

INFORMATION SHEET

submitted to
the Sharphead Descendants

prepared by
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July 10, 1993

INFORMATION SHEET
FOR THE REVIEW & INFORMATION OF ALL SHARPHEAD DESCENDANTS

CIRCULAR - MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL SHARPHEAD DESCENDANTS

FROM: HAINES CONSULTANTS
C/O COLLEEN FRENCH
1517 CHATELAIN AVE
OTTAWA, ONTARIO
K1Z 8B3

DATE: JULY 10, 1993

RE: RESEARCH EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE SHARPHEAD PEOPLE

Attached is an information sheet drawn up in response to the meeting you attended June 9, 1993, at the Continental Inn in Edmonton, Alberta.

This information sheet contains the following:

- an historical review of the Stoney, the Pigeon Lake, the Wolf Creek, the Alexis, the Wabamun, and the Buck Lake Indians,
- all the reserves identified with band members who may be Sharphead descendants,
- issues which resulted from our meeting of June 9, 1993,
- the Sharphead descendants who were chosen as Steering Committee members,
- a complete list, in alphabetical order, of all the Sharphead descendants who attended this meeting, and
- a list of the professional advisors who are assisting in the decision and research processes are provided.

I have also attached a sample family tree form for the completion of any Sharphead descendants who would like to assist in our genealogical study. Completion of this form will be of great value in streamlining this genealogical study and cutting costs. If you are aware of any other Sharphead descendants who should receive this information sheet and would like to be kept informed, please call or write me with their address and telephone number. They could also contact any of the six Steering Committee members listed on this information sheet.

I apologize for not meeting the two week deadline mentioned at the meeting. However, as I indicated at this same meeting, I was obliged to put priority on other paying contracts. Hopefully, we will be able to gain support for funding your research requirements from the Research Funding Division at the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development thereby avoiding any future delays.

Additionally, I would appreciate confirmation of all information I currently have regarding your name, address and telephone number. This information can be mailed back with the family tree form provided.

You will be advised of the next meeting, tentatively scheduled for September, 1993. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen French".

Colleen French
Proprietor
HAINES CONSULTANTS

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FOR THE REVIEW & INFORMATION
OF ALL SHARPHEAD DESCENDANTS

I. HISTORICAL REVIEW

1. History of the Stoney Indians

The Stoney Indians were originally part of the Assiniboin people, a "Siouan tribe living between Lake of the Woods and Lake Winnipeg in the 17th century". Assiniboin is an Ojibwa term meaning: "he who cooks with Stones."

In the late 1970s, the largest concentration of...Assiniboin was at the Stony Reserve in Alberta, while smaller groups were scattered at other reserves in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

According to a memorandum to the Honourable E. Dewdney, Regina Indian Commissioner, a group of Stoney people were moved from a reserve near Pigeon Lake to Wolf Creek. In this document T.P. Wadsworth, Inspector of Indian Agencies, stated:

The Chepoostequahn [Sharphead] Band of Stonies last year [1883] removed from the vicinity of Pigeon Lake. The country there being thickly wooded is unfit for Indian farming and chose a reserve situate commencing North of Battle River and extending South over Wolf Creek and the Eastern boundary a line running North and South commencing at the intersection of the Edmonton and Calgary trail with the Battle River - nearly all the band have removed to this locality and have made a fair commencement in farming.

It is possible that Indian Reserve 138A at Pigeon Lake was the Chepoostequahan Reserve before they were transferred to Battle Lake, Peace Hills, and shortly thereafter to Wolf Creek Indian Reserve 141.

We also understand (from a secondary source) that a migrating group of Ironhead people left the Alexis Indian Reserve (I.R.133), near Lake St. Anne, and relocated to White Whale Lake (I.R. 133A and 133B) around 1884.

2. History of the Pigeon Lake Indians - (Cheepostequahan/Sharphead)
Indian Reserve 138A

The Pigeon Lake Indians were paid annuity from 1874 to 1878 in accordance with Treaty Number Six (6). The Alexis, Alexander and Passpasschase Bands are listed in the same region as this reserve and the department believes that the Pigeon Lake Indians went into the Samson Band or into one of the above listed bands in 1879. However, documentation indicates that a small group of Cheepostequahan (Sharphead) Indians still remained in this vicinity until 1883 when they were moved to the Wolf Creek Indian Reserve 141.

