

DOCUMENT A

AN EXCERPT FROM ONE OF CHIEF ISAAC'S SPEECHES

NAME: _____



BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE

Chief Isaac was a well-known Chief of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in (Hän) during the Klondike Gold Rush of 1896, when thousands of people migrated to the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in homeland. Below is a newspaper clipping from that time which preserves one of Chief Isaac's passionate speeches, given in English, his second language.

"Long time ago before the white man came along, Yukon Indian was happy. Indian had plenty game, no trouble and was fat. White man comes and Indian go out and kill meat to feed him. Indian gives white man clothes to wear and warm him by Indian fire. Byemby ... million white man come and cut down Indian's wood, kill Indian's game, take Indian's gold out of the ground, give Indian nothing. Game all gone, wood all gone, Indian cold and hungry, white man no care."

Source: Gray, C. (2021). *Canada's History*, "Reconsidering the Gold Rush."

www.canadashistory.ca/explore/peace-conflict/reconsidering-the-gold-rush

