

## **Key Messages – New Prosperity Mine**

- The Province takes Tsilhqot'in concerns seriously and values its close relationship with the Tsilhqot'in Nation. The Province will continue to seek opportunities to meet with the Tsilhqot'in in order to address their concerns and assist discussions between them and the proponent as needed.

### **Background:**

- The New Prosperity Project is a proposed open-pit copper-gold mine located approximately 125 kilometres west of Williams Lake. New Prosperity requires approval from both the federal and provincial governments to proceed.
- On February 26, 2014, the Government of Canada announced that New Prosperity was likely to cause significant adverse environmental effects that cannot be mitigated, and that those effects are not justified in the circumstances. Taseko has filed two judicial review applications regarding the fairness of the panel process and the federal decision. In August 2014, Taseko Mines Ltd. applied to convert two judicial reviews against the environmental assessment of its proposed New Prosperity Mine into one civil action suit.
- Taseko has requested that the Environment Assessment Office (EAO) proceed with consideration of an amendment to their EA Certificate for the Prosperity project. Taseko has also requested extension of the EA certificate, issued in 2010, which would expire in 2015 if the project is not substantially started. EAO is not actively reviewing the amendment at this time given the federal court process and the current focus on the certificate extension request. Once the extension decision is made EAO indicated it is willing to review the situation and determine the appropriate next steps. Taseko has asked EAO to reconsider its position and resume the review of the amendment immediately. EAO has not yet responded to this request.
- New Prosperity is outside of the proven title area of the Tsilhqot'in Nation but within the area of established hunting rights. The Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) has opposed the project.

### **Tsilhqot'in Draft Mining Policy**

The TNG draft mining policy is a high level document written for comment/input from stakeholders and government. It is written to apply throughout the TNG asserted traditional territory, not limited to TNG proven title area. The draft policy would require proposed mining and exploration projects to include:

1. Tsilhqot'in-led cumulative impact and cultural impact assessments.

2. Exploration agreements (for mineral exploration companies) and impact benefit agreements (for mining companies) as the basis for granting the free, prior and informed consent of the Tsilhqot'in for projects.
3. Resource revenue from mining projects (it is not clear if this refers to provincial revenue sharing of some kind, e.g., mineral tax).

The draft Mining Policy provides no implementation details but refers to the development of guidelines and template agreements to direct proponent engagement and the negotiation of agreements. TNG has invited public, industry and government consultation on the mining policy until September 30, 2014. TNG also submitted the draft policy to government under the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement portal.

### **Mineral Titles Online on TNG Title Area**

The Tsilhqot'in Proven Title Area has been removed from Mineral Titles Online (MTO) as per the Minister of Energy and Mines July 30, 2014 letter to TNG. This is not a reserve under the *Mineral Tenure Act*; rather the area is not available on MTO for claim staking.

Nine mineral claims were recently renewed within the Tsilhqot'in Proven Title Area. In order to keep the mineral claims in good standing beyond the expiry date, claim holders must do exploration and development work, or pay cash in lieu. The Province is currently reviewing the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision in the William's case, and how it may affect mineral tenures. Options are being developed to inform discussions with the Tsilhqot'in on mineral tenure administration within the title area.

### **Amarc Resources Ltd. Cease and Desist and likely Dispute Resolution**

Amarc Resources Ltd. currently has exploration drill rigs on site for a planned eight-week drill program, which is expected to end in September 2014. The project, referred to as Ike property, is approximately 30 kilometres southeast of the TNG Proven Title area.

Although both Amarc and the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) met with the TNG to address their concerns, the Xeni Gwet'in and Yunesit'in First Nations Governments, and two of the six Tsilhqot'in communities, issued a news release on August 5, 2014, calling for Amarc and the Province to "cease and desist."

Amarc Resources Ltd. was granted approval from MEM for a work program being undertaken pursuant to *Mines Act* permit MX-4-600, whose original expiry date was October 31, 2013, and was extended to October 31, 2015. The TNG is of the opinion that the Province failed to meaningfully consult and have indicated they may initiate Dispute Resolution under the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement.



### **Key Messages: Tsilhqot'in General**

- Government and the First Nations Leadership Council have been planning the gathering since long before the Tsilhqot'in decision – but it is well timed.
- Collectively, we are taking the time to understand the implications and how we all need to respond and adapt so that – together – we can open doors to greater opportunity and prosperity in British Columbia.
- The Supreme Court decision is a significant milestone that provides greater clarity both on Aboriginal title and rights, and on the Province's rights and responsibilities.
- B.C. remains committed to negotiated settlements with First Nations and welcomes the decision as it provides certainty and supports processes of good faith negotiation.
- The clarity provided by the Tsilhqot'in decision may mean some adjustments are required for the tools B.C. has developed.
- Let's make this an opportunity. We are committed to working collaboratively with First Nations, the federal government and industry to determine what those adjustments might be.
- We are confident the strong relationships we've established with First Nations and with industry will allow us to work through the implications of the decision in a way that continues to benefit First Nations and all British Columbians.
- Title has been declared to a particular tract of land in Tsilhqot'in traditional territory. This decision came after a lengthy legal process that was tied up in the court system for well over a decade. That's why our goal is always to negotiate rather than litigate.



## ISSUE NOTE


### Issue:

- Tsilhqot'in First Nation

### Background:

- The Tsilhqot'in Nation (Tsilhqot'in) is located in the Cariboo region
- Tsilhqot'in is made up of six First Nations communities: Alexis Creek Indian Band,
- Tl'etinqox-t'in Government Office, Stone Indian Band, Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government, ?Esdilagh First Nations, and Toosey Indian Band Nations.

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## BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING

### Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government

#### Governance

- Chief Roger William  
Elected February 27, 2013
- Councillor Marilyn Baptiste  
Elected June 26, 2013
- Councillor Loretta Williams  
Elected June 26, 2013

#### Information

- Pronunciation: hon-ay gwi-teen
- Location: Nemiah Valley
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 160
- Address: General Delivery,  
Nemiah Valley, B.C. V0L 1X0

#### Current Activities

- Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. While both parties are taking some time to digest and interpret the *William* decision, discussions have started at the local level over key operational issues over aboriginal title lands such as forest fire management, Limited Entry Hunt permitting. In addition, Xeni Gwet'in has reached out to the Province for assistance with securing the Elkins Creek Lodge.



## BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING ?Esdilagh First Nation (Alexandria Indian Band)

### Governance

- Chief Bernie Mack  
Elected July 31, 2012
- Councillor William Baptiste  
Elected July 31, 2012
- Councillor Howard Johnny  
Elected July 31, 2012
- Councillor Norma-Jean Stump  
Elected July 31, 2012

### Information

- Pronunciation: ess-dey-la
- Location: Quesnel
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 178
- Address: 4 - 9001 West Fraser Rd  
Quesnel, BC V2J 6R4

### Current Activities

- Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xení Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xení Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. While both parties are taking some time to digest and interpret the *William* decision, discussions have started at the local level over key operational issues over aboriginal title lands such as forest fire management, Limited Entry Hunt permitting. In addition, Xení Gwet'in has reached out to the Province for assistance with securing the Elkins Creek Lodge.

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**BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING  
?Esdilagh First Nation (Alexandria Indian Band)**

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**BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING**  
**Alexis Creek First Nation (Tsi Del Del)**

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## BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING

### Alexis Creek First Nation (Tsi Del Del)

#### Governance

- Chief Percy Guichon  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Herman Billy  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Terry Char  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Clayton John Charleyboy  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Harold J Corn  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Otis Guichon Sr  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Rocky Guichon  
Elected January 10, 2014

#### Information

- Pronunciation: N/A
- Located: 110 km West of Williams Lake
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 675
- Address: PO Box 69  
Chilanko Forks, BC V0L 1H0

#### Current Activities

- Alexis Creek First Nation is a member band of the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG). TNG is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. While both parties are taking some time to digest and interpret the *William* decision, discussions have started at the local level over key operational issues over aboriginal title lands such as forest fire management, Limited Entry Hunt permitting. In addition, Xeni Gwet'in has reached out to the Province for assistance with securing the Elkins Creek Lodge.

**BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING**  
**Alexis Creek First Nation (Tsi Del Del)**

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# BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING

## Anaham (Tl'etinqox)

### Governance

- Chief Joe Alphonse
- Councillor Grant Alphonse
- Councillor Randy Patrick Billyboy
- Councillor Dona Cooper
- Councillor Eleanor Cooper
- Councillor Daana Gilpin
- Councillor Cecil Grinder
- Councillor Paul Grinder
- Councillor Isidore Harry
- Councillor Rosaline Harry
- Councillor Dick Harvey
- Councillor Barry Hink
- Councillor Leslie Stump
- Elected: February 4, 2013

### Information

- Pronunciation: N/A
- Location: 100 km west of Williams Lake near Alexis Creek
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population approx. 1,552
- Address: PO BOX 168  
Alexis Creek, BC V0L 1A0

### Current Activities

- Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- Chief Joe Alphonse is the Tribal Chair of the TNG.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xenigwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xenigwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. While both parties are taking some time to digest and interpret the *William* decision, discussions have started at the local level over key operational issues over aboriginal title lands such as forest fire management, Limited Entry Hunt permitting. In addition, Xenigwet'in has reached out to the Province for assistance with securing the Elkins Creek Lodge.



**BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING**  
**Anaham (Tl'etinqox)**

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## BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING

### Toosey Indian Band (Tl'esqox)

#### Governance

- Chief Francis Laceese  
Elected July 9, 2014
- Councillor Georgina Johnny  
Elected July 9, 2014
- Councillor Clayton Palmantier  
Elected July 9, 2014
- Councillor Violet Tipple  
Elected July 9, 2014

#### Information

- Pronunciation: two-zee
- Location: 40 Km South of Williams Lake
- Member of Carrier Chilcotin Tribal Council and Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 278
- Address: PO Box 80  
Riske Creek, BC V0L 1T0

#### Current Activities

- Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. While both parties are taking some time to digest and interpret the *William* decision, discussions have started at the local level over key operational issues over aboriginal title lands such as forest fire management, Limited Entry Hunt permitting. In addition, Xeni Gwet'in has reached out to the Province for assistance with securing the Elkins Creek Lodge.

**BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING**  
**Toosey Indian Band (Tl'esqox)**

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# BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING

## Tsilhqot'in National Government

### Governance

- Tribal Chair, Chief Joe Alphonse  
Tl'etinqox, elected February 4, 2013
- Vice Chair, Chief Roger William  
Xeni Gwet'in, elected February 27, 2013
- Treasurer, Chief Percy Guichon  
Tsi Del Del, elected January 10, 2014
- Chief Frances Laceese  
Tl'esqox, elected July 9, 2014
- Chief Bernie Mack  
?Esdilagh, elected July 31, 2012
- Chief Russell Myers Ross  
Yunesit'in, elected July 20, 2012

### Information

- Pronunciation: Tsil-coh-tin
- Location: Representing First Nations of the Chilcotin Plateau, Coast Mountains, and north of Williams Lake
- Member Nations: Tl'etinqox, ?Esdilagh, Yunesit'in, Tl'esqox, Tsi Del Del and Xeni Gwet'in
- Population: approx. 3285
- Address: 243 4<sup>th</sup> Ave North, Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T4

### Current Activities

- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. While both parties are taking some time to digest and interpret the *William* decision, discussions have started at the local level over key operational issues over aboriginal title lands such as forest fire management, Limited Entry Hunt permitting. In addition, Xeni Gwet'in has reached out to the Province for assistance with securing the Elkins Creek Lodge.
- Provincial Government representatives are working to build relationships with the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) and Tsilhqot'in member communities outside of the British Columbia Treaty Commission six-stage treaty process.

**BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING**  
**Tsilhqot'in National Government**

**Issues/Opportunities:**

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# BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING

## Yunesit'in First Nation (Stone)

### Governance

- Chief Russell Myers Ross  
Elected July 20, 2012
- Councillor Rosalie Montgomery  
Elected July 20, 2012
- Councillor Earl Quilt  
Elected December 18, 2013
- Councillor Jessica Alphonse  
Elected July 22, 2014
- Councillor Gabe Pukacz  
Elected July 22, 2014

### Information

- Pronunciation: you-neh-se-teen
- Location: 90km West of Williams Lake
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 445
- Address: PO Box 158  
Hanceville, BC V0L 1K0

### Current Activities

- Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xení Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xení Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. While both parties are taking some time to digest and interpret the *William* decision, discussions have started at the local level over key operational issues over aboriginal title lands such as forest fire management, Limited Entry Hunt permitting. In addition, Xení Gwet'in has reached out to the Province for assistance with securing the Elkins Creek Lodge.

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**BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING**  
**Yunesit'in First Nation (Stone)**

**Issues/Opportunities:**

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**BC CABINET AND FIRST NATIONS LEADERS GATHERING**  
**Yunesit'in First Nation (Stone)**

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## **Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**

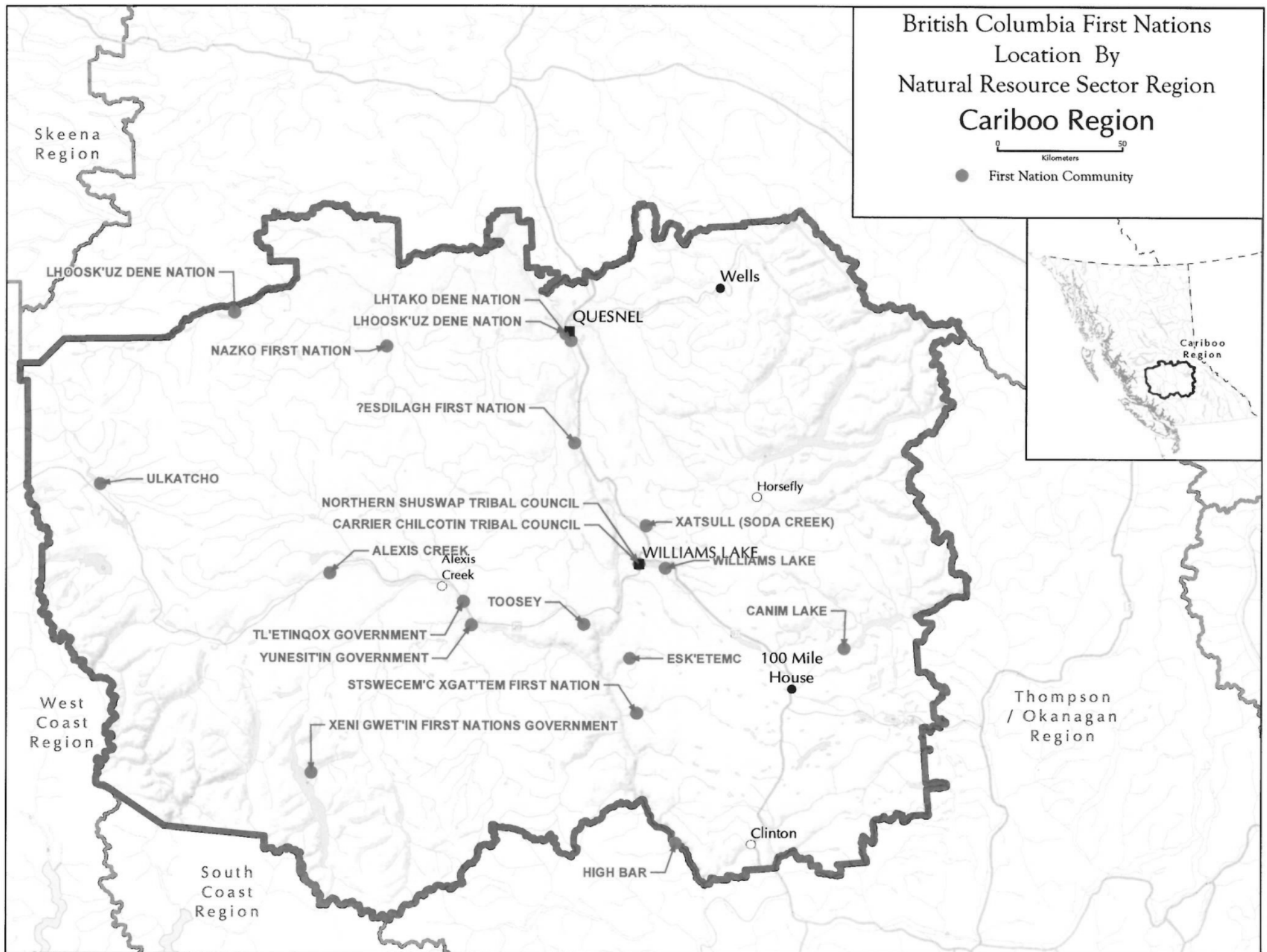
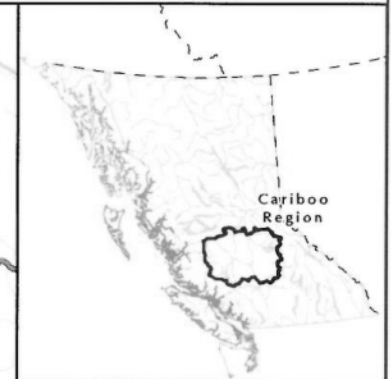
### **Region 5: Cariboo Region**

1. CARIBOO REGION MAP
2. Alexandria Indian Band (TN)
3. Alexis Creek (TN)
4. Anaham (TN)
5. Canim Lake (NStQ)
6. Carrier Chilcotin Tribal Council
7. Esk'etemc (Secwepemc, Independent)
8. High Bar
9. Lhoosk'uz Dene Nation (Carrier)
10. Lhtako Dene Nation (Carrier)
11. Nazko (Carrier, Independent)
12. Northern Shuswap Tribal Council
13. Soda Creek (NStQ)
14. Stswecem'c Xgat'tem (NStQ)
15. Toosey (TN, also affiliated with CCTC)
16. Tsilhqot'in National Government
17. Williams Lake Indian Band (NStQ)
18. Yunesit'in First Nation (TN)
19. Ulkatcho (Carrier)
20. Xeni Gwet'in (TN)

# British Columbia First Nations Location By Natural Resource Sector Region Cariboo Region

0 50  
Kilometers

● First Nation Community



## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation ?Esdilagh First Nation (Alexandria Indian Band)

### Governance

- Chief Bernie Mack  
Elected July 31, 2012
- Councillor William Baptiste  
Elected July 31, 2012
- Councillor Howard Johnny  
Elected July 31, 2014
- Councillor Norma-Jean Stump  
Elected July 31, 2014

### Information

- Pronunciation: ess-dey-la
- Location: Quesnel
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 198
- Address: 4 - 9001 West Fraser Rd  
Quesnel, BC V2J 6R4

### Current Activities

- ?Esdilagh is a member band of the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG). Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. On September 10, 2014, the Premier and six Tsilhqot'in Chiefs signed the *Letter of Understanding* (LOU).

