
Date: August 13, 2018

Prepared for: Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Re: August 15th meeting with Coastal First Nations – Climate topics.

1. Carbon Credits

CAS manages a portfolio of carbon offset projects in support of the Province's carbon neutral government commitment. Three of these projects are with First Nations within the Great Bear Forest areas.

CFN leaders may want to discuss opportunities for further greenhouse gas offset purchases by government based on:

- the existing projects whose Offset Purchase Agreements (OPAs) are expiring;
- new forestry projects; and,
- the timing of the new Forest Carbon Offset Protocol (Protocol).

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Forest carbon offsets make a significant contribution to meeting BC's emission reduction targets. In 2015, offsets from forest management projects totalled 1.7MT CO₂e, reducing BC's total reported emissions from 63.3 MT to 61.6 MT).

CAS is developing an Indigenous Engagement Strategy on Climate, and is working with FLNRO, MIRR and EMPR to incorporate forest offset and clean energy considerations into this engagement.

2. Northern Development Strategy

Of particular interest to CFN is whether the Clean Growth Strategy includes electrification of the LNG industry, both upstream and at tidewater.

3. Clean Energy

There are numerous provincial, federal and non-governmental programs in place to support the energy transition in First Nations communities, both on fuel switching from diesel and on building retrofits.

BC Hydro has recently committed three years of funding to hire and train Community Energy Managers in seven CFN communities. The CFN is seeking further funds for implementation of clean energy projects.

4. Government-to-Government Conversation on Climate Change

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Reviewed by	Initials	Date
DM		
DMO		
ADM		
ED		
Manager		
Author	DC	July 31

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND
CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY
BULLETS**

August 3, 2018

File: 280-40

CLIFF/eApprovals #: 316030/11171

PREPARED FOR: Honourable George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy (ENV)

SUBJECT: Meeting with Coastal First Nations (CFN) on August 15, 2018, 1:00pm, regarding the Ocean Protection Plan and financing the conservation agenda.

BULLET RESPONSE:

Oceans Protection Plan (OPP)

- The OPP is \$1.5 billion in funding for Canada's three coasts over five years (started last fiscal).
- There are five OPP priorities that will be of interest to the CFN:
 - World-leading marine safety system that improves responsible shipping and protects Canada's waters, including new preventive and response measures.
 - Restoring and protecting the marine ecosystems and habitats, using new tools and research.
 - Taking measures to address abandoned boats and wrecks.
 - Strengthening partnerships and launching co-management practices with Indigenous communities, including building local emergency response capacity.
 - Investing in oil spill clean-up research and methods to ensure that decisions taken in emergencies are evidence based.
- BC to receive:
 - New Coast Guard rescue stations;
 - Dedicated Primary Environmental Response Team near Port Hardy;
 - 24/7 emergency operations centre;
 - Two tugs – south coast of Vancouver Island and North Coast;
 - New radar and navigation systems to allow for proactively managing vessel routing; and
 - New Indigenous Community Response Teams including formal training for search and rescue, environmental response and incident command.
- Amend the Canadian Ship-Source Oil Pollution Fund to ensure adequate industry-funded compensation is available for those affected by oil spills and set tougher requirements on industry.
- Lift the existing limit of the Canadian Ship-Source Oil Pollution Fund to ensure that unlimited compensation is available to those affected by a spill.
- Remaining gaps:
 - Emergency towing capacity may still be inadequate. Additional towing capacity funded if found to be required after joint review.
 - No funding for Indigenous groups and local authorities to complete geographic response plans.
 - Additional funding required to transition Indigenous communities off diesel (some existing federal funding in place).

Conservation Agenda

- BC Parks, the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation (MIRR) and the Ministry of Forests, Land and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) met with CFN on May 18, June 1 and July 17 to collaboratively discuss potential governance and management specifics for a new type of protected area designation.
 - MIRR involvement relates to commitments of this nature made in the Reconciliation Protocol Agreement between CFN and the Province.
 - FLNRO involvement relates to the potential conversion and future management of the Special Forest Management Areas (SFMA) that are an outcome of Great Bear Rainforest commitments made to First Nations located in the geographic area.
 - There are three SFMAs (King Island, Green Inlet and Kimsquit) which are being proposed as pilot areas for the new designation.
- The specific implications of what a new type of designated protected area might enable or whether the designation would reside in a new or existing Act is still undecided as discussions with CFN are ongoing.
- The recent Indigenous Circle of Experts (ICE) report on Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs) has served as an initial platform for discussion as has a review of the proposed outline and process that occurred when creating the Conservancy designation in the mid-2000's.
- The cross agency Provincial team is awaiting a revised vision that the CFN is preparing to better understand their proposed future management of the areas currently held as SFMAs.
- The CFN Vision is likely to include a governance model that supports shared decision making (rather than the shared *recommendation* making), recognition of Indigenous rights and responsibilities, lead roles for First Nations in planning, management and monitoring operations and a secured source of long term resourcing of First Nation participation in IPCA governance and management.
- Fiscal resources have not been committed to development or implementation of the new designation.
- Provincial staff are planning to approach the three respective DMs in mid-September to reconfirm a mandate and support for the direction the discussions are taking.

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ENV Approvals		
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A/DM	JLM	Aug 13/18
DMO	KK	Aug 13/18
ADM – ESSP	HW	Aug 8/18
ADM – BCP	AD	Aug 10/18
Director – ESSP	LP	Aug 8/18
Dir./Mgr. – BCP	HW	Aug 8/18
Author – ESSP	SH	Aug 3/18
Author – BCP	LP	Aug 8/18