A group of Stoney Indians from Pigeon Lake also moved to Battle Lake (near Peace Hills) in the hopes of better hunting and fishing. This move did not work out as this group of Stoney Indians could not live peacefully with neighbouring Crees in this area. However, a small group of Cheepostequahan (Sharphead) Indians still remained in the Pigeon Lake vicinity until 1883 when they were moved to the Wolf Creek Indian Reserve 141. It is probable that the Cheepostequahan (Sharphead) Indians did in fact move to Battle Lake before moving to Wolf Creek and that their stay at Battle Lake was of a short duration.

3. History of the Wolf Creek Indians - (Cheepostequahan/Sharphead)
Indian Reserve 141

In 1883 the Cheepostequahan people were encouraged, by the government, to move from Pigeon Lake to Wolf Creek so as to encourage farming. In support of this transfer the federal government had this reserve surveyed in October 1885. J.C. Nelson was the Dominion Land Surveyor who surveyed the 42.4 square mile reserve (27,136 acres) at Wolf Creek for 36 families headed by Chief Cheepostequahan (Sharphead).

The reserve surveyed for this group of Stony Indians was known as Wolf Creek Indian Reserve and was located along Battle River and Wolf Creek. The Wolf Creek Indian Reserve (141) was set apart by Privy Council May 17th, 1889. This Reserve was later known as the Sharphead Indian Reserve (141).

A secondary source indicates that the Cheepostequahan Indians, also known as the Sharphead Indians, may not have signed adhesion to Treaty Number Six (6). However, the government records that the Cheepostequahan people were paid annuities out of Treaty Number Six (6) since 1876. The old Treaty pay lists also identify that the Cheepostequahan (Sharphead) band adhered to Treaty Number Six (6).

Annuities were paid to the Cheepostequahan (Sharphead) Indians out of the Peace Hills Agency from 1876 until 1891 when this responsibility was transferred to the Edmonton Agency. In 1876, annuity payments were paid in arrears to forty-five (45) Sharphead Indians out of the Peace Hills Agency and in 1894, sixty-six (66) members were paid treaty out of the Edmonton Agency.

This group was last recorded as receiving treaty in 1895 when three (3) members were paid treaty. However, according to the 1896 payroll, one of these families died and the other two families were transferred to the White Whale Lake (Wabamun) Band, later known as Paul's Band.

From 1895 to 1897 a small group of Sharphead Indians, later referred to as the Buck Lake Indians, were paid treaty as Samson Band members. This group continued to reside in and about the Sharphead Indian Reserve until 1905, though this reserve was surrendered in 1897.

After 1886, the Cheepoostequahan (Sharphead) people chose to amalgamate with other reserves because of the great loss in population, resulting from various epidemics (specifically measles) that caused a decrease in the band population:

...the broken families relocated at Wabamun (White Whale) Lake with Paul's Band, and at Hobbema with Samson's and Ermineskin's Bands.

In 1895, a few members still spent their summers at... [Wolf Creek (Sharphead) Indian Reserve 141] and had no desire to "abandon... the Reserve all together". In 1909, this group tried to petition the Government for a separate reserve at Buck Lake as early as 1909.

A list of the Sharphead Band members who signed the Surrender of September 11, 1897 are as follows:

Simon Fedi, Sharphead Headman	(No. 25)
John Sharphead	(No. 18)
Onivewass	(No. 34)
David Yellowhead	(No. 25)
Issac Sharphead	(No. 31)
Mr. John	(No. 32)
John Paul	(No. 37)
John	(No. 35)
Alexis Rain	(No. 42)

The land surrendered "was sold over a period of forty-five years...proceeds of the sale... [being] divided between the adopting Bands in proportion to the numbers adopted: 61/74 to Paul's Band, 4/74 to Ermineskin and 9/74 to Samson's Band." These numbers do not account for those Sharphead members who wished to form a reserve at Buck Lake.