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
?Esdilagh First Nation (Alexandria Indian Band)**

**Issues/Opportunities**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
?Esdilagh First Nation (Alexandria Indian Band)**

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## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

### Alexis Creek First Nation (Tsi Del Del)

#### Governance

- Chief Percy Guichon  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Herman Billy  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Terry Char  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Clayton John Charleyboy  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Harold J Corn  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Otis Guichon Sr  
Elected January 10, 2014
- Councillor Rocky Guichon  
Elected January 10, 2014

#### Information

- Pronunciation: sigh-del-del
- Located: 110 km West of Williams Lake
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 684
- Address: PO Box 69  
Chilanko Forks, BC V0L 1H0

#### Current Activities

- Alexis Creek First Nation is a member band of the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG). TNG is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity for further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. On September 10, 2014, the Premier and six Tsilhqot'in Chiefs signed the *Letter of Understanding* (LOU).

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Alexis Creek First Nation (Tsi Del Del)**

**Issues/Opportunities:**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Alexis Creek First Nation (Tsi Del Del)**

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## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Anaham (Tl'etinqox)

### Governance

- Chief Joe Alphonse
- Councillor Randy Patrick Billyboy
- Councillor Dona Cooper
- Councillor Eleanor Cooper
- Councillor Emily Dick
- Councillor Harvey Dick
- Councillor Daana Gilpin
- Councillor Cecil Grinder
- Councillor Dustin Hance
- Councillor Isidore Harry
- Councillor Tyron Harry
- Councillor Gerald Johnny
- Councillor Cyril Pigeon

Elected: February 4, 2015

### Information

- Pronunciation: kled-in-ko
- Location: 100 km west of Williams Lake near Alexis Creek
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population approx. 1,576
- Address: PO BOX 168  
Alexis Creek, BC V0L 1A0

### Current Activities

- Tl'etinqox is a member band of the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG). Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- Chief Joe Alphonse is the Tribal Chair of the TNG.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. On September 10, 2014, the Premier and six Tsilhqot'in Chiefs signed the *Letter of Understanding* (LOU).

**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Anaham (Tl'etinqox)**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**  
**Anaham (Tl'etinqox)**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Canim Lake Indian Band (Tsq'escen')**

**Issues/Opportunities**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Carrier Chilcotin Tribal Council**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Esk'etemc First Nation**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Esk'etemc First Nation**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Lhoosk'uz Dene Nation (Kluskus Indian Band)**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Lhtako Dene Nation (Red Bluff Indian Band)**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**  
**Nazko First Nation**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**  
**Nazko First Nation**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
High Bar First Nation**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Northern Shuswap Tribal Council**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Northern Shuswap Tribal Council**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Xat'súll First Nation (Soda Creek)**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Xat'súll First Nation (Soda Creek)**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**  
**Stswecem'c Xgat'tem (Canoe Creek/Dog Creek)**

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**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**  
**Stswecem'c Xgat'tem (Canoe Creek/Dog Creek)**

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## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Toosey Indian Band (Tl'esqox)

### Governance

- Chief Francis Laceese  
Elected July 9, 2014
- Councillor Georgina Johnny  
Elected July 9, 2014
- Councillor Clayton Palmantier  
Elected July 9, 2014
- Councillor Violet Tipple  
Elected July 9, 2014

### Information

- Pronunciation: two-zee
- Location: 40 Km South of Williams Lake
- Member of Carrier Chilcotin Tribal Council and Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 335
- Address: PO Box 80  
Riske Creek, BC V0L 1T0

### Current Activities

- Tl'esqox is a member band of both the Carrier Chilcotin Tribal Council and Tsilhqot'in National Government. They are currently most active under the Tsilhqot'in National Government. Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. On September 10, 2014, the Premier and six Tsilhqot'in Chiefs signed the *Letter of Understanding* (LOU).

### Other Agreements

- Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement (2014-2017)
- Letter of Understanding signed by Premier and Chiefs (September 10, 2014). Under the LOU, s.17  
s.17 and to provide a venue for the Tsilhqot'in to discuss and provide input to the Mt. Polley Remediation Project.
- Subsequent to September 2014 much work has occurred regarding a reconciliation agreement. It is anticipated to move to implementation in the fall of 2015.

## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Toosey Indian Band (Tl'esqox)

### Issues/Opportunities:

- The *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement*, a three year renewal of the Strategic Engagement Agreement, was completed two weeks before the *William* Decision. This Agreement will be a useful tool in navigating next steps in the post-William G2G relationship and exploring the path to further reconciliation.
- The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains deeply concerned about the decline of moose populations in the Chilcotin. The Province and Tsilhqot'in have worked together to take steps to address this decline, but much work lies ahead. Provincial staff will be continuing to work with the Tsilhqot'in under the *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement's* Collaborative Wildlife Advisory Panel. The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains opposed to the BC Limited Entry Hunt (LEH) moose hunting.
- The Williams Lake Timber Supply Review (TSR) decision was made in 2015 after significant engagement with the Chief Forester. The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains concerned over the rate of cut. The TNG released their "Mining Policy" on July 31, 2014. The Province is working on a response, as this was submitted as an Engagement under the *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement*. In general, the Tsilhqot'in are reaching out to all stakeholders, for feedback, and to assist them in developing this internal policy.
- The proposed Prosperity mine is located within Xení's caretaker area of the proven aboriginal rights area (not the aboriginal title area). Xení and the greater Tsilhqot'in Nation remain steadfast in their opposition to the project. <sup>s.16</sup>  
s.16 . The federal panel hearings for "New Prosperity" occurred in 2013, resulting in a recommendation against granting a federal Environmental Assessment Certificate.
- Toosey houses a forestry company called Chilcotin Plateau Enterprises Ltd.
- TNG staff discussed with the Province, on behalf of the communities, the Forestry Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement. This would replace the expired Tsilhqot'in Nation *Forest and Range Opportunity Agreement* (FRO). <sup>s.17</sup>  
s.17
- BC Timber Sales (BCTS) has developed two new strategies, First Nations Relationships Strategy and Business Relationships Strategy to facilitate mutually beneficial economic initiatives. These strategies set the foundation for BCTS economic initiatives with the TNG which <sup>s.17</sup>  
s.17 to the TNG subject to capacity. Legal Counsel: Jay Nelson

## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Tsilhqot'in National Government

### Governance

- Tribal Chair, Chief Joe Alphonse  
Tl'etinqox, elected February 4, 2013
- Vice Chair, Chief Roger William  
Xeni Gwet'in, elected February 27, 2013
- Treasurer, Chief Percy Guichon  
Tsi Del Del, elected January 10, 2014
- Chief Frances Laceese  
Tl'esqox, elected July 9, 2014
- Chief Bernie Mack  
?Esdilagh, elected July 31, 2012
- Chief Russell Myers Ross  
Yunesit'in, elected July 20, 2012

### Information

- Pronunciation: tsil-coh-tin
- Location: Representing First Nations of the Chilcotin Plateau, Coast Mountains, and north of Williams Lake
- Member Nations: Tl'etinqox, ?Esdilagh, Yunesit'in, Tl'esqox, Tsi Del Del and Xeni Gwet'in
- Population: approx. 3683
- Address: 243 4<sup>th</sup> Ave North,  
Williams Lake, BC V2G 4T4

### Current Activities

- Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. On September 10, 2014, the Premier and six Tsilhqot'in Chiefs signed the *Letter of Understanding* (LOU).
- Provincial Government representatives are working to build relationships with the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) and Tsilhqot'in member communities outside of the British Columbia Treaty Commission six-stage treaty process.

### Other/Completed Negotiations

- Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement (2014 – 2017): Five of six communities signed on to the 3 year renewal of this Strategic Engagement Agreement (Yunesit'in chose not to).
- Letter of Understanding signed by Premier and Chiefs (September 10, 2014) Under the LOU, s.17

s.17

and to provide a



## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Tsilhqot'in National Government

venue for the Tsilhqot'in to discuss and provide input to the Mt. Polley Remediation Project.

- Subsequent to September 2014 much work has occurred regarding a reconciliation agreement. It is anticipated to move to implementation in the fall of 2015.

### Issues/Opportunities:

- The *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement*, a three year renewal of the Strategic Engagement Agreement, was completed two weeks before the *William Decision*. This Agreement will be a useful tool in navigating next steps in the post-William G2G relationship and exploring the path to further reconciliation.
- Xeni Gwet'in requested the Province's assistance to purchase the Elkin Creek Lodge which is private land within the aboriginal title area. Funds were provided under the LOU process. In the end the bid was not successful. The funding provided to purchase the Elkins Creek lodge has been retained by the Tsilhqot'in Nation and will be considered part of the reconciliation package.
- The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains deeply concerned about the decline of moose populations in the Chilcotin. The Province and Tsilhqot'in have worked together to take steps to address this decline, but much work lies ahead. Provincial staff will be continuing to work with the Tsilhqot'in under the *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement's* Collaborative Wildlife Advisory Panel. The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains opposed to the BC Limited Entry Hunt (LEH) moose hunting.
- The Williams Lake Timber Supply Review (TSR) decision was made in 2015 after significant engagement with the Chief Forester. The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains concerned over the rate of cut. The TNG released their "Mining Policy" on July 31, 2014. The Province is working on a response, as this was submitted as an Engagement under the *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement*. In general, the Tsilhqot'in are reaching out to all stakeholders, for feedback, and to assist them in developing this internal policy.
- The proposed Prosperity mine is located within Xeni's caretaker area of the proven aboriginal rights area (not the aboriginal title area). Xeni and the greater Tsilhqot'in Nation remain steadfast in their opposition to the project.<sup>s.16</sup>  
s.16 The federal panel hearings for "New Prosperity" occurred in 2013, resulting in a recommendation against granting a federal Environmental Assessment Certificate.
- Taseko Mines has recently engaged with ?Esdilagh to explore ways to work with ?Esdilagh at their Gibraltar facility.
- Dasiqox tribal park: In October 2014 the Xeni Gwet'in along with the Yunesit'in announced that they had declared an area of approximately 3,000km<sup>2</sup> in the Taseko Lake area in the South Chilcotin. The declared park area is outside of the Tsilhqot'in title land. The declared "Dasiqox Tribal Park" is generating questions and concerns from

## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Tsilhqot'in National Government

residents of the area, as well as the Cariboo Regional District and the City of Williams Lake. The creation of the declared park has not been raised with the government of BC through the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement process. The area of land covered by the tribal park is rich in natural resources and contains many known ore bodies, including Prosperity.

- TNG staff discussed with the Province, on behalf of the communities, the Forestry Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement. This would replace the expired Tsilhqot'in Nation *Forest and Range Opportunity Agreement* (FRO). s.17
- BC Timber Sales (BCTS) has developed two new strategies, First Nations Relationships Strategy and Business Relationships Strategy to facilitate mutually beneficial economic initiatives. These strategies set the foundation for BCTS economic initiatives with the TNG s.17
- Legal Counsel: Jay Nelson

west of the river to the TNG subject to capacity.

**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Ulkatcho First Nations**

s.16

**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Ulkatcho First Nations**

s.16

**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
T'exelc (Williams Lake/ Sugar Cane Indian Band)**

s.16

## **Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation T'exelc (Williams Lake/ Sugar Cane Indian Band)**

### **Other/Completed Negotiations**

- WLIB Economic and Community Development Agreement (2013) – Mount Polley Mine Expansion.
- WLIB Forest and Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (2013 - 2017)
- Letter of Understanding (LOU) between The Province, Soda Creek Indian Band and Williams Lake Indian Band, in response to the Mount Polley Tailings Incident (August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014).
- Mount Polley Mine Restart Agreement: negotiations are at the final stages, it is expected that the agreement will be signed September 2015.

### **Issues/Opportunities:**

- Mount Polley Mine is located in WLIB's traditional territory. British Columbia provided the<sup>s.17</sup>, to assist with costs incurred in managing effects of the tailings pond incident.
- The NStQ released a Mining Policy on December 1, 2014; this is likely in response to both the neighboring Tsilhqot'in Nation releasing their Mining Policy, and the Mount Polley Mine Incident.
- The Province and four Northern Secwepemc communities are negotiating a Strategic Engagement Agreement (referred to as the "G2G Agreement"), with the goal of completion before NStQ has their community vote on the AIP. Aside from the G2G forum and engagement process, the NStQ wish to see a focus on 'reconciling provincial and NStQ land use interests', and economic development. The SEA will provide capacity funds that may allow Canim Lake Band to work collaboratively with FLNR to address interests expressed in Canim's Forest Stewardship Retention Plan.
- In March 2013, the NStQ Leadership took legal action against the "Charleyboy Writ", filed in 2003 by the Tsilhqot'in. The Charleyboy Writ boundary extends beyond the 6 Tsilhqot'in caretaker areas, and covers 75% of the NStQ communities' traditional territories. The NStQ are dissatisfied that the Charleyboy Writ defines one of the consultation boundaries in the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement. The NStQ and Tsilhqot'in have been negotiating, which has resulted in a change to the Writ boundary inclusion in the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement. MARR understands the negotiations are ongoing with progress being made by the Parties.

➤ s.17

## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

### Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government

#### Governance

- Chief Roger William  
Elected February 27, 2013
- Councillor Marilyn Baptiste  
Elected June 26, 2013
- Councillor Loretta Williams  
Elected June 26, 2013

#### Information

- Pronunciation: hon-ay gwi-teen
- Location: Nemiah Valley
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 436
- Address: General Delivery,  
Nemiah Valley, B.C. V0L 1X0

#### Current Activities

- Xenigwet'in is a member of the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG). Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xenigwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xenigwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. On September 10, 2014, the Premier and six Tsilhqot'in Chiefs signed the *Letter of Understanding* (LOU).

#### Other/Completed Negotiations

- Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement (2014-2017)
- Memorandum of Understanding between BC Parks and the Xenigwet'in First Nations Government for co-management of Ts'il?os Park on Chilko Lake.
- Letter of Understanding signed by Premier and Chiefs (September 10, 2014) Under the s.16 and to provide a venue for the Tsilhqot'in to discuss and provide input to the Mt. Polley Remediation Project.
- Subsequent to September 2014 much work has occurred regarding a reconciliation agreement. It is anticipated to move to implementation in the fall of 2015.

## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government

### Issues/Opportunities:

- Xeni Gwet'in requested the Province's assistance to purchase the Elkin Creek Lodge which is private land within the aboriginal title area. Funds were provided under the LOU process. In the end the bid was not successful. The funding provided to purchase the Elkins Creek lodge has been retained by the Tsilhqot'in Nation and will be considered part of the reconciliation package.
- The *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement*, a three year renewal of the Strategic Engagement Agreement, was completed two weeks before the *William Decision*. Chief Roger William was part of the negotiation team, and sees the agreement as a tool for the post-court case G2G relationship. This Agreement will be a useful tool in navigating next steps in the post-William G2G relationship and exploring the path to further reconciliation.
- The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains deeply concerned about the decline of moose populations in the Chilcotin. The Province and Tsilhqot'in have worked together to take steps to address this decline, but much work lies ahead. Provincial staff will be continuing to work with the Tsilhqot'in under the *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement's* Collaborative Wildlife Advisory Panel. The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains opposed to the BC Limited Entry Hunt (LEH) moose hunting.
- The Williams Lake Timber Supply Review (TSR) decision was made in 2015 after significant engagement with the Chief Forester. The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains concerned over the rate of cut. The TNG released their "Mining Policy" on July 31, 2014. The Province is working on a response, as this was submitted as an Engagement under the *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement*. In general, the Tsilhqot'in are reaching out to all stakeholders, for feedback, and to assist them in developing this internal policy.
- The proposed Prosperity mine is located within Xeni's caretaker area of the proven aboriginal rights area (not the aboriginal title area). Xeni and the greater Tsilhqot'in Nation remain steadfast in their opposition to the project. <sup>s.16</sup>  
s.16 The federal panel hearings for "New Prosperity" occurred in 2013, resulting in a recommendation against granting a federal Environmental Assessment Certificate.
- TNG staff discussed with the Province, on behalf of the communities, the Forestry Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement. This would replace the expired Tsilhqot'in Nation *Forest and Range Opportunity Agreement (FRO)*. <sup>s.17</sup>  
s.17
- Dasiqox tribal park: In October 2014 the Xeni Gwet'in along with the Yunesit'in announced that they had declared an area of approximately 3,000km<sup>2</sup> in the Taseko Lake area in the South Chilcotin. The declared park area is outside of the Tsilhqot'in title land. The declared "Dasiqox Tribal Park" is generating questions and concerns from residents of the area, as well as the Cariboo Regional District and the City of Williams Lake. The creation of the declared park has not been raised with the government of BC



**Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**  
**Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government**

through the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement process. The area of land covered by the tribal park is rich in natural resources and contains many known ore bodies, including Prosperity.

