

| | Aboriginal Views | Non-Aboriginal Views |
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| 1912-1916 | <p>“We want to get back all the land we had before. We don’t work on the Indian Reserves because we know the Reserves are only temporary and don’t belong to us and they go back again to the Government, and that is the reason we don’t work them - because we know they don’t belong to us”.</p> <p>(The Chief, Kitselas Band/Tribe, Babine Agency, 1915, pages 1-3)</p> <p>“This is very serious to me, that it has never in my mind gone out of my hand – I never gave it to the Government; I expected and claimed it as my own all along... I wish to be righted where I am wronged by the government”.</p> <p>(The Chief, Nimpkish Band, Kwawkewlth, p.139)</p> | <p>“We cannot give you authority to go and stake lands today, but we will consider all these applications very carefully, and if we conclude that it is necessary for the Indians to have this additional land, we will recommend that they be made Indian Reserves; but if any of those places are owned by whitemen, we cannot take them away from the whitemen”.</p> <p>(Commissioner Shaw, Kwakewlth Agency, 1914, page 4)</p> <p>The lands which the Commissioners shall determine are not necessary for the use of the Indians shall be subdivided and sold by the Province at public auction.</p> <p>The net proceeds of all such sales shall be divided equally [between the Dominion and provincial governments].</p> <p>(McKenna McBride Agreement, 1912)</p> |

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| 1920s | <p>“They are surveying our reserves quite often and making them smaller after every survey. We want this surveying to be stopped and the posts put back in their original places, when they were first surveyed. Three reserves have been taken away from us and we want them all back”. (Witinat Tribe-West Coast Agency August 17-1922)</p> <p>“Her Majesty the Queen Victoria had children who succeeded her and Chief Nokamiss who received the land also had children who succeeded him and it is just the same as if Queen Victoria and Chief Nokamiss were alive yet and it would be more in keeping with the justice promised us by her Majesty if representatives of the government would get our consent before deciding to take away from us any portions of our lands. It is no good for the government to break their own laws”. (Chief Louis Nokamiss-head Chief of the Ohiet Tribe-West Coast Agency-August 19, 1922)</p> | <p>“For the purpose of adjusting, readjusting, or confirming the reductions or cut offs from reserves in accordance with the Royal Commission, the Governor in Council may order such reductions or cut offs to be effected without surrenders of the same by the Indians...” (Indian Lands Settlement Act-1920. Note: see “Background: Confederation Onward” in Attachment #3.)</p> |

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| 1970s | <p>“...In British Columbia and a number of other provinces, there are no treaties, no agreements. So as far as the legal situation is concerned the issue has not been settled and this is what we're talking about is the unsurrendered title of Indian people to the province we now know as British Columbia, that's what we're dealing with”.</p> <p>(Philip Paul, Director of Land Claims Research, audio recording, 1972, UBCIC fonds, file Ac 10. Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs Resource Centre.)</p> | <p>“We won't recognize Aboriginal rights. Aboriginal rights, this really means, 'We were here before you. You came and cheated us, by giving us worthless things in return for vast expanses of land, and we want to reopen the question'. And our answer-our answer is no”.</p> <p>(Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, speaking to the Liberal Association of Vancouver, Seaforth Armories, Vancouver, 1969.)</p> |

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| Today | <p>“While the UBCIC wholeheartedly supports new curricula to preserve our languages, the removal of the offensive murals and the vital issue of climate change, we are keenly aware that we are fast approaching two years since we embarked on the New Relationship. We believe that this is an opportunity to build a genuine government-to-government relationship based on respect, recognition and accommodation of Aboriginal Title and Rights...Rather than report political niceties, BC needs to utilize the Throne Speech to signal significant commitments such as legislative recognition of our Aboriginal Title and Rights”.</p> <p>(Grand Chief Stuart Philip, President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, Response to Speech from the Throne, February 13, 2007)</p> <p>“If the culture, identity and spirit of Indigenous peoples are to survive, the land must be maintained with respect and understanding among all peoples in these lands”.</p> <p>(UBCIC, Our Culture Lives in the Land, 2005)</p> | <p>“The First Nations Leadership Council deserves our thanks for their open and positive leadership... New curricula will be developed with First Nations historians. Oral histories will be gathered through conversations with First Nations Elders. More will be done to enhance and preserve First Nations languages. With that spirit of respect and reconciliation in mind, your government will work with this Assembly and First Nations to act on the recommendation of the 2001 review dealing with the artwork in the lower rotunda of the Parliament Buildings”.</p> <p>(The Honourable Iona Campagnolo Lieutenant Governor, Speech from the Throne <i>at the</i> Opening of the Third Session, Thirty-Eighth Parliament of <i>the</i> Province of British Columbia, February 16, 2007)</p> |