It should be noted that, as of 1911, 685.20 acres of the 27,136 acres that made up the Wolf Creek (Sharphead) Indian Reserve still remained unsold. However, in 1918, the South-East quarter of section six, township forty-three, range twenty-six, of the Sharphead Reserve was sold.

4. History of the Alexis Indians - (Joseph's) Indian Reserve 133

The Alexis Band signed Treaty Number Six (6) on August 21, 1877, though they were paid treaty since 1876 out of the Edmonton Agency.

The Alexis Reserve (133) was surveyed by George A. Simpson, Dominion Land Surveyor, in October, 1880. This reserve made up a land mass of twenty-three square miles (14,720 acres) at Lake St. Anne, with a Band population of forty-two families.

Chief Alexis (Koos-kee-chee-chi) headed this band from August 21, 1877 till his death in 1891, when Chief Joseph replaced him as chief in 1891.

There is evidence of Indians transferring from the Joseph's Band on Lake St. Anne to the Ironhead/Wabamun (White Whale Lake) Indian Reserve (133A and 133B) under the leadership of Chief Ironhead.

5. History of the Wabamun/White Whale Lake Indians - (Ironhead/Paul's) Indian Reserve 133A and 133B

In August 21, 1877, this group signed with Treaty Number Six (6) under the Alexis Band. In 1891, a small group of Alexis/Joseph Band members followed Chief Ironhead to a location on White Whale Lake. White Whale Lake was officially titled Wabamun Lake, as Wabamun means White Whale in the Stoney language. Currently, this reserve is referred to as Paul or Paul's Band.

In 1894, sixty-one Sharphead Band members moved to this reserve and were forthwith administered out of the Edmonton Agency.

In 1914, a second reserve was established at Wabamun (White Whale) Lake as Indian Reserve 133C. It was known as the Buck Lake Indian Reserve. The department identifies the members of this Band as former Sharphead Band members who were a group separated from the Stoney Indians of Morley, in Alberta.

"After being admitted to Samson and Paul's Band[s] they refused to remain on their respective reserves and chose to invade the Buck Lake area. They later returned to the Paul's Band."

A fishing station existed at Wabamun (White Whale) Lake. This area was established as an additional reserve for the Paul's Band members, listed as Indian Reserve 133B.

In March of 1911, the Ironhead/Wabamun (Paul's Band) Indian Reserve (133A and 133B) consisted of 20,378 acres with a population of about 141 Band members.

On May 13, 1911, a vote was taken to surrender a portion of the Wabamun (Paul's Band) Indian Reserve (133A). This vote condoned a surrender for Sections 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35 and 36, in town plot fifty-two, representing approximately 4500 acres.

The vote was signed by the following band members:

Paul	Baptiste Peter
John Rain	John House
Alex Paul	Robaire Bearhead
Nierciese Cree	John Sharphead*
John Bull	Isaacs Sharphead*
Dydynius	Joseph Rabbit
Jos. Cree	Thomas James
Jacob Dydynius	John Bearhead
Mrs. Bearhead	Jos. Michel
Mrs. John*	David Peter
John*	

*List of Sharphead Band members who signed a surrender at Wolf Creek (Sharphead) Indian Reserve (141) in 09/11/1897.

A document discussing Indian reserve 133A identifies that the surrender, voted for on May 13, 1911, included approximately one hundred acres and was signed on August 5, 1911. This surrender was accepted on September 11, 1906. As of 1911, 22.85 acres still remains unsold.

The *Record of Vote* taken for a surrender of the Wabamun Indian Reserve (133A) shows Joe Michel and Joe Cree to be respectively Chief and Councillor and Paul Apetchis (Firebag) to be the Ex-Chief.

