



Assignment 8

Searching the Testimony and Final Report of the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs in BC

This assignment is in two parts. The first part shows you how to search the “Our Homes Are Bleeding” website to access testimony given to the Commissioners by High Bar members and the Indian Agent about High Bar’s reserve lands. The second part shows you how to access the Final Report of the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs for the Province of British Columbia (McKenna-McBride Report).

Part 1: Searching for Royal Commission Testimonies

1. To begin, print the assignment so you have a hard copy of the instructions in front of you. You may wish to refer back to Assignment 7, as you will find the maps are useful for this assignment.
2. Open your web browser and type “Google” into the search window.
3. In the Google search window, type “Our Homes Are Bleeding.” When the results appear, click the first item with that title.
4. On the “Our Homes Are Bleeding: Digital Collection” homepage, click on the “Testimonies” link located on the menu on the left side of the screen.
5. You should now have a map of Indian agencies in BC on your screen. Locate the Lytton agency and click on it.
6. Enter “High Bar” in the search window at the top of the screen and click on “Begin Search”
7. Click on the second item, a highlighted link titled “Lytton Agency: Meeting with the High Bar Band.”
8. You should now see a transcription of the High Bar Band’s testimony. Notice the sets of arrows located near the top and bottom of your screen. These arrows allow you to move either forward or backward one page at a time so that you can read the full transcript.
9. Return to the “Our Homes Are Bleeding: Testimonies” homepage by clicking on the blue “Home” link near the top right corner of your screen.

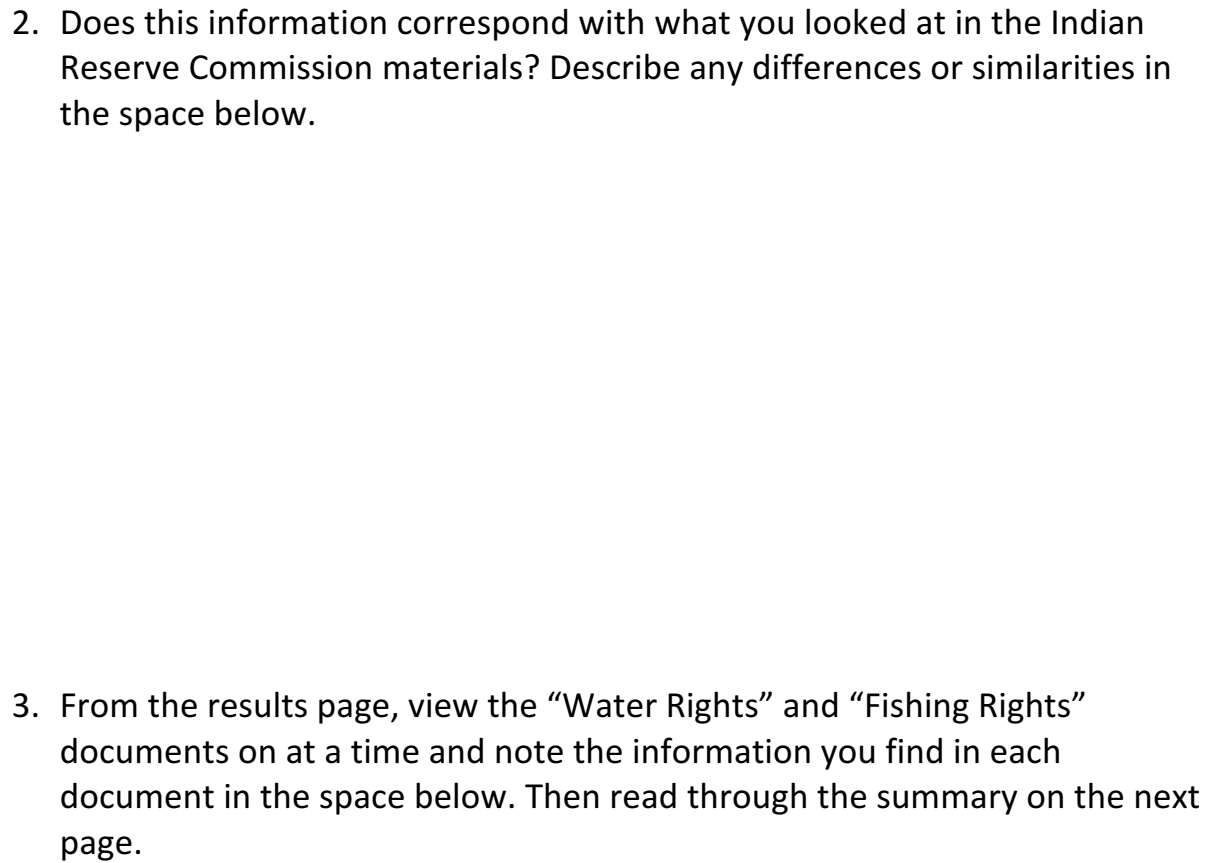


Part 2: Searching the Royal Commission Final Report for Minutes of Decision Relating to High Bar

1. Ensure you have returned to the “Our Homes Are Bleeding: Testimonies” page.
2. Click on the “Maps/Photos” in the left hand menu of the page.
3. Click on the “Royal Commission Maps” link. You will see the same map of all the agencies that you found in Part 1. Click on the Lytton Agency.
4. On the Lytton Agency page, scroll down to item 5, the map “High Bar Indians, Lillooet District.” Right click on the link to this map and open it in another tab. Keep this tab open to view while you continue with the assignment.
5. Return to the Testimonies page and scroll down below the Indian Agency map and the list of agencies. Click on the link highlighted in blue which reads “Final Report of the McKenna-McBride Commission.”
6. Click on the “Lytton Agency” link and type “High Bar” into the search window, as you did on the Testimonies page.
7. Click on the third item titled “Minutes of Decision: High Bar Tribe.”
8. Answer the questions in the next section of this assignment, using the map as reference.

Questions

1. How many reserves were set aside for the High Bar Band? Name each reserve and state its size below, then return to the results page (the list of viewable documents) by clicking on the “Search” link set within the dark blue strip at the top left of your screen.





Summary

The High Bar Minutes of Decision state that the Commissioners confirmed High Bar Reserve No. 1 at 229,400 acres. The maps you accessed in Part 2 of this assignment show the reserve zigzagging north to south and west to east on both sides of the Fraser River.

The Commissioners also allotted two land parcels of 40 acres each that members of the High Bar Band had been living on and using. This was “improved” land sandwiched between other preempted lots and between a preempted lot and the river. One is marked “No. 2 40 ac” and the other is marked very faintly as “No. 3 40 ac.”

Finally, the Commissioners allotted an extension to IR No. 1 on the southwest boundary. You can see the area shaded to denote reserve land next to PR 2799.

Notice that on June 28, 1916, the commissioners allotted an area for High Bar. They “considered and amended” their allotment just two days later on June 30, altering the extent of the reserve.

The High Bar Band was allotted fishing and water rights; they were allotted fishing rights from below Barney Creek upstream to the northern boundary of the reserve and water rights to the water of the small spring known as Indian Creek, the water of the creek running past the Indian houses, and the surplus waters of Barney Butcher and Watson’s Bar Creeks are reserved for the use of Indians.

Return to the results page and click on the Home link at the top right of your screen. When you have completed this assignment, remember to save your work, close the assignment, and return to Unit 5-4 of the course.