

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL RELATIONS
AND RECONCILIATION
BRIEFING NOTE

Date: June 23, 2014

Ref: 34744

I Prepared as a Recommendation to the Honourable John Rustad, Minister

II ISSUE: Gitxsan Liquefied Natural Gas Negotiations – Conflict with
Kitsumkalum/Kitselas Agreement in Principal Lands

III BACKGROUND:

The Gitxsan have advised that they will not participate in Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) pipeline discussions until overlapping Crown lands have been removed from the Kitsumkalum/Kitselas Agreement in Principle package.

IV RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

- MARR should be aggressive in promoting and establishing facilitated discussions between the two First Nations. As most overlaps are settled without BC at the table, it is further recommended that the facilitation be, initially, between the two First Nations.
- MARR should identify a list of potential facilitators, including Dan George, Miles Richardson, Steven Point, Lorne Brownsey, George Abbott, and Chris Trumpy, on the understanding that we would check availability if any prove to be of interest to the First Nations.
- It is believed that the Minister's presence prior to facilitation would be premature, given that the Gitxsan are firmly at "no", but that his presence to complete a deal would be most useful.

With regard to the LNG offer, which has already been presented to the sub-set of Chiefs most affected by pipeline development: negotiators should affirm the offer in writing, to all Gitxsan Chiefs.

Peter Walters, 250-356-1086 **s.15: s.17**
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