcotin, B. C., March 4th, 1898, from F. M. Becher to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

I have the honour to forward to you herewith, a petition for a bridge across the Fraser River at Chimney Creek. It is to be hoped that you do your utmost to secure the same.

CHILCOTIN, B.C., January 24th, 1898.

To the Lieut.-Governor in Council, Victoria:

We, the undersigned residents of Chilcotin, in the Electoral District of Cariboo, do humbly beg that you give this petition your earnest consideration.

The petition sheweth:—

That we are practically excluded from all communication with the Cariboo Waggon Road, owing to the lack of proper facilities for crossing the Fraser River at Chimney Creek.

The present ferry at Chimney Creek consists of a small row boat, which is totally inadequate for the requirements of this section; in order to cross horses or cattle, it is compulsory to swim them, which is both inconvenient and dangerous.

All the freight for Chilcotin is crossed at Chimney Creek now, because freight can be landed at 150-Mile House one-half a cent per pound cheaper than Soda Creek, and by crossing at Chimney Creek 150-Mile House is four miles nearer to Chilcotin than Soda Creek.

No cattle buyers will purchase cattle here, owing to being compelled to swim them across the Fraser River.

We are given to understand that the mail contract now running from Soda Creek to Alexis Creek is going to be changed to 150-Mile House to Alexis Creek *via* Chimney Creek. If this is the case, it is absolutely necessary for the Government to establish proper crossing for the mails.

Chimney Creek is the natural outlet for this section, and should have the best facilities for crossing, whereas it has the very worst.

Soda Creek has had a scow and cable for years, where there is no freight at all to cross for Chilcotin.

Having clearly set forth our reasons for presenting this petition to you, we request that you will do what is within your power to secure us a bridge across the Fraser River at Chimney Creek.

And we, your petitioners, will ever pray.

(Signed) NORMAN LEE,
ALEX. GRAHAM,
F. M. BEAUMONT,
GERALD DESTER, J. P.,
ROBERT GRAHAM,
GEORGE CONSTABLE,
and thirty-six others.

VICTORIA, B.C.:

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1898.

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