

Mr. Wilson Duff,  
Associate Prof. Anthropology,  
University Of B.C.  
Vancouver, B.C.

Kitwanoool, Via Box 134

Kitwanga, B.C.

Dec. 19, 1968

Dear Mr. Duff:

Please find enclosed herewith  
a copy of Chieh's and Council letter to the Nishga Tribal  
Council.

Encl:

Yours most respectfully

Peter Williams, President of Kitwanoool.

*Peter Williams*

TO THE NISHGA TRIBAL COUNCIL, PRINCE

RUPERT, B.C.

ET TO

MR. TOM BERGER, ATTORNEY.

ET MR. FRANK CALDER, PRESIDENT.

Gentlemen:

The Kitwancool High Chiefs, the people of Kitwancool and The Council assembled in meeting dealing with the extend of The Nishga Tribal Council claim and claiming aboriginal rights or ownership of land in the Nass Valley and find that The Nishga Tribal Council did wilfully Claim lands beyond the ambits of The Nishga ancestral territory and boundary lines, and that The Nishga Tribal Council also wilfull<sup>y</sup> claim aboriginal rights and onership of lands that are within the Kitwancool territory without the consent of the Kitwancool High Chiefs.

At the same meeting, the tradition was found to be just as operative to day so that no one of any Kitwancool decendant, who may be residing at any Nass River Village during the last 100 years or more, or at present, shall have any right to do anything about the Kitwancool land without first consulting his or her "CAPITAL" namely the Kitwancool.

The Kitwancool High Chiefs also find that The Nishga Tribal Council did enter suit against the British Columbia Government Claiming aboriginal rights or ownership of all the lands mentioned herein including the Kitwancool territory, therefore, let The Nishga Tribal Council carry out its own action covering its own territory and not the Kitwancool territory.

C.C.  
Indian Office, Hazelton, B.C.

Signed

Council

High Chiefs

Dated at Kitwancool, December, 12, 1968, A.D.

Edgar Gord  
Laurence Williams  
Vince Loggag

gwas-lam  
Abel H Campbell  
Sid-Dilk

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF  
ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

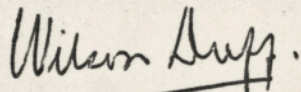
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shown as Kitwancool territory. And of course Meziaden Lake is also shown as Kitwancool territory.

The exact boundary between Kitwancool and Nishga territories is not clear beyond dispute. From the anthropological information which Dr. Barbeau obtained from both Kitwancool and Nishga sources, it is my considered opinion that there are two small areas to which both have a valid claim based on occupancy and use at some time in the past. These are the Kinskuch valley and the Kiteen valley. I have accordingly drawn the map in such a way as to show that both have a valid claim. Please note that I have not given up your claim to these two areas, I have just indicated that the Nishga also have justification for claiming them. That issue does not have to be settled at this time.

With all best wishes, I remain

Yours sincerely,



Wilson Duff,  
Associate Professor.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
VANCOUVER 8, CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF  
ANTHROPOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

3 January, 1969

Mr. Peter Williams,  
President of Kitwancool,  
Box 134, Kitwanga, B.C.

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for sending me the copy of your notice to the Nishga Tribal Council. I have discussed it with Tom Berger to ensure that he understands its implications.

The date of the Nishga case has been postponed from January 7 to February 18, at the request of the Crown's attorneys, as they did not consider themselves well enough prepared.

I am very pleased to tell you that Mr. Berger and I have devised a way in which the Nishga case can be tried on its principles without any jeopardy to the rightful claims of the Kitwancool and other non-Nishga tribes. The lawyers on both sides have agreed to present to the court a map prepared by me showing the areas to which the Nishga indisputably have a rightful claim based on the anthropological and historical evidence. The Nishga have agreed that the case be tried on the basis of these areas alone (although they do not give up the right at some future time to make their claim for the additional territories described in the Nishga petition). I have drawn the map in such a way that the Nass River above the mouth of the Kinskuch River is shown as Kitwancool territory. Cranberry River is also