6. History of Buck Lake Indians - Reserve 133C

In 1909, a memorandum states that some "members of the old [Wolf Creek (Sharphead) Indian] Reserve [141], headed by George Rain, requested a Reserve [at Buck Lake]". This same document states the Indians were "driven from Wolf Creek" and lists some members of the old...[Wolf Creek (Sharphead) Indian Reserve (141)], as follows:

Wm. Rain and wife
 Geo. Rain [&] Wife and six children
 Paul Rain [&] Wife and four [children]
 Wm. Fymons [&] Wife and two [children]
 Oheoiunis Toto and Wife
 Joshua Toto Wife and two children
 Pere Paul and family of nine
 Francis Roau [&] Wife and [family] of five
 John Tharpeu [&] Wife and [family] of four
 Tom Rain [&] Wife and [family] of six
 Mr. John Sr.
 John [&] Wife and five children
 Joe Cree [&] Wife and six [children]"

From September 11, 1897, these members were listed as Samson Band members until 1914. In 1914, the Buck Lake Indian Reserve was granted to these Sharphead descendants and their treaty was paid directly to them out of the Hobbema Agency. In 1919, the Buck Lake Band members surrendered the entire reserve and all the members transferred to Paul's Band and were administered annuity payments out of the Edmonton Agency. At the request of the Paul's Band, the Buck Lake Reserve was reinstated in 1962.

II. LIST OF RESERVES WITH SHARPHEAD DESCENDANTS (according to D.I.A.N.D.):

1. KAHCHETEH WAYSCUM (ALEXANDER'S)
2. ALEXANDER
3. ALEXIS (JOSEPH)
4. JOSEPH'S
5. PIGEON LAKE (CHEEPOOSTEQUAHAN)
6. WABAMUN (WHITE WHALE LAKE)
7. IRONHEAD (PAUL)
8. PAUL'S BAND
9. WOLF CREEK (CHEEPOOSTEQUAHAN)
10. CHEEPOOSTEQUAHAN (SHARPHEAD)
11. SHARPHEAD
12. BUCK LAKE (RAIN)
13. ERMINISKIN (BIG BEAR)
14. SAMSON
15. JONAS
16. OCHINAKE (LUCKMAN OR POORMAN)
17. MUDDY LAKE
18. NOAH (MUDDY BULL)
19. ENOCH
20. JACOB'S
21. STRAGGLERS
22. EDMONTON STRAGGLERS
23. PASSPASSCHASE (PASSAPASSQUE)
24. PAYSIS
25. PROPHET
26. BEAR'S PAW

III. ISSUES TO CONSIDER:

1. Is the surrender legal?
2. If not we could submit a claim through the following avenues:
 - i. Specific Claims - Land Claim
 - ii. Claims Commission - Land Claim
 - iii. Court case
3. Determine a list of other claims & prioritize
4. Exchange and share information, pertaining to the Sharphead people, amongst all researchers to eliminate duplication of researching efforts and costs.
5. Request a Band Council Resolution (BCR) from the Paul's Band in order to access documents relating to the Sharphead people from Treaty and Aboriginal Rights Research of the Indian Association of Alberta (T.A.R.R.) or request each Sharphead member to sign a permission slip for us to access restricted information in order to determine individual family trees.
6. Request a Band Council Resolution (BCR) from all other reserves with Sharphead descendants listed as band members on their band list to access relevant Membership records, Paylists, and Annuity files.
7. Solicit research funding from the Research Funding Division with a financially detailed proposal. [Contacts: Jackie Barnie (Gull), Donna Reid Daily, Sharmen Glynn (997-0115), or Richard Day (994-1623)]

IV. SHARPHEAD STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

1. HARVEY BIRD. PAUL BAND.
2. JOE BIRD. PAUL BAND.
3. JOHN SNOW. MORLEY BAND
4. WALLACE SNOW. MORLEY BAND.
5. BILLY SHARPHEAD. ENOCH BAND.
6. ROBERT SHARPHEAD. ENOCH BAND.

