

British Columbia

271. G.

Answered
12 Feb
1881

Indian Office

Victoria Jan'y 19th 1881.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th Inst., covering copy of Resolutions passed at a meeting of the Penelacut Indians appointing Peter Euhaw Head Chief, and Charles Wilson Second Chief, Jack Knuawit and Andrew Wilson Constables, and admitting Charlie Wilson and Andrew Wilson to full membership of the tribe and to all other rights and privileges on the Penelacut,

Rev. R. J. Roberts
Kuper Island.

Penelacut or any other Reserve."

In reply, I have to state, -
that at present, no objection will
be made to the wish of the Tribe
to have Peter Chief and Charley
second chief. Their continuance as
such will however depend on
themselves and their efforts by
example and otherwise to benefit
the tribe. By the Indian Act
1880 you are aware that their election
as permanent Chiefs would have
to be provided for by an Order in
Council.

The Constables would have
to be ^{appointed and} sworn in by a Magistrate
or myself when visiting the Reserve.
and their election by the tribe is not necessary.

I have reason to believe
that the Government will appoint
a local Agent in the Spring, when
these matters to which the
Resolutions

Resolutions refer will be attended to by that gentleman.

It is not possible for a tribe to select Indians to membership who belong elsewhere, but under the circumstances, and pending a the reply of the Department to such a proposal, no objection will be made to the Resolution so long as no trouble arises from it.

I regret that the Indians have been informed that your proposed school should not have their support for fear of a charge being made for each child attending it— However they will soon know better, and probably little attention should be paid to such a rumor until your school is started.

I should think the road
you

you refer to would be desirable,
and most convenient for them to
cultivate a larger area of ground.

You may inform them that
the whole Island with the excep-
tion of the lot belonging to the
New England Co^{rs} has been reserved
for themselves - hence no other
white men than those residing
on the Company's land, or approved
of by this Department, will be
allowed after this Spring, to
reside upon the Island. They
should therefore entertain no fear
of encroachment in case they
open the road - which I need scarcely
add will be their own.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your obed^t Servant,

J. K. Powell
Indian Superintendent.