- BC Timber Sales (BCTS) has developed two new strategies, First Nations Relationships Strategy and Business Relationships Strategy to facilitate mutually beneficial economic initiatives. These strategies set the foundation for BCTS economic initiatives with the TNG s.17

s.17

to the TNG subject to capacity.

- Legal Counsel: Jay Nelson

## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Yunesit'in First Nation (Stone)

### Governance

- Chief Russell Myers Ross  
Elected July 20, 2012
- Councillor Rosalie Montgomery  
Elected July 20, 2012
- Councillor Earl Quilt  
Elected December 18, 2013
- Councillor Jessica Alphonse  
Elected July 22, 2014
- Councillor Gabe Pukacz  
Elected July 22, 2014

### Information

- Pronunciation: you-neh-se-teen
- Location: 90 km West of Williams Lake
- Member of Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Population: approx. 454
- Address: PO Box 158  
Hanceville, BC V0L 1K0

### Current Activities

- Yunesit'in is a member band of the Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG). Tsilhqot'in National Government (TNG) is a government recognized tribal council representing six member bands. TNG is not part of the BC treaty process, nor are any of its six member bands.
- The 2007 Tsilhqot'in court case was the first aboriginal rights and title case to be heard in a court of law. This is referred to as "the William case" after current Xeni Gwet'in Chief Roger William, who filed on behalf of Xeni Gwet'in and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. In June 2014, the SCC granted aboriginal title for the first time in Canada.
- Post *William*, there is great opportunity to further reconciliation between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation. On September 10, 2014, the Premier and six Tsilhqot'in Chiefs signed the *Letter of Understanding* (LOU).

### Other/Completed Negotiations

- Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement (2014 – 2017): Five of six communities signed on to the 3 year renewal of this Strategic Engagement Agreement (Yunesit'in chose not to).
- Letter of Understanding signed by Premier and Chiefs (September 10, 2014) Under the LOU,<sup>s.17</sup>  
s.17 and to provide a venue for the Tsilhqot'in to discuss and provide input to the Mt. Polley Remediation Project.
- Subsequent to September 2014 much work has occurred regarding a reconciliation agreement. It is anticipated to move to implementation in the fall of 2015.

## Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Yunesit'in First Nation (Stone)

### Issues/Opportunities:

- Based on a community referendum, Yunesit'in chose *not* to sign on to the renewed *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement* which was completed in June 2014. Chief Russell Myers Ross indicated that in September 2014, they will be presenting the "Yunesit'in Land Management Consultation Policy". This has not yet been received.
- The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains deeply concerned about the decline of moose populations in the Chilcotin. The Province and Tsilhqot'in have worked together to take steps to address this decline, but much work lies ahead. Provincial staff will be continuing to work with the Tsilhqot'in under the *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement's* Collaborative Wildlife Advisory Panel. Although Yunesit'in is not currently party to the Agreement, the community will be included in initiatives related to moose populations. The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains opposed to the BC Limited Entry Hunt (LEH) moose hunting.
- The opportunity to sign the *Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement* is still available if Yunesit'in chooses to. This Agreement will be a useful tool in navigating next steps in the post-William G2G relationship and exploring the path to further reconciliation with the Tsilhqot'in.
- The Williams Lake Timber Supply Review (TSR) decision was made in 2015 after significant engagement with the Chief Forester. The Tsilhqot'in Nation remains concerned over the rate of cut.
- The TNG released their "Mining Policy" on July 31, 2014. The Province is working on a response, as this was submitted as an Engagement under the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement. In general, the Tsilhqot'in are reaching out to all stakeholders, for feedback, and to assist them in developing this internal policy.
- The proposed Prosperity mine is located within Xeni's caretaker area of the proven aboriginal rights area (not the aboriginal title area). Xeni and the greater Tsilhqot'in Nation remain steadfast in their opposition to the project.<sup>s.16</sup>

The federal panel hearings for "New Prosperity" occurred in 2013, resulting in a recommendation against granting a federal Environmental Assessment Certificate.
- TNG staff discussed with the Province, on behalf of the communities, the Forestry Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement. This would replace the expired *Tsilhqot'in Nation Forest and Range Opportunity Agreement (FRO)*.<sup>s.17</sup>
- Dasiqox tribal park: In October 2014 the Yunesit'in along with the Xeni Gwet'in announced that they had declared an area of approximately 3,000km<sup>2</sup> in the Taseko Lake area in the South Chilcotin. The declared park area is outside of the Tsilhqot'in title

## **Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation**

### **Yunesit'in First Nation (Stone)**

land. The declared "Dasiqox Tribal Park" is generating questions and concerns from residents of the area, as well as the Cariboo Regional District and the City of Williams Lake. The creation of the declared park has not been raised with the government of BC through the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement process. The area of land covered by the tribal park is rich in natural resources and contains many known ore bodies, including Prosperity.

- The Yunesit'in Government is starting a feasibility study, supported by the B.C. government and Tsilhqot'in National Government, focused on building a one megawatt solar farm near the River West Mill, east of Hanceville, B.C.<sup>s.17</sup>
- BC Timber Sales (BCTS) has developed two new strategies, First Nations Relationships Strategy and Business Relationships Strategy to facilitate mutually beneficial economic initiatives. These strategies set the foundation for BCTS economic initiatives with the TNG<sup>s.17</sup>
- Legal Counsel: Jay Nelson

to the TNG subject to capacity.

Page 088 to/à Page 117

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12

Page 118 to/à Page 128

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16;s.13

Page 129

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16;s.13;s.17

Page 130 to/à Page 132

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16;s.13



## Wray, Stephanie PREM:EX

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**Subject:** MEETING: Minister Bennett, Neil, and Russ Hallbauer of Taseko Mines  
**Location:** s.15

**Start:** Thu 2015-11-19 10:30 AM  
**End:** Thu 2015-11-19 11:00 AM  
**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX  
**Required Attendees:** Cadario, Michele PREM:EX

## Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX

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**From:** Marsh, Kyle MEM:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 9, 2014 12:24 PM  
**To:** Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Letter from President of Taseko Mines  
**Attachments:** 01\_08\_14 Letter to The Right Hon. Stephen Harper.pdf

Hey Neil, Brian at Taskeo asked that this get over to the PO. I think it's an important commitment from them regarding their proposed project.

Kyle

---

**From:** Brian Battison [<mailto:BBattison@tasekomines.com>]  
**Sent:** January-09-14 10:39 AM  
**To:** Nikolejsin, Dave MEM:EX; Marsh, Kyle MEM:EX  
**Cc:** John W. McManus  
**Subject:** Letter from President of Taseko Mines

Dave and Kyle,

Attached is an important letter from Russ Hallbauer President & CEO of Taseko Mines Limited regarding the New Prosperity Project and the company's commitment to save Fish Lake. The same letter has been sent to Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq and to other key federal ministers. It will be important that Minister Bennett see this letter and understand the implications of it before he goes to Ottawa next week.

Following the issuing of the Panel report on October 31<sup>st</sup> the discussion has been centered on whether or not an engineered liner is/was proposed for the basin of the tailings pond. This letter confirms our commitment to the establishment of a liner and to the future integrity of Fish Lake.

The letter represents a pledge by the CEO of Taseko to "ensure the preservation, protection and sustainability of Fish Lake," and that prior to construction Taseko must prove its plan, "To the satisfaction of the BC Ministry of Energy & Mines in consultation with Natural Resources Canada."

This pledge addresses the primary concern outlined in the Panel report, and the primary concern of the First Nations.

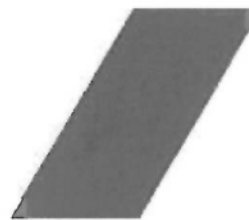
Regards,

Brian

**Brian Battison**  
Vice President, Corporate Affairs



Taseko Mines Limited | 1040 - West Georgia, Suite 1500 Vancouver, BC V6E 4H1  
D 778-373-4543 T +1-778-373-4533 F +1-778-373-4534  
E [BBattison@tasekomines.com](mailto:BBattison@tasekomines.com) Web [tasekomines.com](http://tasekomines.com)



January 8, 2014

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Langevin Block 80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister,

As the President and CEO of Taseko Mines the owner of the New Prosperity project in British Columbia, I want you to be personally aware of our company's commitments to a responsible and sustainable New Prosperity mining operation similar to that which has been achieved at our Gibraltar mine over the past 40 years.


At the heart of New Prosperity is our commitment to a detailed scientific plan to preserve Fish Lake. It is a comprehensive \$300 million plan developed by Knight Piesold an international engineering firm with extensive experience in the delivery of environmental services.

This plan incorporates an engineered liner for the tailings pond similar to many designs currently in place and functioning successfully at mines across Canada and around the world. This engineered design will ensure the integrity of Fish Lake and the ground water below.

Our commitment to save Fish Lake extends to recognizing and addressing issues of cultural significance to First Nations while ensuring new jobs and economic activities in the region where our mining operations exist.

More than just a promise, our commitment to responsible and sustainable projects can be seen at our Gibraltar Mine located a short distance north of the New Prosperity site. Gibraltar directly employs 700 people and is the second largest copper mine in Canada, the fourth largest in North America. It is the single largest employer in the Cariboo region. We have recently invested \$700 million to expand and modernize Gibraltar and in doing so have extended its life 30 years into the future.

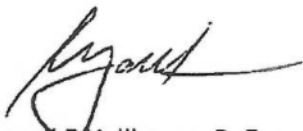
When New Prosperity is built it will have a significant impact on the local economy while providing badly needed economic opportunity for First Nation communities in the region, this too is our commitment that we all participate and share in the wealth created by the development of our natural resources. This single mine will have a larger economic impact on British Columbia than the entire Film and Television industry and contribute three times the GDP of the BC Commercial Fishing and Fish Processing industry combined.



It is also our commitment that before commencing construction Taseko will and must prove to the satisfaction of the British Columbia Ministry of Energy & Mines in consultation with Natural Resources Canada that a continuous liner of low permeability till throughout the tailings storage pond can be established to the design criteria used by Taseko which will ensure the preservation, protection and sustainability of Fish Lake.

I encourage you and your government to move the project forward to the permitting phase of the process based on these commitments and our ability to deliver a responsible and sustainable mine that saves Fish Lake, creates jobs and increases opportunities for aboriginal persons in the workforce and in the general economy.

Yours truly,



Russell E. Hallbauer, P. Eng  
President and CEO  
Taseko Mines Limited

**Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX**

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**From:** MacLaren, Les MEM:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 15, 2015 11:35 AM  
**To:** McKnight, Elaine L MEM:EX; Morel, David P MEM:EX; Foster, Doug FIN:EX; Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX  
**Subject:** Mining Task Force Report  
**Attachments:** METF REPORT Final.pdf

I have not had a chance to go through this yet. Greg Reimer recalled and sent over the attached Task Force Report from 2009 during the past downturn that was prepared when he was DM of EMPR.

Les



# Mining Economic Task Force Report

January 2009

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## Executive Summary

The BC Mining Economic Task Force was established by Premier Gordon Campbell and the Honourable Gordon Hogg, Minister of State for Mining, on December 5, 2008 to provide advice to governments on how to support and stimulate British Columbia's mining sector during the current economic crisis. Members of the Task Force are:

Doug Horswill, Task Force Chair, (Teck Cominco Limited)

Brian Abraham, (Fraser Milner Casgrain)

Lena Brommeland, (Association for Mineral Exploration (AME) of BC)

Robin Curry, (Smithers Exploration Group)

Russell Hallbauer, (Taseko Mines Limited)

Jim Jones, (Teck Coal)

Terry Lyons, (Northgate Minerals Corporation)

Jim O'Rourke, (Copper Mountain Mining Corporation)

Robert Pease, (Terrane Metals Corp.)

Walter Segsworth, (Mining Association of BC)

The Task Force makes 13 recommendations that will assist the minerals industry in the following areas:

- to bridge the current industry downturn and liquidity crisis;
- to stimulate mineral exploration and development; and
- to position British Columbia for the recovery and long term growth of the industry.

Of these, the Task Force has listed the top four recommendations that it believes the government can and should act upon immediately to save and create jobs plus accelerate equity investments in the mining industry.

The Terms of Reference for the Task Force are included as Appendix A.

The Task Force would like to thank Pierre Gratton, President and CEO of The Mining Association of British Columbia, for his contribution to the preparation and writing of this report.

The Task Force would also like to acknowledge the following individuals for their contributions to this report: Brian Battison of Taseko Mines Limited, David Parker at Teck, Garry Eng at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Rick Neufeld at Fraser Milner Casgrain, David Scott and his colleagues at CIBC World Markets, Lorne Sivertson from Victoria, George Meadows, Tom Isaac of McCarthy Tetrault, Gavin Dirom of AME BC, Andrew Thrift of Terrane Metals and David McLelland of AME BC.



## Priority Recommendations

To respond effectively and expeditiously to the current mining industry downturn and liquidity crisis, the Mining Economic Task Force recommends that the provincial government act immediately upon the following four priority recommendations contained in this report. These recommendations are listed here in order of priority, each with the number corresponding to where it appears in the body of the report.

**Recommendation 1:** Lower government taxes in exceptional times and ease the administrative tax burden.

- a) Reduce the tax rate for the British Columbia Mineral Tax (BCMT) to 10 per cent permanently and enhance the value of this reduction in the short term by going lower over the next few years, i.e. six per cent for 2009, eight per cent in 2010, reverting to 10 per cent in 2011 and forward.
- b) Provide a two year tax deferral of payment of the BCMT to address short-term cash flow challenges at operating mines.
- c) Reduce the statute of limitation for the BCMT from six to four years (the same as for BC's provincial sales tax) prospectively effective January 1, 2009.
- d) For the purpose of calculating PST, revise the definition of production activities to include all activities undertaken on site (e.g. all work performed by mobile equipment on a mine site) and all new mine construction and equipment.

**Recommendation 4:** Create a Job Protection and Critical Industries Commission with a finite life span.

**Recommendation 6a:** The province should advocate to the federal government that it expand flow-through eligibility to include brownfield exploration and development expenditure on a temporary 2-year basis

**Recommendation 2:** Create a British Columbia Government-sponsored "Mining Industry Catalyst Fund" (MICF).

## **Part 1: Introduction**

As a result of rapidly deteriorating global economic conditions, British Columbia (BC)'s economic prospects have dimmed. Though BC is well-positioned relative to other Canadian jurisdictions, the province's export-oriented economy is exposed to the precipitous decline in global commodity prices. The BC Business Council, in its 2009 Economic Forecast, expects the province to post virtually no economic growth on a year-over-year basis in 2009. To assist it in addressing the economic downturn, the provincial government has established a Mining Economic Task Force (METF) to explore options for maintaining the sector in the face of the current global economic downturn.

This report will provide some context for the sector, outline some of the challenges and then proceed to recommend actions for government's consideration.

## **Part 2: The State of the Industry**

The global mining industry has been rocked over the past few months. The economic turmoil originating in the United States has spread across the world, leading to major, rapid declines in stock prices and ongoing discouraging economic signs across many economic indicators. The lending crisis has placed exploration and mining companies at serious risk, unable to secure capital to finance growth or strengthen balance sheets. In addition, commodity prices have fallen significantly (for example, copper has fallen from as high as \$4.00 U.S. to as low as \$1.30 U.S. per pound and current expectations are for a large drop in steelmaking coal prices). Both factors are having a very significant and sudden impact on the global mining industry. A slowdown in exploration activity that began in mid-2008 is worsening as this sector struggles to raise financing for exploration activity. Mining operations, while more resistant to market instability, are now in a mode of significant restraint. Mines have been closed or scaled back, planned mine expansions and new projects have been deferred or cancelled and investment in processing facilities has been postponed or stretched out over longer periods. Many companies have seen stock price declines exceeding 50 percent and in some cases over 90 percent – all firms are now engaged in serious cost-control measures.

Analysts predict mineral commodity prices may remain low for some time but that the industry will ultimately return to another protracted upturn in mineral prices, possibly greater than the previous, driven by the cancellation or postponement of development projects and the rapid industrialization of emerging markets. For several years, the province has worked to clearly establish itself as Canada's Pacific Gateway, capitalizing on the demand for minerals and metals in emerging markets in Asia, particularly China and India. BC is extremely well-positioned to meet this growing demand. The province's mineral potential is among the best anywhere, hosting vast reserves of steel-making and thermal coal and metals such as copper, gold and molybdenum. The provincial government has taken many important steps – improving its tax competitiveness, streamlining regulatory requirements and investing in the province's geosciences mineral data collection and analysis – to enhance BC's reputation as an important

### Operating Mines & Smelters

The number of operating mines in BC does vary over time as operations come online, are put into "maintenance" and are reopened in the face of changing conditions, market or otherwise. This list is of mines that are operating or have been operating in the past year.