V. ATTENDANCE AT MEETING OF JUNE 9, 1993 (SHARPHEAD MEMBERS) CONTINENTAL INN - EDMONTON, ALBERTA:

1. PAM ARCAND. ALEXANDER BAND. BOX 1777, MORNVILLE, ALBERTA, TOG 1PO. (403)939-4437.
2. BRIAN BIRD. PAUL BAND. BOX 474, DUFFIELD, ALBERTA, TOE ONO.
3. CALVIN BIRD. PAUL BAND. BOX 407, DUFFIELD, ALBERTA, TOE ONO.
4. CHARLES BIRD. PAUL BAND.
5. DAVID BIRD. PAUL BAND.
6. GERMAINE BIRD. PAUL BAND.
7. HARVEY BIRD. PAUL BAND. BOX 377, DUFFIELD, ALBERTA, TOE ONO. (403)472-0125. FAX (403)472-0740
8. JOE BIRD. PAUL BAND. BOX 315, DUFFIELD, ALBERTA, TOE ONO. (403)939-4614 or (403)682-2115.
9. LOTTIE BIRD. PAUL BAND. BOX 12, DUFFIELD, ALBERTA, TOE ONO.
10. LOUISE BIRD. PAUL BAND.
11. MORRIS BIRD. PAUL BAND. BOX 1506, ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE, ALBERTA, TOM 1TO.
12. PETER BIRD. PAUL BAND. BOX 68, DUFFIELD, ALBERTA, TOE ONO. (403)682-2115
13. PAULINE BIRD. PAUL BAND. BOX 407, DUFFIELD, ALBERTA, TOE ONO.
14. SANDRA BIRD. PAUL BAND.
15. IAN GETTY. MORLEY BAND. BOX 120, MORLEY, ALBERTA, TOL 1NO. (403)286-8548.
16. EVELYN JOHNSON. PAUL BAND. BOX 92, CAROLINE, ALBERTA, TOM ONO.
17. BILLY SHARPHEAD. ENOCH BAND. BOX 31, SITE 2, RR#1, WINTERBURN, ALBERTA, TOE 2NO. (403)470-5603
18. CATHERINE SHARPHEAD. ENOCH BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, WINTERBURN, ALBERTA, TOE 2NO.
19. ROBERT SHARPHEAD. ENOCH BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, BOX 106, SITE 2, RR#1, WINTERBURN, ALBERTA, TOE 2NO. (403)470-0278
20. RUBY SHARPHEAD. ENOCH BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, WINTERBURN, ALBERTA, TOE 2NO.

21. SARA SHARPHEAD. ENOCH BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, WINTERBURN, ALBERTA, T0E 2N0.
22. BRUCE SNOW. MORLEY BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, MORLEY, ALBERTA, TOL 1N0. 881-3504.
23. ELMA SNOW. MORLEY BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, MORLEY, ALBERTA, TOL 1N0.
24. GENERICH SNOW. MORLEY BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, BOX 136, MORLEY, ALBERTA, TOL 1N0, (403)881-2225.
25. HANK SNOW. MORLEY BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, MORLEY, ALBERTA, TOL 1N0. (403)881-3504.
26. JOHN SNOW. MORLEY BAND. BOX 30, MORLEY, ALBERTA, TOL 1N0. (403)881-2416. FAX (403)881-2189. OR 55 MURRAY ST, 5TH FLOOR, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, K1N 5M3. (613)236-0673.
27. TOM SNOW. MORLEY BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, BOX 302, MORLEY, ALBERTA, TOL 1N0. (403)881-3637.
28. WALLACE SNOW. MORLEY BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, BOX 52, MORLEY, ALBERTA, TOL 1N0. (403)881-2028.
29. WILLIAM SNOW. MORLEY BAND. GENERAL DELIVERY, MORLEY, ALBERTA, TOL 1N0.

VI. PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS:

1. COLLEEN FRENCH. HAINES CONSULTANTS. RESEARCH CONSULTANT. 1517 CHATELAIN AVE, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, K1Z 8B3. (613)729-6613.
 - 1.1. SEAN KENNEDY. CONSULTING. ANALYSIS & NEGOTIATION EXPERT. 15 ARBORDALE CRESENT, NEPEAN, ONTARIO. (613)224-5739.
 - 1.2. SARA WATTS. HAINES CONSULTANTS. SUPERVISOR. 1-534 BYRON AVE, OTTAWA, ONTARIO, K2A 0E3. (613)722-6068.
 - 1.3. AARON RYAN. HAINES CONSULTANTS. RESEARCHER. 31 KEYS WAY, OTTAWA, ONTARIO. (613)738-7586.

2. STEVEN PILLIPOW. PILLIPOW & COMPANY. LAWYER. REMBI BUILDING, 102-500 SPADINA, SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN, S7K 4B9. (306)665-3456.