

## PETITION.

—o—

*To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, in Parliament Assembled:*

The petition of the undersigned, the New Westminster and Burrard Inlet Telephone Company, limited, humbly sheweth :—

That your Petitioner Company was incorporated by special Act of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia (private Act), being Chapter 31 of 47 Victoria (1884), under the name of "The New Westminster and Port Moody Telephone Company, Limited" ;

That by an Act of the said Legislative Assembly passed on the 6th April, 1886, being Chapter 30 of 49 Victoria, your petitioner's said Act of Incorporation was amended, and your petitioner's name changed to the present name of your petitioner's Company, the New Westminster and Burrard Inlet Telephone Company, Limited ; and by a further Act of the said Legislative Assembly, 1891, Chapter 66, 54 Victoria, your Petitioner Company's said Act was further amended ;

That your Petitioner Company, in pursuance of the power granted to it by the said Acts, acquired property, and constructed, and is now operating and maintaining, a line of telephone from the City of New Westminster to the City of Vancouver, and in and throughout the last mentioned City ;

That your Petitioner Company's capital stock is \$100,000, of which \$92,000 has been issued and is fully paid up ;

That your Petitioner Company is the only Company in active operation in and throughout the said City of Vancouver ;

And whereas the City of Vancouver is applying for amendments to its charter, and an Act has been brought down to your Honourable House styled "The Vancouver Incorporation Act Amendment Act, 1894" ;

And whereas the said Act, as brought down and read a first time, prejudicially affects the rights, privileges, and franchises of your Petitioner Company ;

Your Petitioner Company object to the provisions following of the said "The Vancouver Incorporation Act Amendment Act, 1894" :—

(1.) The provisions contained in section 22 of the said Act wherein it provides that the City Corporation may do any matter or thing that may be conducive to the benefit of the inhabitants of the City.

(2.) The provision under section 22 of the said Act, wherein section 142 of the "Vancouver City Incorporation Act" is proposed to be amended by adding a new sub-section, to be known as sub-section (73*b*), as follows :—

"For preventing the erection of poles and the stringing up of wires in the streets for any purpose whatever."

(3.) The provision whereby section 142 of the "Vancouver City Incorporation Act" is proposed to be amended by adding a new sub-section, to be known as sub-section (83*d*) as follows :—

“For licensing every express company, gas company, telephone company, electric light company, street railway company or tramway company, investment and loan societies.”

(4.) That there is a charge, by way of debentures, secured upon the property, privileges, and franchises of your Petitioner Company.

(5.) That any legislation that will operate to derogate from the privileges and franchises of your Petitioner Company, such as are herein set forth, will seriously impair your Petitioner Company and do irreparable injury, and be of great inconvenience to the public at large in the said City of Vancouver.

(6.) That the powers herein set forth, for which legislation is asked, are a direct infringement upon the statutory powers and privileges and franchises enjoyed by your Petitioner Company.

(7.) That although your Petitioner Company has statutory power to operate as a telephone company, it is sought by sub-section (83*d*) of section 142 of said Act to impose a license fee, without limit.

(8.) Your Petitioner Company respectfully prays that your Honourable House may grant leave to your Petitioner Company to be heard by counsel and agents and witnesses in support of the objection to the provisions of the Act to which exception is taken, with the right to read documentary evidence showing the rights, powers, and privileges of your Petitioner Company.

Wherefore your Petitioner Company humbly prays that your Honourable House may be pleased to give consideration to your Petitioner Company's objections herein taken.

And, as in duty bound, your Petitioner Company will ever pray.

Dated this 31st day of December, A.D. 1894.

NEW WESTMINSTER AND BURRARD INLET TELEPHONE COMPANY LIMITED.

[L.S.]

J. C. ARMSTRONG,  
*President.*

W. F. SALSURY,  
*Secretary.*

---

VICTORIA, B. C.:

Printed by RICHARD WOLFENDEN, Printer to the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty,  
1895.