#### Mines

1. Brule (Western Canadian Coal Corp.)
2. Coal Mountain (Teck Coal)
3. Elkview (Teck Coal)
4. Endako (Thompson Creek Metals Ltd.)
5. Fording River (Teck Coal)
6. Gibraltar (Taseko Mines Limited)
7. Greenhills (Teck Coal)
8. Highland Valley Copper (Teck Cominco Limited)
9. Huckleberry (Huckleberry Mines Ltd.)
10. Kemess South (Northgate Minerals Corporation)
11. Lexington-Grenoble (Merit Mining Corp.)\*
12. Line Creek (Teck Coal)
13. Max (Roca Mines Inc.)
14. Mount Polley (Imperial Metals Corporation)
15. Myra Falls (Breakwater Resources Ltd.)
16. QR (Cross Lake Minerals Ltd.)\*
17. Quinsam Coal (Hillsborough Resources Ltd.)
18. Willow Creek (Western Canadian Coal Corp.)\*
19. Wolverine (Western Canadian Coal Corp.)
20. Trend (Peace River Coal)

\* Indicates currently not operating

\* Indicates not operating at present or in restructuring.

#### Smelters

1. Trail Metal Operations (Teck Cominco Limited)
2. Kitimat Smelter (Rio Tinto Alcan)

mining jurisdiction, and industry has responded with record exploration levels and the opening of new mines in the recent period of economic growth.

It is important that this competitive advantage and these achievements not be lost. The strategic significance of BC mining remains, and steps should be taken to ensure that the industry emerges from the current crisis in a position of strength.

In terms of a public policy response to these challenges, the industry does not seek government involvement in controlling production output, trade or prices, or in sustaining uneconomic operations – the market mechanism continues to be the best regulator of these variables. However, specific actions can be taken in the short term to protect industry jobs and operations. Other actions can be undertaken to help brace for a protracted downturn and an eventual recovery. Ensuring access to capital will be critical over the coming months. The ability of exploration projects, proposed new mines and existing mines to weather ongoing permitting delays or hold-ups due to a lack of federal and provincial harmonization has worsened. The importance of competitive and affordable transportation services and infrastructure has become more critical. The downturn in the mining industry also increases the impact of specific BC policies such as the carbon tax and cap and trade initiative, and the importance of policy instruments to support the sector's ability to contribute to the fight against climate change.

### **Part 3: The British Columbia Mining Sector**

There are currently 17 coal and metal mines operating in the province (down from 20 just 4 months ago), two smelters, over 30 industrial mineral operations, over 20 projects at different stages of development and over 350 exploration projects. One of the province's largest export-oriented industries, mining is very important to rural and remote communities across the province, paying the highest wages of any industrial sector.

The British Columbia mining and exploration sector provides the following employment:<sup>1</sup>

- Mining – 14,000.
- Support activities for mining and oil & gas extraction – 8,100.
- Non-metallic mineral manufacturing – 8,400.
- Primary metal manufacturing – 6,000.
- Indirect jobs based on an inferred 2.5 multiplier – 48,750.

- Total inferred employment – approximately 85,250.
- Indirect employment includes mining suppliers, auditing and law firms.

While mining is often the lifeblood of many rural and remote communities, the sector's significance to Vancouver should not be overlooked. The city is home to approximately 800 mining and mineral exploration companies of various sizes, including major international companies such as Teck and GoldCorp. Over 400 related consultant and supplier companies support the sector, including geological/geotechnical, law and accounting firms. While Vancouver competes in some fashion with international mining centres such as London, Toronto and Perth, the city is clearly the world's centre for mineral exploration and sells its expertise around the globe. As Peter Brown of Canaccord Capital Corporation has said "Canadian miners and explorationists are world leaders in their industry and, in fact, export this expertise to all parts of the globe. Mining and mining finance are core industries in our province and Vancouver is world-renowned as a centre for this expertise."

The city also hosts major domestic and international investment companies with an emphasis on exploration and one of the world's premier technical mineral exploration conferences, Mineral Exploration Roundup, is held annually in Vancouver. Finally, mined material is responsible for over 50 % of Vancouver port volume and the majority of BC rail traffic.

BC is Canada's largest coal producer, 90% of which is high quality steel-producing coal. Coal has a big future in the province, which hosts an estimated 20 billion tonnes of reserves. Almost exclusively exported, coal generated 27% of provincial mining revenues in 2007, derived from sales almost entirely outside Canada. BC's top coal markets, from largest to smallest, are Japan (33%), South Korea (20%), Germany (7%), Brazil (6%), United Kingdom (5%), Taiwan (5%), Netherlands (4%), Italy (4%) and Turkey (4%). China and India remain under-exploited potential markets for BC steelmaking and thermal coal.

Approximately 75% of BC's metal and mineral products are exported, with Japan being the destination for about 50% of the total product.<sup>ii</sup> One quarter of product is sold within Canada for the domestic market. British Columbia is Canada's largest producer of copper, the metal representing 29 % of the province's mineral revenues in 2007.<sup>iii</sup> The province is also the country's only producer of molybdenum. Other BC mineral products include gold, silver, zinc, lead, magnesite, gypsum, limestone, dimension stone and aggregate.

Payments to government vary with the size of the sector, the number of operations and commodity prices. In 2007 the industry paid approximately \$463 million to government compared to \$799 million in 2006 and \$617 million in 2005. These include direct payments only and do not include multipliers.

#### Gross Mining Revenues<sup>1</sup>:

- 2007 – \$6.9 billion
- 2006 – \$8.1 billion

#### 2007 Mining Exports

- Metallic Mineral Products – \$3.4 billion
- Coal – \$2.4 billion
- Approximately 18.7% of all commodity exports<sup>1</sup>
  - Represents 58.1% of commodity exports to Japan
  - Represents 36.1% of commodity exports to Europe



Over the last several years, exploration spending in British Columbia has increased significantly, supported by high commodity prices, BC's favourable geology and a number of positive measures introduced by the BC government. British Columbia rated third for exploration and deposit appraisal expenditures in 2007 and experienced one of the fastest rates of growth in exploration spending among Canadian jurisdictions from 2002-2007. Exploration spending in 2008 was 12 per cent less than in 2007, the first decline since 1999, though still the second highest level in BC history. Expenditures in 2009 are expected to drop below 2008 levels.

**BC Exploration  
Expenditures (millions)**

2005 – \$218
2006 – \$344
2007 – \$428
2008 – \$367

In a 2007 survey by Natural Resources Canada of the top 100 exploration and deposit appraisal projects, as indicated by expenditure, 20 were in British Columbia. Ontario placed second with 16 projects.<sup>iv</sup>

#### **Part 4: British Columbia Has Acted To Support Mining**

The BC government has taken many steps over the past number of years to improve business competitiveness and that have been beneficial to the mining industry. **The Task Force strongly supports actions taken by government to date and recommends that it stay the course with respect to these commitments:**

- Eliminated the PST on production machinery and equipment.
- Eliminated the Capital Tax.
- Reduced Corporate Tax rates from 16.5 per cent to 11 per cent.
- Reduced personal income tax rates such that BC now has the lowest income tax rate for persons earning under \$111,000 of any Canadian jurisdiction, and the second lowest (after Alberta) for those earning over \$111,000.
- Introduced the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit Program and consistently renewed the super-flow-through program, which is a significant contributor to BC's record levels of exploration.
- Extended the New Mine Allowance.
- Creation and investment in Geoscience BC, leading to focused, successful geoscience mapping in areas of strategic geological significance to the province.
- Announcement of a new policy of resource revenue sharing with First Nations.
- Funding to complete environmental baseline studies and First Nations consultations on the proposed Highway 37 powerline.
- Enhanced Mineral Exploration Tax Credit in pine beetle affected areas

These measures have helped to make BC one of the most attractive investment destinations in the country. These measures must be maintained.

## **Part 5: Downturn Presents Particular Challenges to British Columbia Mining Sector**

The decline in commodity prices – with the exception of gold and silver – has been severe both for its extent and for the speed with which it has occurred. It has taken place on the heels of what many analysts had been describing as a “supercycle”; a protracted period of high commodity prices brought on by the rapid industrialization of China and other countries including India, Brazil and Mexico. In this respect, the commodity price decline caught the industry off-guard, an unexpected interruption triggered by the ripple effects of the US financial crisis. The supercycle fundamentals remain, however, which suggests that the turnaround, when it comes, could be equally dramatic. The long-term prognosis of a robust mining sector further underscores the importance of taking action to protect BC’s mining investments and Vancouver’s preeminence as a global exploration centre and to continue to position the province as a major global supplier of commodities, mining supplies and services to the emerging markets.

The immediate impact of the lending crisis and declining commodity prices has been the closure or suspension of several BC mines, including New Afton, Greenwood and Willow Creek. Other mines have had to undertake lay-offs (e.g. Gibraltar, Mt. Polley) or have announced a reduction in workforce (Teck) and further lay-offs are possible across the province. New mine development projects have been suspended or delayed (Blue Pearl, Ruby Creek, Galore Creek, Mt. Milligan) and mineral exploration activity has slowed, as the raising of exploration dollars has become near impossible due to low commodity prices and low liquidity.

Steps can and must be taken to ensure that the current situation does not worsen. Companies themselves must be the prime actors in both responding to the downturn and positioning for the recovery. However, governments can assist by facilitating access to reasonably priced capital under certain circumstances; by reducing costs; and by providing a supportive policy environment. The Task Force’s analysis and recommendations are focused on three key objectives:

- To bridge the current mining industry downturn and liquidity crisis.
- To stimulate mineral exploration and development.
- To position British Columbia for the recovery and long term growth of the industry.

The Task Force makes 13 recommendations clustered in each of the three areas.

## *Bridging Through the Current Mining Industry Downturn and Liquidity Crisis*

### **TAX ISSUES**

The significant short-term declines in commodity prices, expected to persist through to the end of 2009 or longer, could threaten the viability of currently operating mines even though their long term competitiveness is strong. If these companies fail, the ability of the industry to contribute to British Columbia's recovery once the eventual upturn begins will be jeopardized. The government can help ensure BC's mines continue to operate and protect jobs by taking a number of measures in the area of taxation and programs. At the same time, the government can make certain policy changes to enhance the long term competitiveness of the BC industry:

**Recommendation 1:** Lower government taxes in exceptional times and ease the administrative tax burden.

- a) Reduce the tax rate for the British Columbia Mineral Tax (BCMT) to 10 per cent permanently and enhance the value of this reduction in the short term by going lower over the next few years, i.e. six per cent for 2009, eight per cent in 2010, and then revert to 10 per cent in 2011 and forward.
- b) Provide a two year tax deferral of payment of the BCMT to address short-term cash flow challenges at operating mines.
- c) Reduce the statute of limitation for the BCMT from six to four years (the same as for BC's provincial sales tax) prospectively effective January 1, 2009.
- d) For the purpose of calculating PST, revise the definition of production activities to include all activities undertaken on site (e.g. all work performed by mobile equipment on a mine site) and all new mine construction and equipment.

### **FINANCING VEHICLE**

In addition to lower metal prices, the most critical issue facing the industry at the moment is access to capital. The dislocation in the credit and equity markets has significantly constrained the amount of capital available to finance growth in Canada and/or to strengthen balance sheets for resource companies. At present a tremendous amount of capital is "sitting on the sidelines" waiting for positive signals to invest.

Federal and provincial governments have at their disposal some of the largest professional wealth management firms in Canada. Pension funds such as BCIMC, OMERS, OTTP, CPP and the Caisse de Depot are some of Canada's most successful and sophisticated investment managers. Given their stature and resources, market participants often look to these firms for leadership in providing capital to Canadian corporations. With the recent downturn in the markets, many of these pension funds are already acting as catalysts to assist Canadian companies in raising capital in the marketplace that would otherwise be unavailable or available in smaller tranches and at significantly more expensive terms.

Recent examples of offerings where pension fund managers acted as catalysts to encourage broader market participation are described below:

- BCIMC/TimberWest – In December 2008, BCIMC provided a \$100 million financing via a nine per cent, 5-year convertible debenture and agreed to back-stop a \$50 million rights offering. \$75 million of the capital raised was used to repay existing credit facilities with the balance used for working capital to finance the company's business plan;
- CPP/Agnico Eagle - In November 2008, CPP agreed to purchase \$290 million of units (share + ½ purchase warrant) in Agnico Eagle. The transaction was structured to allow the public to purchase up to 50 per cent of the deal; however, if there was not demand in the public markets CPP agreed to buy the entire deal. CPP was paid a 'back stop' fee in addition to receiving a discount on the unit deal. The deal was oversubscribed in the public tranche.

In both of these cases, the leadership of the pension funds attracted reluctant investors to "open their wallets wider" and participate in a more meaningful fashion than they would otherwise, were it not for the leadership shown by the catalyst investor.

British Columbia could take the lead in an initiative to create a pool of funds which would be used to "catalyze" private capital to invest in the mining sector. Under this proposal the government would raise debt money and place the capital with the British Columbia Investment Management Corporation, which would be charged with investing the funds prudently in corporate securities of British Columbia resource companies. The government would establish the size and general investment criteria by which each Resource Catalyst Fund would operate. It would be expected that qualified mining companies in which the Resource Catalyst Funds could invest would be limited to British Columbia Resource Corporations with either significant assets located in BC and/or where the proceeds for the catalyst financing would be used to develop BC mining assets.

The fund managers would be charged with a duty of prudence and would be required to cover all costs and make a return at a defined amount above the government's cost of borrowing. The MICF would likely act as a lead financier and would be expected to attract significant follow-on financing from other market participants, thereby significantly expanding the impact of any initial amount of capital invested into the fund. Since governments have the lowest cost of funds, these funds could be invested in corporate debt or equity securities on more favourable terms, thus providing the potential to generate profits for the taxpayer.

The fund would be managed by some of Canada's top investment management firms who already have significant expertise in investing in Canadian resource companies. The government would retain ultimate control through determining both the size of the funds committed and the investment criteria used by the Resource Catalyst Fund Manager. The only significant item the government would not control is the choice of which particular mining company the Catalyst Fund invests in, as such decisions are best left to the judgment of the pension fund managers. This program could be repeated in other provinces with similar pension management mechanisms as well as by the federal government through the Canada Pension Plan.

**Recommendation 2:** Create a British Columbia Government-sponsored "Mining Industry Catalyst Fund" (MICF).



## DEBT FINANCE SUPPORT

The current crisis in the financial market has had a particularly devastating impact on the fixed income market. The bond market has virtually seized up as lending has stopped. In some cases trade credits and accounts receivables financing have been impossible to obtain. The commercial paper market, by which operating companies finance working capital, has disappeared. There are many other examples where the lack of adequate financing opportunities has led to difficulties for the mining sector at all levels.

Companies themselves have got to take the lead in addressing the problems of financing. Many companies have already done so by deferring capital spending, workforce reductions and other measures designed to preserve cash. However, the extent and scope of the freeze in the financial market carries with it problems that companies alone cannot address.

The BC government could assist with this challenge by using its balance sheet to assist qualifying British Columbia companies who cannot get access to credit and/or reduce the cost of the credit where that cost would otherwise be prohibitive to a company. This would be a temporary measure and would use guarantees lasting for a defined period, e.g. five years. For terms beyond five years the loan rate would be re-set once the guarantee expired to the rate appropriate for that company. Returns to the taxpayer could be addressed through measures such as commodity price sensitive repayment terms.

**Recommendation 3:** Create a facility to provide five year guarantees for loans for qualified British Columbia resource companies.

## PROTECTION OF JOBS IN OPERATING MINES

In the event that the impact of the credit crisis and low commodity prices is so severe that some viable operations are faced with closure, at a cost of considerable job losses, the Task Force recommends that the government of British Columbia take early action to create a new agency modeled on the former Job Protection and Critical Industries Commission<sup>1</sup>. The new agency would have a sunset provision, would be tactical in that it would not “serve all”, would only deal with probable “survivors”, would not imbed subsidies and would not duplicate federal programs but instead would look for federal cooperation and participation as appropriate. It would base its initiative on the likelihood of making a return from investment upon economic recovery sufficient to repay the cost of any support provided. It would have defined priorities focusing on

<sup>1</sup> The British Columbia Legislature established the Critical Industries Commission in 1985, during the steep economic recession in BC and Canada beginning in the early 1980s and completed its work in 1987. The Job Protection Commission was a successor agency to the Critical Industries Commission, established by legislation in 1991. General economic conditions had improved in the early to mid 1990s, but market access for lumber into the USA and low commodity prices again made survival of the mining and forestry sectors difficult in BC. The stated purpose of the Job Protection Commission was to “help companies bridge through to a time when prices and market access improve.” The Critical Industries Commission reported in 1987 that during its operation it prepared Economic Plans for thirteen clients, preserving roughly 2,700 jobs. The Job Protection Commission in its 1997 Annual Report stated that from 1991 to 1997 it saved 14,500 jobs. The Commission 2001 Report stated that it had preserved 5,600 jobs in 2001 alone. The Commissions were active across a number of industrial sectors, not just forestry and mining. They worked without a large bureaucracy, with all affected parties, including other levels of government, contributing to solutions. They did so without imbedding permanent subsidies.

maintaining or improving the competitive position of firms. It would have access to tools appropriate to the circumstances, which would be removed after some clearly defined period. It would operate in full recognition of existing trade agreements. The agency could target not just the BC mining industry but the provincial economy as a whole. Among the tools that could be available include:

- Worker/owner cooperation and job protection agreements.
- Provincial and local governments' property tax remission or deferral agreements.
- Remission or deferral of provincial sales taxes and other taxes that increase production and transportation costs.
- Regulatory relaxation where doing so would protect jobs for a period.
- Relief from the second, higher cost, component of BC Hydro's two tiered RS 1823 power pricing schedule for industry.
- Professional advisory assistance, mediation and counseling provided for companies to help them find ways to reduce costs and become more competitive.
- Work with firms to develop alternate uses for beetle-kill pine in energy generation and other applications.
- Information on and assistance in gaining access for BC firms to federal loan, export assistance, grant and training programs.
- Work with banks and credit unions to arrange loans, re-schedule payments and convert loans to equity.
- Establish a BC credit facility to encourage lenders to lend. This should be complementary to and not duplicate federal efforts with the Canadian Lenders Assurance Facility. It would essentially provide a BC government debt guarantee for bank loans as part of an Economic Plan, secured by assets of the borrower. The government would limit the amount of such guarantees by firm and in total.
- Government prescribed actions to address long term legacy issues could be deferred (e.g. environmental legacy clean-up at Vancouver Wharves).
- Utilize the Resource Catalyst Fund (Recommendation #2) to provide financing support to client companies.

