

YOUR FILE NO.

Circular Letter #234

DIRECTOR AND SURVEYOR-GENERAL
FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION
LEGAL SURVEYS DIVISION
MAP PRODUCTION DIVISION

SURVEYS AND MAPPING BRANCH DEPARTMENT OF LANDS, FORESTS, AND WATER RESOURCES VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA

March 1, 1972.

CIRCULAR LETTER TO BRITISH COLUMBIA LAND SURVEYORS

Dear Sir:

The attached print is a tracing of part of Plan 762 of Lot 1921 Kootenay District, which created in this area, Lots 1 to 8 with an undesignated or unlabelled strip of land between the frontage of the lots facing Kootenay Lake, and the lake itself.

All subsequent subdivisions of Lots 1 to 8 of plan 762 have been draughted on the plan to show what has happened to the strip of Crown land and how various surveyors have handled the problem. More than 50% of the strip has been lost to the public and is now under Certificate of Title to private persons. Although it is possible the land could be recovered by the Crown it is not our intention to start proceedings in this case.

I would draw your attention to the case "re Quieting Titles Act, re certain lands in Osoyoos" appearing on page 133 of the Extracts from B. C. Law Reports as published by the Corporation of B. C. Land Surveyors. The circumstances of the two cases appear very similar and strengthen our conviction that this unlabelled strip, is Crown land.

The Director of Legal Services has advised his Registrars that in cases analagous to these two, no decision adversely affecting the Crown's ownership of a disputed strip be made without reference to this office.

Yours truly,

A. H. Ralfs

Surveyor-General and Director, Surveys and Mapping Branch.

