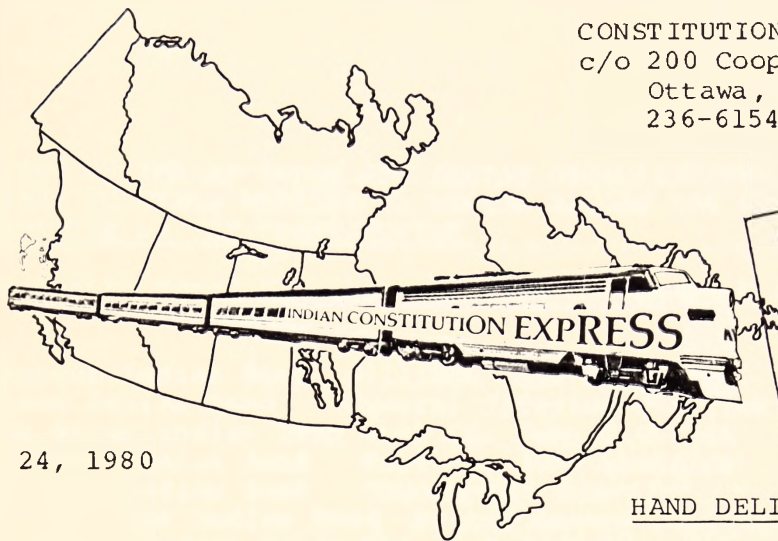


CONSTITUTION EXPRESS
c/o 200 Cooper St. Suite 3
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 0G1
236-6154



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25 NOV 1980
Committees and Private
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Comités et Législation Privés

November 24, 1980

HAND DELIVERED

Serge Joyal, MP and Hon. Harry Hays, Co-Chairmen
Special Joint Committee on the Constitution
c/o Mr. Richard Pregent
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, Ontario

Dear Sirs

This will serve as official notice that the British Columbia Indian Bands and Indian Organizations listed in the attached schedule shall be arriving in Ottawa on Friday, November 28, 1980 with the intention of presenting the Special Joint Committee on the Constitution with their respective briefs.

These Bands and Organizations are presently travelling across Canada by train in what is known as the "Constitution Express" as well as by other means of travel. These groups shall converge in Ottawa on the date specified above and shall remain in the city until Saturday, December 6, 1980.

At the time of writing this letter there were several other Indian Bands and organizations still considering the matter, however, have given clear indication that presentation of similar briefs is imminent. Therefore I shall caution your committee to be expectant of submissions from British Columbia Indians Bands and Organizations not included in the attachment.

The foregoing information was recently received from Mr. George Manuel, President of the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs.

Yours sincerely

Linda Jordan, Coordinator
CONSTITUTION EXPRESS

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Attachments

PARTIAL LIST OF INDIAN BANDS AND INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS
FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA WISHING TO APPEAR BEFORE THE SPECIAL
JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTION

Reference Letter dated November 24, 1980 HAND-DELIVERED

1. Ulkatcho Indian Band, Williams Lake District
2. Lytton Indian Band Central Interior District
3. Doig River Indian Band Fort St. John District
4. Saulteau Indian Band Fort St. John District
5. Quatsino Indian Band Kwawkewlth District
6. Stoney Creek Indian Band Prince George District
7. Cheslatta Indian Band Prince George District
8. Kitselas Indian Band Terrace District
9. Kitsumkalum Band Terrace District
10. Canyon City Band Terrace District
11. Skidegate Indian Band North Coast District
12. Stone Band Williams Lake District
13. Nemaiah Valley Band Williams Lake District
14. Alexandria Band Williams Lake District
15. Alexis Creek Band Williams Lake District
16. Alkali Lake Band Williams Lake District
17. Anaham Band Williams Lake District
18. Canim Lake Williams Lake District
19. Kluskus Lake Williams Lake District
20. Nazko Band Williams Lake District
21. Quesnel Band Williams Lake District
22. Soda Creek Band Williams Lake District
23. Canoe Creek Band Williams Lake District
24. Toosey Band Williams Lake District
25. Williams Lake Band Williams Lake District
26. St. Mary's Band Kootenay District
27. Lower Kootenay Band Kootenay District
28. Sumas Band Fraser East District
29. Hope Band Fraser East District
30. Seabird Island Band Fraser East District
31. Squiala Band Fraser East District
32. Burrard Band Fraser East District
33. Aitchelitz Band Fraser East District
34. Lakahalmen Band Fraser East District
35. Skway Band Fraser East District
36. Skulkayn Band Fraser East District
37. Union Bar Band Fraser East District
38. Coqualeetza Elders Group
39. Coqualeetza Education Centre
40. Bonaparte Band Thompson Nicola District