**Recommendation 4:** Create a Job Protection and Critical Industries Commission with a finite life span.

***Stimulate Mineral Exploration: Governments set the stage and industry will invest the money***

The province should consider a number of measures to ensure that BC's relative proportion of Canadian exploration spending is maintained or enhanced by building on actions already undertaken. The following proposed recommendations would enhance and/or stimulate grassroots exploration by: a) investing in BC's geosciences data; b) improving the attractiveness of the flow-through share investment vehicle; and c) enhancing the tax treatment of exploration on or near closed mine sites.

## GEOSCIENCE PROVIDES THE INFORMATION BASE

Geoscience is a critical component in attracting investment in the competitive global market. Geoscience also opens up new areas for exploration and possible development. A knowledge base that is continually expanding stimulates new exploration, while minimizing the potential impact of duplicative exploration activities on the land. It also contributes to the health of the junior sector, a critical part of the mineral industry. An active exploration industry in turn helps to develop clusters of economic activity in support of exploration and mining, attracts talent and encourages the development and deployment of new technologies. It has been estimated that every \$1 invested in geoscience stimulates \$5 in new exploration investment.

There is a fundamental relationship between the quality and relevance of the geoscience knowledge base and exploration activity. If prospectivity, land tenure, and the socio-political environment are equal among jurisdictions, the geoscience knowledge base will strongly influence a company's decision to invest. Geoscience gives a competitive edge in the global investment climate.

Over the past several years, through the creation and support of the private-sector led Geoscience BC, the BC government has significantly enhanced the province's geosciences capacity, fostering new exploration, discoveries and interest in BC. New programs planned by Geoscience BC, estimated at \$20 million over three years, would provide immediate benefit to communities: 10 to 20 per cent of the expenditure would be spent in local communities on services and supplies, and some seasonal local hiring. The success of the regional work undertaken by Geoscience BC to date has been a major contributor to the increased exploration in the province. Increased expenditures for exploration, mapping and geological research to be carried out by the BC Geological Survey provide a vital tool for the mineral explorer in the province.

Long-term benefits would come from the follow-up exploration spending (mineral exploration companies spend approximately 20 per cent of their exploration investment locally) and new discoveries, which would hopefully lead to new metal reserves and mines. The establishment of a center for excellence in innovative high technology mineral exploration in conjunction with industry would keep funds spent elsewhere in the world here in British Columbia, enhance the professional employment of internationally recognized expertise, maintain and grow our technological advantages and allow the export of the technology to other parts of the world. With the global recession curbing exploration expenditures around the world, the competition for exploration activity will intensify. It is especially timely for BC to continue its strategic investment in geosciences.

**Recommendation 5:** Invest \$20 million over three years for programs in high priority areas identified by Geoscience BC; enhance funding for the BC Geological Survey of the Ministry; and, allocate funding for the establishment of a center for excellence in innovative high technology mineral exploration in conjunction with industry.

## ENHANCE THE FLOW THROUGH SHARES PROGRAM

Flow-through share financing has been a successful structure for over 20 years whereby the government has acted as a catalyst to increase the levels of resource property exploration and development in Canada. In strong markets for mining stocks, flow-through shares tend to be popular among investors. Conversely, in weak markets flow-through shares are significantly less popular, since they are predominantly an investment rather than a tax shelter. Prior to the global financial crisis, 2008 had been a strong year for mining stocks. In 2008, approximately \$300 million in flow-through shares were issued by Canadian mining companies, compared to \$800 million in 2007.

Investors in flow-through share offerings completed prior to the market meltdown have experienced losses on both a pre and post-tax basis. Therefore, unless market conditions improve, 2009 is expected to see a significant reduction in flow-through financings relative to 2008, contributing to already worsening exploration activity. By acting as a catalyst to assist mining companies in attracting greater amounts of private market funding at more attractive terms than would otherwise be possible without government support, governments could help protect mineral exploration activity during this difficult period.

A significant amount of money raised through flow-through financing was not deployed in 2008 while some operating companies were unable to finance brownfield exploration or expansions. This gap could be addressed if the flow-through program was amended to allow this application of flow-through funds to exploration and development at brownfield sites.

**Recommendation 6:** The province should advocate to the federal government to:

- a) Expand flow-through eligibility to include brownfield exploration and development expenditure on a temporary two-year basis.
- b) Make the super flow-through share program a permanent feature of the tax system or, at a minimum, extend the program for an additional three years. In addition, the BC Government should implement a temporary increase in the deduction gross-up to 125 per cent for development spending and 150 per cent for exploration spending to flow-through share financing, and increase the BC Mining Flow-Through Share Tax Credit of eligible costs from 20 to 30 percent (similar to the Budget 2007 measure to increase the mineral exploration tax credit in pine-beetle infested regions).

## EXPAND CORPORATE INCOME TAX DEFINITIONS

In order for certain exploration expenditures to qualify as CEE and to benefit from the related federal and provincial tax incentives, a property must meet definition of a New Mine, but some of the definitions in the *Income Tax Act* should be made clearer. The Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada and the Mining Association of Canada have proposed that the definition be clarified such that if a mine site has not been in operation for five years, exploration work carried on or near the property qualifies as CEE. **We urge the province to continue its support of the industry's advocacy efforts with the federal government on this issue.**



**Recommendation 7:** Expand the definition of exploration under federal *Income Tax Act* to include spending on or near a closed property.

### *Position British Columbia for Recovery and Long term Growth*

Though many new projects have been cancelled or postponed as a result of the current economic downturn, a number of viable new projects continue to advance through the regulatory process and into construction. Steps can be taken to enhance the viability of new projects and thereby strengthen BC's position when commodity prices recover.

## **TAX TREATMENT FOR NEW PROJECTS**

The costs to complete engineering and feasibility studies and to guide a mine through the Environmental Assessment (EA) process are considerable and for BCMT purposes are only deductible from income generated by the yet-unconstructed mine. **Given the length of time it takes to permit a mine in BC, and the fact an EA review may be undertaken without a permit being issued, it would be beneficial if these costs could be pooled for BCMT, the same way exploration costs are.** Companies with operating mines in the province could then elect to add these costs to the expenditure pool of a mine already in production.

**Recommendation 8:** Pool development project feasibility study and permitting costs for deduction under BCMT.

## **EFFICIENT PERMITTING**

BC hosts about half of Canada's major new mine development proposals. Nevertheless, despite a lengthy and very buoyant commodity cycle over the past five to six years, only a few of these projects received their necessary approvals and proceeded to construction and development. Many in industry believe that this represents a significant lost opportunity and that, despite some notable improvements in the BC regulatory approval process, uncertain and lengthy timelines for exploration permits and access issues including the use of resource roads remain major concerns. Federal processes have been somewhat singled out, characterized by a lack of resources, coordination and a reluctance or refusal to harmonize with BC authorities on a consistent basis or to make timely decisions. The establishment of the Major Projects Management Office, though welcome and applauded by industry, has yet to deliver on its promise of a more streamlined and effective federal regulatory system.

**Recommendation 9:** The province should aggressively pursue with the federal government a harmonized/single review for environmental assessment and permitting under provincial direction, including delegation and, if necessary, devolution. Specifically, it is recommended that the province work with the federal government on the following issues:

- a) **Clarify expectations and requirements for listing tailings impoundment areas (TIAs) on Schedule II of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER), with the objective of expediting the existing Schedule II process.** Note that in the longer term the listing of TIAs under Schedule II should be repealed or significantly changed such that a regulatory impact analysis statement (RIAS) is not required to deposit tailings into

a fish-bearing water body. The RIAS process was not designed for specific project-level decisions and is unnecessarily duplicative and cumbersome as these issues are already addressed in the environmental assessment.

- b) **Encourage reasonable and practical application of the federal *Fisheries Act* to mining developments.** Since federal EA decisions typically lag provincial EA decisions in BC, the *Fisheries Act* authorization issued by DFO is often the critical path permit to begin construction. The application of DFO's "no net loss" policy seems to have considerable room for interpretation; reasonable interpretation of what constitutes harm and compensation for fish habitat would allow more timely project review while still being protective of fisheries resources.
- c) **Amend the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) to allow delegation to provincial EA processes on a province-by-province basis.** The CEAA process for determining federal responsible authorities and scoping requires the proponent to provide information out of sequence of when it naturally becomes available in the project design cycle. The result is a federal process that is not properly equipped for reviewing industrial projects due to de-harmonization from the provincial process and duplication of effort. Delegating management of the EA process to the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) would allow federal agencies to focus their limited resources on technical review related to their permits and authorizations, rather than duplicating steps that are handled well by the BC EAO. The CEAA is under review in 2010 so there is an upcoming opportunity to remedy some of the structural flaws in the Act.

## FIRST NATIONS AND MINING

The mining industry acknowledges that it must earn its "social license to operate" from the communities affected by its activities. Among the affected communities are those of the First Nations of British Columbia who have special rights defined in law. The industry believes that constructive dialogue and successful engagement with BC's First Nations and other communities of interest will enable it to earn and maintain its social license. By working with First Nations, the mining industry believes it can offer one of the most tangible and meaningful ways for First Nations to achieve a greater degree of economic self-sufficiency, to obtain employment and opportunity for a large number of Aboriginal youth, and to provide opportunities for Aboriginal businesses to develop and grow by supplying the mining sector with goods and services.

These opportunities will only be realized, however, if companies are able to proceed with new developments. This in turn is dependent upon the levels of certainty in the province around governmental approval processes and decision making; uncertainty can make it very difficult to finance the projects that would otherwise bring economic opportunities to all British Columbians.

The mining industry welcomes the initiative by the Government of British Columbia and First Nations to forge a new relationship in British Columbia. As these efforts continue, the mining industry believes that the participants must:

- Agree on what constitutes adequate consultation and accommodation.
- Create well-defined and transparent government decision making processes with defined and accountable timeframes.
- Ensure First Nations have the capacity to participate in procedural and decision making processes.

The mining industry believes that with these issues properly addressed it can develop for the benefit of all citizens of the province.

**Recommendation 10:** To further the objectives of clarity, certainty and clear timelines for proposed mining projects, to look at opportunities for improving the opportunities for First Nations resulting from exploration and mining and to enhance First Nations capacity for engaging in and benefitting from mining activity, the Task Force:

- a) Asks the government to clarify the roles and responsibilities of all parties to the decisions regarding project permitting and approvals.
- b) Appreciates and applauds the province's decision to establish a framework for resource revenue sharing with First Nations for new mines. The Task Force encourages government to implement this policy as soon as possible as there are significant opportunities to advance existing projects.
- c) Urges the government to invest in First Nation training initiatives, including long-term funding for programs such as the Aboriginal Training Program offered by the Industry Training Authority (ITA), BCIT's Aboriginal Training Program in Mining, and the Northwest Community College's School of Exploration and Mining.

## ADDRESS TRANSPORTATION COSTS

The mining industry is responsible for over 60 per cent of rail revenue and almost 70 per cent of port volumes, making it extremely reliant on competitively priced and efficiently run transportation services to compete globally. However, the structure of rail transportation in Canada results in the two major railways having a monopoly position in large areas of the country, including British Columbia. This monopoly situation can lead to difficulties for shipper companies in terms of both rates and service levels. Federal policymakers have long recognized the captivity of certain shippers, particularly coal mines, and the need for processes to countervail the market power of railways that enjoy these monopolies. Unfortunately, the remedial processes that have been enacted in federal transportation legislation have, in practice, been of limited assistance to shippers in the mining industry. The consequences to British Columbia have included lost mine productivity and output, lost earnings to both the mines and the province, lost investment in plant and equipment, lost opportunities in export markets, and damage to our industry's reputation as a reliable supplier of commodities. The province of British Columbia can assist the mining industry to solve both rate and service issues by advocating the need for direct remedies that will enable competition for rail transportation services for captive shippers like British Columbia's steelmaking coal industry.

The north shore of Vancouver is the country's largest and most diverse commodity export hub and a critical link to overseas markets for steelmaking coal, mineral concentrates and other bulk and break bulk goods. Current constraints in the rail infrastructure accessing the north shore, and the need for cooperation between the two major railways to enable commodities originating on the CP line to access the CN-controlled north shore rail infrastructure, results in a failure to fully utilize existing capacity; lack of surge capacity in the system; and unreliable service levels.

In order to fully understand the consequences for British Columbia of the processes governing the commercial relationships between the federally regulated transportation suppliers and the province's mining companies, the government could conduct a provincial review of rail and port pricing and service practices and the impact of these practices on the BC mining industry and other resource sectors. The results of the review could be used to identify solutions that it should seek through the current federal service review process, as well as other consultations between the province and the Government of Canada on matters of pricing, service and the potential for new legislative remedies.

**Recommendation 11:** The government should undertake a formal review of the impact of monopolistic rail and port pricing and service practices on the mining industry in British Columbia and the degree to which existing statutory remedies are effective in countervailing these monopolies.

## INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE

Governments across Canada, including BC, are accelerating infrastructure investments as a means of stimulating the economy during the downturn while simultaneously enhancing industry competitiveness. The development of British Columbia, and indeed its very health and growth, has always relied upon a vibrant interconnection of roads, railways, power and communications technologies. Unfortunately, there are still areas in this province that do not enjoy the benefits of the modern physical infrastructure that so many British Columbians take for granted.

In northwestern BC, for example, the Highway 37 corridor from Meziadin Junction to Dease Lake is poorly served by unreliable and expensive diesel power that often fails, resulting in brown-outs to the service area. These power interruptions restrict rural communities and isolated regions from realizing their full development potential. Infrastructure projects of this nature have the potential to result in new opportunities for rural and urban communities, providing jobs and skills training during planning, implementation and construction, and ongoing employment in servicing and maintenance. New roadways and hydroelectric power in the Highway 37 corridor also have the potential to open up new opportunities for high-paying jobs in mining, forestry, and power generation, while revitalizing existing tourism, guide outfitting, transportation, and supply industries in the northwest.

The Highway 37 power line and other major BC infrastructure projects such as Site C would benefit current and future mining investments in the province. Logging road upgrades to enhance mine and exploration access represent other opportunities for bettering the competitiveness of current, and viability of future, projects.



Lastly, there is growing concern about the capacity of BC's port infrastructure to service the mining industry's needs.

**Recommendation 12:** Accelerate the development of public infrastructure as part of the fiscal stimulus packages being considered by Ottawa and BC that would encourage and support new exploration and mining investment and undertake a study to assess the ability of BC's ports to meet current and future needs of the mining industry.

## **FILLING THE NEED FOR TRAINED PEOPLE**

The BC Mining Labour Market Task Force has developed a comprehensive analysis of the forecasted human resources challenges to be faced by the mining industry over the next decade under a number of scenarios, including no-growth, low growth and strong growth. Despite the recent economic slowdown, retirement and attrition will continue to significantly impact the Canadian and BC mining industry over the next five to 10 years. Even in the case of an industry contraction over the next one to two years, followed by modest growth, there will still be a shortfall of 8,000 or more jobs in BC's mining industry. This is a very conservative estimate based almost entirely on the known baby boomer retirements that are projected to occur. We need to prepare now for this pending reality.

The ability to sustain our industry, prepare for retirements and growth depends on what we do today during these challenging economic times to ensure a well trained, educated and diverse workforce.

The BC Mining Labour Market Task Force has put forward a number of recommendations to the BC government to partner with industry and other stakeholders to meet the sector's human resource challenges.

**Recommendation 13:** The Task Force recommends that the government partner with the BC Labour Market Task Force on appropriate measures to help address the future human resource needs of the mining industry.

## **Part 6: Conclusion**

British Columbia's exploration and mining industry rebounded over the past decade to become a critical part of the province's economy and economic future. High commodity prices, a competitive tax regime, strong geology, competitive energy costs and several other factors combined over the past several years to stimulate record levels of exploration, new mine openings and the advancement of many new projects. The impact of the current liquidity crisis and economic downturn, however, has been severe for both its extent and the speed in which it has occurred, putting at risk the gains of the past decade and the opportunities that lie ahead.

The Task Force's recommendations have been put forward to assist governments in responding to the current situation. Though negative economic impacts across the mining sector are inevitable – indeed have already been felt – the Task Force believes that the measures outlined in this report would help manage and mitigate these impacts on the industry, its workers and communities and position the industry for a stronger recovery when commodity prices rebound and the lending markets recover.

