



P.O. Box 440, Hazelton, B.C. V0J 1Y0  
Tel. (250) 842-5297 Fax (250) 842-6364

March 23, 2009

Ms. Alice Jeffery,  
Box 229  
Hazelton, B.C.  
V0J 1Y0

Attention: Kisgegas Chiefs

We have met with Chiefs claiming rights on Gitanmaax Indian reserve 06759 Kisgegas on February 27<sup>th</sup> and March 13, 2009. We agreed to meet to discuss your concerns as a show of respect for the hereditary chiefs. However, as a result of the way these meetings have been conducted by the Chiefs, we believe trust has been broken, therefore no further discussions are warranted.

Take notice that Gitanmaax Indian Band Council will not engage in any further meetings with the hereditary chiefs on Kisgegas Indian Reserve. The chief's most recent tactic of entering onto the Gitanmaax reserve and distributing a letter that clearly seeks to discredit members of Gitanmaax Band Council confirms that this decision is warranted.

For clarification, the statement in the March 16, 2009, directed against Chief Marjorie McRae, which reads, " We were disappointed you unilaterally limited the Kisgegas Simgiigyet to only six hereditary chiefs that could attend this meeting", is blatant misinformation. Cliff Sampare, by way of email sent Monday February 9, 2009 at 3:14 p.m., identified that six chiefs would be present at the February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting. This in fact, was attended by a full hall of participants invited by Chiefs and Gitxsan Treaty Society without knowledge of Gitanmaax Band Council. To seek now to discredit Chief McRae is offensive.

It is unfortunate that while the Kisgegas chiefs want to be shown respect, they have not chosen to conduct themselves with the same respect accorded to them by the elected Gitanmaax Band Council government.

As current or former members of band councillors in other Gitksan communities you are, or should be aware, that under the Indian Act, Band Councils are held to a very high standard with regard to protection of reserve lands and resources. Gitanmaax Band Council intends to continue to fulfill this duty to its members.

By way of this letter, we hereby notify Department of Indian Affairs that no further discussions and/or communication is to be held on Gitanmaax Indian Reserve O6759 Kisgegas, except with Gitanmaax Band Council.

Sincerely,



Chief Marjorie McRae  
Gitanmaax Band Council

Cc: Department of Indian & Northern Affairs  
Gitksan Treaty Society