Reference Letter dated November 24, 1980

Partial List of Indian Bands and Indian Organizations
from British Columbia wishing to appear before the
Special Joint Committee on the Constitution

41.	Anderson Lake Band	Lillooet/Lytton District
42.	Bridge River Band	Lillooet/Lytton District
43.	Cayoose Creek Band	Lillooet/Lytton District
44.	Lillooet Band	Lillooet/Lytton District
45.	Fountain Band	Lillooet/Lytton District
46.	Pavilion Band	Lillooet/Lytton District
47.	Kitwanga Band	Gitskan-Carrier District
48.	Kitsegukla Band	Gitskan-Carrier District
49.	Gitanmaax Band	Gitskan-Carrier District
50.	Glen Vowell Band	Gitskan-Carrier District
51.	Kispiox Band	Gitskan-Carrier District
52.	Moricetown Band	Gitskan-Carrier District
53.	Hagwilget Band	Gitskan-Carrier District
54.	Kitwancool Band	Gitskan-Carrier District
55.	United Native Nations	Local, Smithers
56.	United Native Nations	Local 95
57.	Mission Indian Friendship Centre	
58.	Gitskan-Carrier Tribal Council	
59.	Kwawkewlth District Council	
60.	Caribou Tribal Council	
61.	Tsulquate Band	Kwawkewlth District
62.	Kwicksutaineuk Band	Kwawkewlth District
63.	Mt. Currie Band	Lillooet/Lytton District
64.	Fraser Lake Band	Prince George District
65.	Burns Lake Band	Prince George District
66.	Lake Babine Band	Prince George District
67.	Stellaquo Band	Prince George District
68.	Nicola Valley Area Council	
69.	Omenica Band	Prince George District
70.	Soowahlie Band	Fraser East District
71.	Bella Coola Band	Bella Coola District
72.	Cowichan Band	South Island District
73.	Spallumcheen Band	Okanagan District
74.	Neskainlith Band	South Central Tribal Council

COMMUNICATION TO THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE
FROM THE CONSTITUTION EXPRESS

We respectfully ask that you convey to the Prime Minister, Mr. Elliot Trudeau that we will not appear before this tribunal.

As Indian Nations we do not believe that the Joint Parliament Standing Committee is the Appropriate body to receive the position of our Indian Nations, represented in the Constitution Express. The appropriate officials must be the heads of the Government for Canada and the Government for Great Britain.

The standing committee has no authority to make any decisions binding Canada. In fact, Trudeau has confined the committee to recommend changes to the Constitution Act. We have already advised the Governor General and we have advised Canada through the commencement of legal action that there cannot be patriation at all, until the Indian Nations have concluded negotiations with the Canadian Government and with Great Britain. Our consent is constitutionally necessary.

We have to say something about the process of Trudeau's Patriation. Our Indian Nations do not make decisions without hearing the collective will of our people. What is Trudeau afraid of? Why does he set up a process here people are turned away and where those who are allowed to speak are refused the time to present their vision? The Constitution Express brought over 700 people from British Columbia, elders, chiefs, band members. We have over 70 petitions, carefully prepared by our people. Yet, we have been advised that we have, altogether, 45 minutes to speak. We cannot submit to this mockery. We feel sad for the Canadian people.

Chm. Chief W.M. Christa Skump 11/77