The Task Force would like to conclude by thanking Premier Gordon Campbell and the Minister of State for Mining Gordon Hogg for giving us this opportunity to contribute to the public policy process and to put forward our best ideas on how to support the economic well-being of the province and its citizens.

## **Appendix A: Terms of Reference**

### **PURPOSE:**

As announced by the Premier of British Columbia on December 5, 2008, the Mining Economic Task Force (Task Force) will identify key opportunities and make recommendations to help mitigate the effects of the global economic downturn on British Columbia's mineral exploration and mining industry.

The Task Force will assist in the identification of immediate opportunities to support the sustainable growth of BC's minerals and metals industry.

The Task Force will serve as a vehicle for immediate and open communication.

Task Force members will not be expected to reach consensus or agreement, nor is the Task Force a decision making body.

### **PRINCIPLES:**

The work of the Task Force will seek to support and enhance the mineral exploration, mining and smelting industries, and will endeavour to:

- Ensure the competitiveness of the minerals sector
- Protect the health and safety of workers
- Respect First Nations rights and interests
- Protect the environment

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

The members of the Task Force are chosen based on their expertise and ability to receive, consider and provide new perspectives and ideas. Task Force members represent diverse interests and are listed below:

- |                     |                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Horswill, Douglas | - Teck Cominco Limited        |
| • Segsworth, Walter | - Mining Association of BC    |
| • Hallbauer, Russ   | - Taseko Mines Ltd.           |
| • Jones, Jim        | - Teck Coal                   |
| • Pease, Rob        | - Terrane Metals Corp.        |
| • Abraham, Brian    | - Fraser Milner Casgrain, LLP |

- Brommeland, Lena - Association for Mineral Exploration BC
- Curry, Robin - Smithers Exploration Group
- O'Rourke, Jim - Copper Mountain Mining Corporation
- Lyons, Terry - Northgate Minerals Corporation

## **OPERATIONS:**

The Task Force will present a report to the Minister's Council on Mineral Exploration and Mining on January 29, 2009. In the report, the Task Force will bring forward implementable recommendations for immediate action to help the mineral exploration and mining industry during the global economic downturn.

The Minister of State for Mining, and Chair of the Minister's Council on Mineral Exploration and Mining, will report to Cabinet on Task Force recommendations.

Terms of Reference adopted December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.

## Appendix B: Summary of Recommendations

### *Bridging through the Current Mining Industry Downturn and Liquidity Crisis*

**Recommendation 1:** Lower government taxes in exceptional times and ease the administrative tax burden.

- a) Reduce the tax rate for the British Columbia Mineral Tax (BCMT) to 10 per cent permanently and enhance the value of this reduction in the short term by going lower over the next few years, i.e. six per cent for 2009, eight per cent in 2010, reverting to 10 per cent in 2011 and forward.
- b) Provide a two year tax deferral of payment of the BCMT to address short-term cash flow challenges at operating mines.
- c) Reduce the statute of limitation for the BCMT from six to four years (the same as for BC's provincial sales tax) prospectively effective January 1, 2009.
- d) For the purpose of calculating PST, revise the definition of production activities to include all activities undertaken on site (e.g. all work performed by mobile equipment on a mine site) and all new mine construction and equipment.

**Recommendation 2:** Create a British Columbia Government-sponsored "Mining Industry Catalyst Fund".

**Recommendation 3:** Create a facility to provide five year guarantees for loans for qualified British Columbia resource companies.

**Recommendation 4:** Create a Job Protection and Critical Industries Commission with a finite life span.

### *Stimulate Mineral Exploration: Governments set the stage and industry will invest the money*

**Recommendation 5:** Invest \$20 million over three years for programs in high priority areas identified by Geoscience BC; enhance funding for the BC Geological Survey of the Ministry; and, allocate funding for the establishment of a center for excellence in innovative high technology mineral exploration in conjunction with industry.

**Recommendation 6:** The province should advocate to the federal government to:

- a) Expand flow-through eligibility to include brownfield exploration and development expenditure on a temporary two-year basis.
- b) Make the super flow-through share program a permanent feature of the tax system or, at a minimum, extend the program for an additional three years. In addition, the BC Government should implement a temporary increase in the deduction gross-up to 125 per cent for development spending and 150 per cent for exploration spending to flow-through share financing, and increase the BC Mining Flow-Through Share Tax Credit of eligible

costs from 20 to 30 percent (similar to the Budget 2007 measure to increase the mineral exploration tax credit in pine-beetle infested regions).

**Recommendation 7:** Expand the definition of exploration under the federal *Income Tax Act* to include spending on or near a closed property.

***Position British Columbia for the recovery and long term growth of the industry***

**Recommendation 8:** Pool development project feasibility study and permitting costs for deduction under BCMT.

**Recommendation 9:** The province should aggressively pursue with the federal government a harmonized/single review for environmental assessment and permitting under provincial direction, including delegation and, if possible, devolution. Specifically, it is recommended that the province work with the federal government on the following issues:

- a) **Clarify expectations and requirements for listing tailings impoundment areas (TIAs) on Schedule II of the Metal Mining Effluent Regulations (MMER), with the objective of expediting the existing Schedule II process.** Note that in the longer term the listing of TIAs under Schedule II should be repealed or significantly changed such that a regulatory impact analysis statement (RIAS) is not required to deposit tailings into a fish-bearing water body. The RIAS process was not designed for specific project-level decisions and is unnecessarily duplicative and cumbersome as these issues are already addressed in the environmental assessment.
- b) **Encourage reasonable and practical application of the federal *Fisheries Act* to mining developments.** Since federal EA decisions typically lag provincial EA decisions in BC, the *Fisheries Act* authorization issued by DFO is often the critical path permit to begin construction. The application of DFO's "no net loss" policy seems to have considerable room for interpretation; reasonable interpretation of what constitutes harm and compensation for fish habitat would allow more timely project review while still being protective of fisheries resources.
- c) **Amend the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* (CEAA) to allow delegation to provincial EA processes on a province-by-province basis.** The CEAA process for determining federal responsible authorities and scoping requires the proponent to provide information out of sequence of when it naturally becomes available in the project design cycle. The result is a federal process that is not properly equipped for reviewing industrial projects due to de-harmonization from the provincial process and duplication of effort. Delegating management of the EA process to the BC Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) would allow federal agencies to focus their limited resources on technical review related to their permits and authorizations, rather than duplicating steps that are handled well by the BC EAO. The CEAA is under review in 2010 so there is an upcoming opportunity to remedy some of the structural flaws in the Act.

**Recommendation 10:** To further the objectives of clarity, certainty and clear timelines for proposed mining projects, to look at opportunities for improving the inclusiveness of project reviews and to enhance First Nations capacity for engaging in and benefitting from mining activity, the Task Force proposes the following:

- a) The Task Force asks the government to clarify the roles and responsibilities of all parties to the decisions regarding project permitting and approvals.
- b) The Task Force appreciates and applauds the province's decision to establish a framework for resource revenue sharing with First Nations for new mines. The Task Force encourages government to implement this policy as soon as possible as there are significant opportunities to advance existing projects.
- c) Invest in First Nation training initiatives, including long-term funding for programs, such as the Aboriginal Training Program offered by the Industry Training Authority (ITA), BCIT's Aboriginal Training Program in Mining, and the Northwest Community College's School of Exploration and Mining.

**Recommendation 11:** The government should undertake a formal review of the impact of monopolistic rail and port pricing and service practices on the mining industry in British Columbia and the degree to which existing statutory remedies are effective in countervailing these monopolies.

**Recommendation 12:** Accelerate the development of public infrastructure as part of the fiscal stimulus packages being considered by Ottawa and BC that would encourage new exploration and mining investment, and undertake a study to assess the ability of BC's ports to meet current and future needs of the mining industry.

**Recommendation 13:** The Task Force recommends that the government partner with the BC Labour Market Task Force on appropriate measures to help address the future human resource needs of the mining industry.



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<sup>i</sup> BC Stats, Employment by Industry, British Columbia: NAICS (North American Industrial Classification System). As found December 22, 2008 at: <http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/dd/handout/naicsann.pdf>

<sup>ii</sup> Ministry of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources, Destinations of Major Metals from British Columbia, As found December 22, 2008 at:

<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Mining/MineralStatistics/MineralSectors/Metals/MarketsandPrices/Pages/MarketDestination.aspx>

<sup>iii</sup> PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Looks Who's 40: The Mining Industry In British Columbia in 2007, May 2008, p.14.

<sup>iv</sup> Natural Resources Canada, Top 100 Exploration and Deposit Appraisal Projects of 2007 As found December 23, 2008 at:

<http://mmsd1.mms.nrcan.gc.ca/mmsd/exploration/2007%20top%20100%20explo%20map%20E.pdf>



## **Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX**

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**From:** Merrifield, Katy PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2016 3:27 PM  
**To:** Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX  
**Subject:** taseko  
**Attachments:** 95255 Hallbauer to Premier May 13 2016 - New Prosperity.pdf



RECEIVED  
DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE  
MINISTRY OF NATURAL GAS DEVELOPMENT

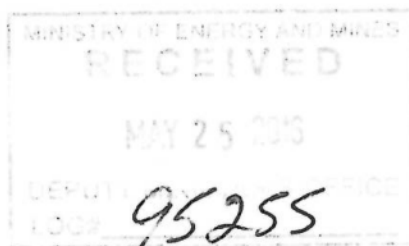
CLIFF NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ REFER TO: \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT ☐ MAY 20 2016 ☐ NECESSARY ACTION  
REPLY ☐  
INFO ☐  
FILE ☐  
REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

Taseko Mines Limited  
15th Floor, 1040 West Georgia St.  
Vancouver, BC V6E 4H1  
T +1-778-373-4533  
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tasekoamines.com

May 13, 2016

The Honourable Christy Clark  
Premier of British Columbia  
Box 9041  
Station Prov. Govt.  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1



**WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

Dear Premier Clark:

As you undoubtedly are aware my Company continues with its efforts to advance our New Prosperity Project and we are actively pursuing the matter through the Courts, with the goal of requiring the Federal Government to revisit the position it took under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 in not granting three authorizations to advance the project tied to fish habitat, navigable waters and explosives.

I firmly believe that the courts will find in our favour once the true facts of the Federal process are unveiled.

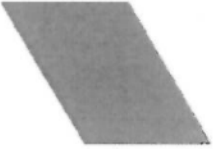
I have personally been involved in mineral development around the world and have experienced subversive undermining by government employees of important projects. I cannot believe, as a Canadian that the same could hold true in Canada in terms of what transpired through the Federal Panel Process as it relates to our New Prosperity Project.

It indeed though happens, everyone in this Province should remember Carrier Lumber, one of the more egregious efforts of the state and bureaucracy to destroy a business.

To bring you up-to-date on our findings, Federal elected representatives and senior deputy ministers met secretly with opponents of our Project, these opponents were not just First Nations representatives, but private citizens and NGO groups who had many meetings, after the Panel hearings had closed. As well, a 56 page submission in opposition to our Project was presented to the then Environmental Minister "after the Panel Report had been rendered" – all of which was not part of the process nor disclosed to my Company, and we were never given an opportunity to respond to it before Cabinet made its decision. All of this is contrary to the Federal decision-making process and likely contrary to law.

The British Columbian government should be very disturbed by this because constitutionally mineral assets are owned by the Province and their development is the Provinces' responsibility, not Ottawa's. With the BC government approving our Project and the Federal government torpedoing it by not following their own process is something that needs to be addressed by your administration.

*From the desk of Russell Hallbauer, President & CEO*



We have recently though obtained through access to information requests, information regarding a submission from British Columbia Ministry of Energy and Mines personnel made to the Federal Review Panel – this submission downplayed a variety of supportive technical information from the BC Government's own consultants on water quality that, had these reports been presented to the Panel on behalf of the BC Government could have potentially affected the Panel's ultimate conclusions.

In a nutshell, Premier, BC Government employees were actively working to discredit our new plan with the Panel on the water quality issue around Fish Lake.

Even knowing all of this we have continued our efforts to move forward through the provincial regulatory processes, but have experienced intense resistance and delays from the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) which begs the question "why". As you know, our original Prosperity project was approved by two provincial ministers in 2010, and we applied to amend our environmental assessment certificate in June 2011 to reflect the modified New Prosperity design (which would avoid the draining of Fish Lake). It is incomprehensible to us that a decision on the amendment application remains outstanding nearly 5 years after it was filed. This is in fact an extremely simple amendment application to grant, given that the revised project will have less environmental impact and more economic benefits. Yet despite all the above, and various letters sent to EAO, the EAO continues to sit on its hands on this project, perhaps in the hope that Taseko will simply go away.

I must, however, assure you that is not going to happen.

My concern about the maladministration by the EAO has been heightened in recent months, with the signing of the Nenqay Deni Accord - without any prior consultation with our Company and I might add many other land owners and citizens of the Cariboo. This Accord makes clear that all lands within the Tsilhqot'in traditional territory (other than the title lands and Indian reserves) will either become category A lands or category B lands. Under the terms of the agreement, either categorization of our project will have material adverse impacts on our project and our economic interests. In June 2011 I sent both yourself and Minister Coleman then Minister of EMPR a letter regarding the Tsilhqot'n Framework Agreement and how we viewed such with respect to our project. Nearly 5 years later the situation continues to deteriorate.

In the circumstances where we find ourselves there are several possible scenarios as to how I would see the matter proceeding:

**OPTION1. The province:**

- (a) proceeds with the timely completion of the Environmental Assessment Certificate amendment application;
- (b) provides written notice to our Company and the TNG that the lands over which our mineral tenures exist will not be on the table for negotiation as category A lands; and
- (c) commits to compensating our Company for any additional costs or adverse implications that arise in future as a result of any changes to the resource management regulatory regime and land use planning that will be applied to category B lands.

**OPTION 2:** The province immediately enters into negotiations with our Company to sell our existing tenures, permits and engineering reports to a private company owned by the province, and the province could in turn transfer ownership of that company to the TNG or any other party it deems appropriate. In order to achieve such an agreement, our Company would expect to be compensated for its substantial investment to date in the project, and be provided a significant Net Smelter Royalty in the event the deposit is ever mined by any other party, including any First Nation group.

**OPTION 3:** Taseko initiates legal proceedings against the province. This could include an application for an order in the nature of mandamus, directing the EAO / Minister of Environment to complete the certificate amendment application. Or we could include a civil suit for damages based upon a claim of *de facto* expropriation, among other things.

Premier – I hope it is clear that this Company and its shareholders cannot simply sit back and allow our project to be placed on ice by regulators, or to be unfairly treated by agreements with First Nations that affect our interests without any consultation with us. We would, of course, like nothing more than to find a way to develop this project that is in the mutual interests of ourselves, the citizens of the Cariboo, and the Tsilhqot'in and we will continue to work towards that goal. But please understand that in the absence of any such agreement we are not able to simply stand down and watch this substantial asset become sterilized to the detriment of our shareholders.

It is doubly disturbing to myself and my Board of Directors that there exists such a double standard with respect to Government projects, ie Site C and the interaction with aboriginal interests versus public companies trying to develop their assets in terms of "veto", contrary to the Supreme Court decisions on these matters. There have been seven First Nations groups taking the Government to court on Site C and you have won all challenges, yet our Project stands isolated against a perceived backdrop of First Nation pushback.

I am prepared to meet with the appropriate spokesperson you assign to this in the coming weeks to discuss these options for the government.

Sincerely,



Russell E. Hallbauer, P.Eng.  
President & CEO

cc. Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines  
Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Environment  
Honourable John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Donna Barnett, MLA  
Kim Henderson, Deputy Minister to the Premier  
Elaine McKnight, Deputy Minister  
Doug Caul, Deputy Minister  
Kevin Jardine, Associate Deputy Minister

## Gulsen, Gul PREM:EX

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**From:** Cadario, Michele PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:51 PM  
**To:** Gjoka, Ina PREM:EX  
**Subject:** Fw: Draft TNG comms  
**Attachments:** Qus and As - BC\_TNG\_Rec Agmt-Ab Title - Feb 05 2016\_330pm.docx; Rollout\_TNG Accord\_draft\_09Feb2016 (2).docx; Joint NR\_DRAFT2.docx

Pls print for me

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the TELUS network.

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**From:** Ehl, Cameron ABR:EX <[Cameron.Ehl@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Cameron.Ehl@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2016 4:50 PM  
**To:** Cadario, Michele PREM:EX  
**Cc:** Merrifield, Katy PREM:EX; Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX; Chin, Ben PREM:EX; Fraser, John Paul GCPE:EX  
**Subject:** Draft TNG comms

TNG has agreed to hold off on public communication until Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup>.

- **Q&A** has been circulating to a cross-ministry team for many days. We are now tightening it up tonight along with revising KMs to address latest concerns. We'll ensure the public questions with reassuring messaging are front and centre in the KMs and Q&A
- **Rollout:** stakeholder and media rollout.
- **Joint NR** – TNG's latest draft, not ours. We're awaiting outcome of today's discussion before re-engaging with TNG on content.

## Questions and Answers

### B.C. – Tsilhqot'in National Government Reconciliation Agreement Reached January 2016

- All British Columbians benefit when negotiated settlements are reached with First Nations – and lasting reconciliation with the Tsilhqot'in Nation is our goal.
  - B.C. and the Tsilhqot'in have signed an agreement defining the next phase of negotiations to address the interests of both parties within Tsilhqot'in territory.
  - Now that we have the roadmap, we will be working on mutual priorities and bringing the court decision to life.
  - The B.C. and Tsilhqot'in governments are committed to achieving economic sustainability and improving the social well-being of the Tsilhqot'in people.
  - Next steps include immediately addressing priority areas such as governance, economic development, justice, health, education, social issues, and land and resource management.
  - Our commitment to the long-term goal of lasting reconciliation is unwavering.
  - The provincial and Tsilhqot'in governments understand stakeholders want to know what will happen on the land base and what a declaration of title means for the Tsilhqot'in people in the practical sense.
  - One of our first priorities is to make further progress clarifying title land access for the public and tenure holders.
- 

#### B.C.-Tsilhqot'in Reconciliation Framework Agreement

- What is this agreement? (From Doug K)
  - As identified in (F) of the whereas statements, this is a "comprehensive framework for longer-term negotiations to reconcile the rights, interests and goals of the Tsilhqot'in Nation and British Columbia in Tsilhqot'in Territory."
- How is it different from a treaty? (From Doug K)
  - Each First Nation is different and so are the ways we work with them to reconcile respective interests. The goal is very similar to a treaty: a comprehensive and lasting reconciliation.
  - This agreement is unique in that it must deal with the practical transition of the Declared Title Area to Tsilhqot'in.
  - It also includes unique approaches to how the Parties will negotiate agreements and in the way it combines to approaches to reach long term agreements and foster immediate and ongoing action.
- How is a declaration of title different from the rights afforded in a final treaty?
  - Aboriginal title is a legal term that recognizes Aboriginal interest in the land. It is one type of Aboriginal rights protected under the Constitution. Title is held communally by an Aboriginal group. It is a right to exclusive use and occupation of land for a variety of activities. Aboriginal title can have an economic component, but it also has limitations because title lands must not be used in a way that would destroy the group's attachment to the land.

- Treaties are constitutionally protected agreements between First Nations, B.C. and Canada. Treaties remove participating First Nations from the Indian Act, provide legal and economic certainty over land and resources, and the authority to deliver self-government to its citizens.
- How is the Tsilhqot'in's Aboriginal title land different than treaty settlement land?
  - Treaty settlement land is owned in fee-simple by a treaty First Nation government, and which has governing authority similar to a local municipality, including law-making power over natural resources on treaty settlement lands and direct taxation of members on treaty lands.
  - Aboriginal title is held communally by an Aboriginal group. It is a right to exclusive use and occupation of land for a variety of activities. Aboriginal title can have an economic component, but it also has limitations because title lands must not be used in a way that would destroy the group's attachment to the land.
- Why have the Tsilhqot'in received grants to negotiate their reconciliation process, while nations negotiating treaties have to take out loans?
  - Having Aboriginal title declared through the courts is new in B.C. and Canada. Bringing the court decision to life is extremely complex - and we want to do it right.
  - This reconciliation process is being undertaken in a compressed time frame, therefore the resources required to maintain the momentum we've created are considerable.
  - Debt and the cost of treaty negotiations is a matter of concern that British Columbia, Canada and First Nations are seeking to address.
- What is the significance of the reconciliation framework agreement?
  - The reconciliation agreement is an important milestone because it defines the next phase of negotiations to address the specific interests of both B.C. and the Tsilhqot'in.
  - The B.C. and Tsilhqot'in governments are committed to achieving economic sustainability and improving the social well-being of the Tsilhqot'in people.
  - This agreement is the roadmap - now we'll work to bring the court decision to life.
- What are the next steps in the Tsilhqot'in RFA?
  - The framework in the reconciliation agreement will guide discussions to address the rights, interests and goals of the Tsilhqot'in people and B.C.
  - Together, we will now work on priority areas such as economic development, land and resource management, health, education, social issues, justice, and governance.
- What is your impression of the work to date government has undertaken with the Tsilhqot'in?
  - We have made great progress in defining a complex, multi-faceted reconciliation process in a relatively short amount of time and I want to maintain the momentum we have created.
  - We have also worked together to find temporary but effective solutions that address public access to recreational sites, reached agreement on guide outfitter access, wildfire and emergency response, and we continue to develop interim agreements in order to increase certainty until the Tsilhqot'in assume full management and control of the title lands.
- How is it different from a treaty? (From Doug K)
  - Each First Nation is different and so are the ways we work with them to reconcile respective interests. The goal is very similar to a treaty: a comprehensive and lasting reconciliation.



This agreement is unique in that it must deal with the practical transition of the Declared Title Area to Tsilhqot'in. It also includes unique approaches to how the Parties will negotiate agreements and in the way it combines to approaches to reach long term agreements and foster immediate and ongoing action.

- How long is the term of the agreement?
  - The agreement is for five years.
- Why is Canada not a party to the agreement? (From Doug K)
  - x
- Will the reconciliation process be considered complete after the five years?
  - Doing this process right will take time – both government and the TNG are committed to achieving fulsome, meaningful reconciliation.
  - Both the TNG and government are focussed on achieving the outcomes contemplated within the agreement, and building good relationships with the local community and neighbours .
  - B.C. and the Tsilhqot'in are aware that stakeholders are looking for certainty about what will happen on the land base and what a declaration of title means for the Tsilhqot'in people.
- What role is industry playing in the reconciliation process?
  - While the Province recognizes industry's interests, the provincial government and the Tsilhqot'in are the only parties directly involved in the negotiations.
  - Specific companies operating within the traditional territory may be asked to participate in the future.
- How will the parties maintain momentum?
  - The parties are committed to sustained progress and will work together to define short, mid and long-term objectives and prepare annual work plans.
  - Progress to achieve each goal will be regularly measured and evaluated based on mutually-developed targets.
  - If progress is below expectations, the parties will jointly develop a response.
  - The Leadership Table, comprised of ministers and chiefs, and the Working Group, comprised of senior staff from B.C. and TNG, will provide continual oversight for the duration of the agreement.

### **Title Land Use**

**Key stakeholders: Cattleman's Association/Tenure holders/Area businesses, area residents,**

- What does the B.C.-Tsilhqot'in reconciliation framework agreement mean for the over 400 people and businesses that have tenures and other authorizations on the title lands?
  - The agreement signifies the willingness from government and the Tsilhqot'in to reconcile the court decision in a timely manner.
  - One of our first priorities is to transfer the title land to Tsilhqot'in management and control.
  - To date, the Province and the TNG have reached interim agreements to address issues such as guide outfitter tenures, emergency services, wildfire protection and access management



within the title lands while negotiations are underway.

- When will the Tsilhqot'in have operational control over the title land?
  - Having Aboriginal title declared through the courts is new in BC. Bringing the court decision to life is extremely complex - and we want to do it right.
  - I am unable to say at this time when the title lands will be under the control of the Tsilhqot'in.
  - Both parties are committed to making decisions about title land access as soon as possible and communicating the decisions to the public, local government, and stakeholder groups.
  - I'd encourage anyone with access questions to contact the Tsilhqot'in National Government directly.
- Can the public still enjoy recreational pursuits within the Tsilhqot'in title area?
  - Similar to private land, Aboriginal title includes the right to exclusive use and occupation of the land, as well as the ability to determine the uses on the land base.
  - For this reason, the Province has advised that people should not enter the title area for recreational purposes without obtaining permission from the Tsilhqot'in.
  - Anyone with questions about access should contact the TNG office directly at 250 392-3918.
- Do the Tsilhqot'in have the authority to enter into contractual agreements with the Province, groups or individuals to authorize the use of the title area?
  - Transitioning the title area to Tsilhqot'in management, benefit and control is one of the immediate actions identified in the reconciliation agreement.
  - Aboriginal title includes the right to exclusive use, occupation and management of the title area.
  - The Tsilhqot'in cannot dispose of interests in the title area to anyone except the Crown, however, the Tsilhqot'in can consent to the use of the title area.
- Do the Tsilhqot'in have the authority to create licensing requirements and collect licence fees for activities such as hunting or trapping?
  - The Tsilhqot'in have the right to exclusive use, occupation and management of the title area.
  - In future, this may include expressly granting permission to individuals and groups of individuals to use the title area for activities such as hunting, trapping and fishing.
  - Any activity on the Tsilhqot'in title area must comply with existing provincial laws for health and safety.

#### **Additional Lands**

**Key stakeholders: Cattleman's Association/Tenure holders/Area businesses, area residents, - Northern Secwepemc te Qelmuw (NStQ) -**

- What does it mean when the province agrees to not use strength of claim as primary means of determining settlement lands? (From Doug K)
  - x
- What long term role is envisioned for the TNG on non-settlement lands? (From Doug K.)

- X
- Why are additional lands being contemplated for the Tsilhqot'in?
  - The Tsilhqot'in Nation asserts Aboriginal title to the entire territory.
  - The reconciliation framework agreement commits the parties to negotiate additional areas within the traditional territory that will come under Tsilhqot'in ownership, management and control.
  - The location of these additional areas is not known at this time.
- What is the difference between Category 'A' Lands, Category 'B' Lands, Tsilhqot'in territory, and title land?
  - Category 'A' Lands are new areas that will eventually come under the nation's ownership, management and control. Which lands will be included are subject to further negotiations between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in.
  - Category 'B' Lands are all lands in Tsilhqot'in territory except for the declared title area, Category 'A' Lands and Indian Reserves. The framework agreement commits the parties to further negotiations around planning and management of these lands.
  - Tsilhqot'in territory is the larger area that Tsilhqot'in assert Aboriginal rights over, in addition to the title lands. Title land is the specific tract of land won by the Tsilhqot'in in the Supreme Court of Canada ruling.
- How is this process going to work considering the areas that the Northern Shuswap Tribal Council believes overlaps with their territory?
  - B.C. has a duty to consult with First Nations when there are potentially adverse impacts on asserted or established Aboriginal rights and title.
  - B.C. and Canada have been consulting with 27 First Nations, including the Tsilhqot'in National Government, on territorial boundary issues with NStQ, and will continue through the remainder of the treaty process.
  - B.C. will also be encouraging NStQ First Nations and the Tsilhqot'in National Government to work together to resolve overlapping land interests.
- How much additional land will be granted to the Tsilhqot'in and when will this process be completed?
  - The amount of land and when the process may be finalized is subject to further negotiations with the Tsilhqot'in and consultation with other First Nations.
- Will private land be available to the Tsilhqot'in?
  - No, the lands up for negotiation are provincial Crown land only.
  - Private lands can be purchased on a willing buyer/willing seller basis only.

## Governance

- What is the Tsilhqot'in Governance Agreement?
  - The Province and the Tsilhqot'in will jointly develop a Tsilhqot'in Governance Agreement that recognizes the Tsilhqot'in Nation as an order of government within Canada with law-making jurisdiction over its people, land and resources.

- Laws of general application, such as federal and provincial Election Acts and Criminal Code of Canada, continue to apply on the title lands.
- How does the Nemiah Declaration impact decision-making on the title lands?
  - Similar to private land, Aboriginal title includes the right to exclusive use and occupation of the title land, the right to the economic benefits of the title land, and the ability to determine how the title land is used.
  - The Province and the Tsilhqot'in will be discussing the details of the Nemiah Declaration through the ongoing reconciliation work that is underway.
- How does Dasiqox Tribal park impact decision-making on the title lands?
  - The proposed tribal park is outside of the title lands.
  - The Province and the Tsilhqot'in will be discussing the details of the tribal park through the ongoing reconciliation work that is underway.

## **Mining**

### **Key stakeholders: Mining companies, contractors, area businesses –**

- What impact will the reconciliation work have on Gibraltar Mine and the proposed New Prosperity Mine?
  - As part of the planning process referenced in the agreement, the parties will work to identify land suitable for appropriate development, including forestry, alternative energy, mining, ranching, agriculture, and other economic initiatives.
  - B.C. and the Tsilhqot'in are committed to increasing collaborative decision making and pursuing economic development opportunities while limiting environmental impacts.
  - Gibraltar Mine continues to operate and the proposed New Prosperity Mine project is before the courts.
- What role has the TNG mining policy played in the reconciliation work to date?
  - The TNG mining policy has not played a substantive role in the reconciliation work so far.
  - There was some discussion about the policy at the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement (TSA) Mining Subcommittee table, but this work didn't progress due to the resources required to further the overall reconciliation process.
  - It remains to be seen how the TNG mining policy will factor into future decision-making.
- How will the Tsilhqot'in be involved in the Amarc Project in the future?
  - The Ministry of Energy and Mines has issued a permit for Amarc Resources Ltd.'s (Amarc) Ike mineral exploration project located approximately 40 kilometres northwest of Gold Bridge.
  - Prior to the permit being issued, the company and the Province took steps to engage with the Tsilhqot'in on the project, including taking measures to address concerns raised by the TNG.
  - The Ike property is not located within the proven title area or the proven rights area, however, it is within the wider Tsilhqot'in traditional territory.
  - Our work on the reconciliation agreement includes exploring how we can improve collaboration on future development decisions.

- Why did the Province renew the environmental assessment certificate for Taseko's proposed New Prosperity mine project despite previous concerns raised by the Tsilhqot'in?
  - We have built a strong working relationship with the Tsilhqot'in National Government over the past few years.
  - The reconciliation process that is underway will provide many positive benefits to the Tsilhqot'in, the Province and industry.
  - What we want is to move forward in partnership with First Nations to reach agreements regarding shared decision making and benefit sharing within the Tsilhqot'in territory that will be beneficial for all parties.
- Will mining take place on the title lands in the future?
  - That is a question best answered by the Tsilhqot'in themselves.

## **Forestry**

**Key stakeholders: Forestry companies, contractors, area businesses –**

- Is logging still taking place on the title lands?
  - (this needs to be answered by FLNRO)
- Will the title lands be more available to logging now than they have been while the court case was in progress?
  - The Tsilhqot'in have the right to exclusive use, occupation and management of the title area. They will decide what and how much forestry will take place within the title lands.
- Is the Province helping to restart the River West Forest Products Mill? Will it be self-sustaining or will provincial funds be required to support it, and if so, for how long?
  - The Province provided funding to the Tsilhqot'in to undertake a highest and best use analysis for the River West mill site.
  - KPMG provided this analysis and a set of options to the TN in December 2015. The Province supports the completion of a business case to more thoroughly evaluate the key recommendations from that report.
- What is the process to remedy the Crown's breach of duty with regards to granting forest companies access over the lands in the 1980s, one of the driving factors of the original legal action?
  - By May 1, 2016, the Province and the Tsilhqot'in will make every reasonable effort to negotiate appropriate remedies for the breach of B.C.'s duties to the Tsilhqot'in Nation as outlined in the Supreme Court of Canada and BC Supreme Court decisions.
- What types of remedies are available? What will the cost be?
  - The details are subject to negotiation.

## **Stakeholder Engagement**

**Key stakeholders: Local, regional, federal governments, regional districts –**

- Which other provincial government ministries are involved in the reconciliation process?

- To date, the ministries of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations; Attorney General/Justice; Transportation and Infrastructure; Environment including BC Parks; BC Housing; BC Hydro; Children and Family Development; and Energy and Mines.
- The Province and the Tsilhqot'in government have committed to structure the negotiation processes in such a way to ensure quick access to decision-makers.
- The process will include additional government organizations as reconciliation work continues.
- Is the federal government involved in this process?
  - The agreement states that the parties will work diligently to get meaningful participation from Canada while moving forward with areas of mutual interest.
  - To date, Canada has not been directly involved and has not contributed funding.
- Is there a role for local and regional governments?
  - While the Province recognizes that local governments are interested in these discussions, the provincial government and the Tsilhqot'in are the only parties directly involved in the negotiations at this time.
  - We are urging the federal government to come to the table.
  - The Province and the Tsilhqot'in will continue to communicate major decisions throughout the negotiation process in order to keep the local communities informed of progress, but there is no direct role for municipalities and regional districts.
- Is there a role for the public to be involved?
  - While the Province recognizes the public interest, the provincial government and the Tsilhqot'in are the only parties directly involved in the negotiations.
  - The Province and the Tsilhqot'in will continue to communicate major decisions throughout the reconciliation process in order to keep interested parties informed of progress.

## Finances

- How much will it cost the Province to implement the agreement?
  - To implement this agreement, B.C. will provide the Tsilhqot'in National Government with:
    - \$4.2 million within 30 days of the effective date;
    - \$3 million on March 1, 2017; and
    - \$3 million on March 1, 2018.
  - Additional funds will be provided on March 1, 2019 and March 1, 2020 as well. The amount of funding will be decided at a later date.
  - Why is the Province contributing all the negotiation resources? **Question from Doug K.**
- Are the Tsilhqot'in required to pay any of the funds back, similar to what is done during the treaty-making process? If not, why not?
  - This reconciliation process is being undertaken in a compressed time frame, therefore the resources required to maintain the momentum we've created are considerable.
  - The Tsilhqot'in are not required to pay back any funds.

- Both parties are working hard to create economic development opportunities for the Tsilhqot'in people so they can become self-sustaining as soon as possible.
- Has the federal government made any financial commitments to support reconciliation?
  - No, but B.C. and the Tsilhqot'in continue to work to get the federal government to the table.
- How much has this process already cost the Province?
  - *The Province had a verbal agreement not to release the following information publicly. Does agreement hold only until reconciliation framework is complete?*
  - To get to this point in the reconciliation process following the Supreme Court of Canada decision, the Province has provided \$6.5 million to the Tsilhqot'in for capacity funding as well as in lieu of an expired forestry agreement, one-time and capacity funding for area mining activity, and a \$900,000 advance on future payments under a final reconciliation agreement.
  - Funding is also provided to the Tsilhqot'in as part of the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement: \$588,333 in 2014/15; 670,000 in 2015/16; and \$670,000 in 2016/17.
  - One time payments were provided in 2013/14 related to the Gibraltar Mine - \$40,000 for Economic and Community Development Agreement negotiation capacity funding, and \$60,000 for participation in the Gibraltar Mine Committee which was a body recommended through the consultation process for the mine expansion.
  - Additional funding was provided under a Letter of Intent signed in September 2014 focussed on economic opportunities and moose recovery. BC agreed to provide \$100,000 annually in 2015 and 2016 for an economic development director position and expand their economic development capacity. In addition, \$75,000 was provided to complete a joint moose recovery analysis.
  - Under an LOI Addendum signed in January 2016, the Province has also committed, subject to the development and approval of a work-plan by March 31, 2016 an additional \$170,000 for the development of a First Nation Sustenance Hunting and \$200,000 to support their participation in the joint development of a Moose Management Plan.
- What financial accountability measures are in place for the funding government will provide to the Tsilhqot'in under the agreement?
  - The Tsilhqot'in are required to submit an annual report to B.C. that provides a high level summary of expenditures and achievements from the previous year's implementation funding.
- What steps are being taken to move the Tsilhqot'in towards economic sustainability?
  - The Province and the Tsilhqot'in are committed to improving Tsilhqot'in participation in the economy and establishing a secure climate for economic and resource development.
  - An Economic Development Sub-Table will identify opportunities to support economic development for the Tsilhqot'in communities.
  - The group will produce an Economic Action Plan by April 1, 2017.
  - The parties will also explore identification of specific areas of land for forestry, alternative energy, responsible mining development, ranching, agriculture, and other economic initiatives.

## Courts



- Will the Tsilhqot'in have its own court system? If so, what is their relationship with federal and provincial laws and courts?
  - British Columbia recognizes that the Tsilhqot'in Nation has a strong interest in establishing a First Nations Court, associated with the provincial court in Williams Lake.
  - B.C. operates four First Nations Courts – North Vancouver, Duncan, Kamloops and New Westminster. First Nation Courts can hear most bail hearings, sentencing hearings, and child protection matters.
  - First Nations Court focuses on community and healing and makes sure that everyone involved has a chance to be heard. The goal of the sentence is to strengthen and heal the accused and their community.
  - The Province and the Tsilhqot'in will conduct a needs assessment addressing the criminal justice issues of concern to the Tsilhqot'in and recommend potential options to address these issues.
- What is involved in a 'needs assessment' of Tsilhqot'in criminal justice issues?
  - A needs assessment is a systematic process for determining and addressing gaps between current conditions and desired conditions.
  - The discrepancy between the current condition and desired condition must be measured to appropriately identify the need.
  - The Province and Tsilhqot'in will undertake a criminal justice needs assessment together and recommend potential options to address any identified gaps.
- Are the parties considering other criminal justice matters?
  - The Province and the Tsilhqot'in will work to improve policing in the Tsilhqot'in communities, including a review of funding options for education and job training in criminal justice, law enforcement and security-related fields for Tsilhqot'in people.
  - The Parties will also seek to respond to issues of gang violence in Tsilhqot'in communities, including continued engagement between the RCMP and the Tsilhqot'in and consideration of preventative measures, education and cultural programs targeted at youth.
  - B.C. and the Tsilhqot'in will work to bring the Government of Canada into these discussions.

## **Social Priorities**

### **Key stakeholders: TNG and other First Nations**

- What are the social development priorities for reconciliation?
  - Closing the socio-economic gap between the Tsilhqot'in people and non-Aboriginal people is one of the key priorities for reconciliation in general and this process specifically.
  - In the short-term, B.C. and the Tsilhqot'in will work to develop: strong Tsilhqot'in culture and language; healthy children, families and communities; improvements in criminal justice; and education and training.
  - A newly-formed social, cultural, education and justice sub-table will meet to begin developing a Social and Cultural Action Plan, to be completed by Feb. 28, 2017.
- How will the parties know if there have been positive impacts to Tsilhqot'in culture, language, health and education as a result of the reconciliation efforts? How will progress be measured?
  - The parties will work together to develop strategic plans and agreements with performance measures so progress can be monitored closely.

## **Existing Agreements / Wildlife management**

**Key stakeholders: area businesses, tenure holders, guide outfitters, area residents, local and regional governments -**

- What role will the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement have in the overall reconciliation efforts?
  - Until the reconciliation work began following the Supreme Court of Canada decision in June 2014, the primary vehicle for engagement between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in was the Tsilhqot'in Stewardship Agreement (TSA).
  - The TSA supports ongoing wildlife work, development of a forestry strategy, and increased community involvement in addressing a moose decline.
  - The work of the Wildlife Panel , formed under the TSA and including representatives from B.C., the TNG and the Tsilhqot'in communities, will be enhanced and the panel will become the primary source of joint strategic recommendations respecting wildlife management and harvest allocation to government and the Tsilhqot'in leaders.
  - The work of the Fish and Wildlife Panel will provide the framework for collaborative management of fish and wildlife within Tsilhqot'in Territory.
  - The TSA remains in effect but may be amended as the overall reconciliation process continues.
- How will wildlife be managed in the title lands in the future?
  - The work of the newly-named Fish and Wildlife Panel will provide the framework for collaborative management of wildlife within Tsilhqot'in Territory and develop a Moose Management Plan.
  - One of the first steps will be to review existing wildlife inventory information, identify information gaps and make recommendations to address gaps.
  - B.C. and the Tsilhqot'in will also develop a monitoring program by March 1, 2017, to track wildlife population, undertake a cumulative effects assessment and make recommendations to improve wildlife management.

## **Moose Recovery**

- Will resident hunters be affected by the Tsilhqot'in's moose recovery efforts?
  - Moose population sustainability is a core interest of the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation.
  - We have agreed to work together to identify immediate measures to support the recovery of moose populations.
  - Specifically, we will look at ways to sustain habitat and manage moose mortality.
  - Those with special interest in the moose population – Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal – will be consulted.

## **South Chilcotin Stewardship Plan**

- What role will the South Chilcotin Stewardship Plan play in the reconciliation work?
  - B.C., the TNG and major forestry operators are parties to the South Chilcotin Stewardship Plan (SCSP).
  - The SCSP is a living document that will be reviewed in light of the reconciliation work underway.



- The agreement speaks to Strategic Planning for lands - what will happen to the existing Cariboo Chilcotin Land Use Plan? (Doug K)
  - 12.9 - Parties agree it is important to be inclusive and, to meet the goal of reflecting the interests of Tsilhqot'in Citizens and other British Columbians, they will seek to engage others as required to build the envisioned strategic management framework.
- The agreement speaks to a joint wildlife committee the is the primary source of recommendations - what about the interests of resident hunters, guides and other First Nations? (Doug K)
  - The agreement also speaks to the need to engage and represent others with an interest in wildlife and fisheries; to consult and accommodate other First Nations.

### **Implications of the Supreme Court of Canada Decision**

#### **General overview:**

- What are the implications of the Tsilhqot'in decision for reconciling with First Nations in B.C.?
  - The Supreme Court decision on Tsilhqot'in now factors into every decision we make – and we are making progress.
  - We're working with First Nations in a more collaborative and dynamic way than ever before.
  - Because each First Nation is unique, an overarching, one-size-fits-all approach doesn't work – we're working with individual First Nations to enhance opportunities.
  - The B.C. government has redoubled efforts to significantly enhance economic, environmental, and collaborative decision-making opportunities for First Nations.
- What specifically have you accomplished in relation to reconciliation with First Nations since the Tsilhqot'in decision 1.5 years ago?
  - Economic opportunities are being enhanced through agreements on skills training and on benefits sharing, particularly in the emerging LNG industry.
  - Environmental opportunities are being enhanced through joint land and ocean stewardship agreements and an increased focus on cumulative effects.
  - We're partnering with First Nations government and business leaders on forestry and mining dialogues, annual meetings between Ministers and First Nations Chiefs, and customized agreements with individual communities.
- Why is addressing Aboriginal title so complex?
  - The Supreme Court of Canada decision granting the Tsilhqot'in Aboriginal title was the first of its kind in B.C. and Canada – we are working in uncharted territory.
  - We are essentially negotiating most of the same broad aspects that are included in a treaty – governance, economic opportunities, land and resources, and financial issues – in a very compressed timeframe.
  - Each of these areas is multi-faceted, requiring a lot of discussion between the parties to clarify priorities and processes which must occur before the talks about specific elements can take place.
  - For example, before we can address specific but broad items such as culture and language, we have to identify who needs to be involved and what the next steps are. In this case, the parties will develop a Social and Cultural Action Plan which will address culture and language by March 2016. This plan will guide the planning and implementation phases.

- Since the decision, some mining companies, the B.C. Chamber of Commerce and the B.C. Cattlemen's Association have claimed the continued uncertainty about Aboriginal land claims and the implications of Aboriginal title are negatively impacting the economy and the Province hasn't provided sufficient leadership. What's your response?
  - It's true that the landscape in relation to First Nations reconciliation is changing not only in B.C. but in Canada.
  - There is a greater appreciation now than ever before for the need to resolve several long-standing concerns, such as how we proceed with resource development and make real improvements in the quality of life for First Nations.
  - Since the Tsilhqot'in decision last June, we have been working with First Nations to significantly enhance economic, environmental, and collaborative decision-making opportunities.
  - We've signed over 125 economic and reconciliation agreements with First Nations since the court decision and continued to seek out new, innovative solutions together.
  - We've continued to make progress by talking and learning from each other, but we have more to do, and we're committed to seeing it through.
- What impact has the uncertainty surrounding the Tsilhqot'in decision and Aboriginal title claims had on the provincial economy? Is there any firm data?
  - According to the independent Economic Forecast Council, the B.C. economy is expected to continue seeing stable growth in the coming years despite ongoing global volatility.
  - B.C.'s economic growth is also expected to outperform Canada in the coming years.
  - On average, the council is forecasting B.C.'s real GDP growth at 2.5% in 2015, 2.8% in 2016, and 2.6% in 2017.
  - That being said, the work we're doing to reconcile with First Nations is to make sure everyone in B.C. – Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal – can benefit from our strong economy.
- The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada report and calls to action on residential schools includes a recommendation on Aboriginal title. The TRC report aims to clarify the term 'Aboriginal title' by defining it more generally as an Aboriginal group's ability to prove a specific territory was used at a particular point in time and once its established, it would be up to the party asserting a limitation to prove otherwise. What are your thoughts on this recommendation?
  - I am grateful to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada for undertaking and completing this remarkable and difficult work. My heart goes out to all of those affected by the legacy of Canada's Indian Residential School system.
  - The legal test for determining Aboriginal title continues to have the same components set out in earlier court decisions and was clarified again in the Tsilhqot'in decision.
  - Aboriginal title can be proven with evidence of exclusive occupation of land prior to 1846. In some cases, evidence of continuity of occupation by that First Nation will be required.
  - The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that Aboriginal title is not limited to specific sites of settlement, but covers tracts of land regularly used for hunting, fishing and otherwise using resources.
  - In response to the report, Aboriginal history, culture and perspectives have been integrated into the new K-12 curriculum about to be released to teachers and schools.
  - The integration of the history and ongoing legacy of the residential school system will be further enhanced in the new curriculum - particularly when students study topics such as

discrimination, inequality, oppression and the impacts of colonialism.

- The treaty process appears to be in jeopardy and efforts to reconcile Aboriginal title are slow. What advice would you give to First Nations seeking lasting reconciliation?
  - Our government is collaborating with First Nations to reach long-term reconciliation of Aboriginal rights and title in ways that work for First Nations and benefit all British Columbians.
  - First Nations leaders from across the province have said that we cannot continue with the status quo – that a single approach to reconciliation doesn't work.
  - First Nations leaders want flexibility and options to suit the unique needs of their communities.
  - The goal is to ensure First Nations can fully participate in B.C.'s economy and enhance their quality of life.
  - The Province and First Nations have achieved well over 400 economic and reconciliation agreements – agreements we simply did not have ten years ago. This success has been realized because we have demonstrated a greater understanding and respect for First Nations title and territory.
  - Our position continues to be that negotiation, not confrontation or litigation, is the best way to resolve claims concerning Aboriginal rights and title.
- How is a declaration of title different from the rights afforded in a final treaty?
  - TBD – question with JAG.
- Following the Supreme Court decision, many First Nations have said they expect to have consent and full decision-making authority about activities on their traditional territories. What is the Province's position on sharing decision-making equally with First Nations?
  - We want to move forward in partnership with First Nations to reach agreements over land use and land-use decision-making that are beneficial for all parties.
  - Our government is open to new, innovative approaches to reconciliation and is having discussions with First Nations about different ways they can have greater involvement in decision making.
  - The Province prefers to negotiate with affected First Nations communities on a particular proposed government action, but this consultation process does not amount to providing a veto to that community.
- Many First Nations are saying that the Province's revenue-sharing agreements are inadequate and don't provide appropriate compensation for industry taking place on their traditional territory. Is the Province changing the agreements?
  - We recognize the importance of the decision and its implications for the recognition of Aboriginal rights and title.
  - We have been discussing our current policies and possible improvements with First Nations, industry and others. Workshops have been held related to mining and forestry.
  - We have received a lot of feedback and these conversations are continuing.
- What is the government's position on the Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation (st-KAM-loops-um te sh-kwep-em) title claim?
  - In all cases, the Province prefers to negotiate rather than litigate.
  - We have attempted to resolve this outside of the courts, and will continue to do so.

- Unfortunately, Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation has chosen to continue down the path of litigation.
  - The B.C. government will vigorously oppose a declaration that has the potential to create uncertainty over the land base and for title holders across this territory.
  - We have been in discussions with both First Nations on a number of areas of interest, including their claim of Aboriginal title over land around the proposed Ajax mine site.
  - We are continuing those discussions and seeking ways to reconcile the interests of all parties.
- Is the Province planning to get clarity from the courts, or test the decision by proceeding with a development opportunity despite First Nations opposition, such as the case on the North Coast and Lax Kw'alaams rejecting an LNG terminal in their territory?
    - We want to see First Nations benefitting from this proposed facility and pipeline – that's why we've reached agreement with 16 First Nations along the route and are negotiating with three more.
    - We respect the Lax Kw'alaams' legal right to seek title through the courts.
    - Negotiation is the best way to reach agreements that work for all parties.
    - The B.C. Government, the Lax Kw'alaams First Nation and Pacific NorthWest LNG all share a common goal to increase economic development in the region – and we all agree this can and must be done in a way that protects the marine environment and fish habitat.
  - What does the Province recommend for industry looking to get projects off the ground? How should industry proceed with First Nations?
    - First Nations are looking for economic development opportunities and good jobs for their members, and they also want to limit environmental impacts.
    - The provincial government continues to encourage industry to work with First Nations early in the project planning process and can help support these efforts if needed.
    - Many industry and business associations can also offer advice to their members about how to engage first nations.

## Other

- How does the 'Charleyboy writ' impact the government-to-government agreement process?
  - These two processes, while both dealing with land that is geographically close to each other, are separate and distinct.
  - The Charleyboy writ is a legal process related to land that both the TNG and the NStQ lay claim to, whereas the government-to-government agreement sets out the negotiations framework to reconcile the TNG's interest on their title lands.
  - I understand the NStQ and the Tsilhqot'in National Government have engaged in talks over territorial boundary issues, and would encourage them to continue that dialogue.
  - While it is best for neighbouring First Nations to work together, the Province is always prepared to facilitate discussion where First Nations find it helpful.
  - BC and Canada have been consulting with 27 First Nations, including the Tsilhqot'in National Government, on territorial boundary issues with NStQ, and will continue through the remainder of the treaty process.

- Is there truth to the claims that a group called the Chilcotin National Congress or Universal Supreme Court of the Tsilhqot'in are posting eviction notices throughout the Chilcotin on behalf of the Tsilhqot'in people?
  - We are aware of the actions by the Chilcotin National Congress.
  - The Tsilhqot'in National Government has advised the Province that they are not affiliated with the elected chiefs and council and does not speak on their behalf.
  - The interests of the Chilcotin National Congress have not been brought forward during the negotiations that are underway between the Province and the Tsilhqot'in National Government.
  - This matter is now in the hands of the Province's legal counsel who will be following up with the Chilcotin National Congress directly.

## **BC-Tsilhqot'in Reconciliation Framework Agreement Signing Stakeholder and Media Communications Rollout**

**Summary:** On Feb. 11, 2016, Premier Christy Clark, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation John Rustad and Tsilhqot'in chiefs will sign a reconciliation framework agreement, called "The People's Accord." This is an interim agreement, a five-year agreement that establishes a shared vision, principles and structures for the Province and the Tsilhqot'in Nation to negotiate a lasting reconciliation agreement. It is based on eight priorities: Tsilhqot'in culture and language, children and families, healthy communities, justice, education and training, lands and resources and economic development. Sub-tables comprised of senior Provincial staff and Tsilhqot'in citizens will be established to make progress in all of these areas while the longer-term negotiations unfold. The agreement applies to the entire Tsilhqot'in territory with implementation funding of \$10.3 million for the first three years.

### **Media approach:**

s.14

s.14 The media approach will be proactive with the issuing of a news release, and a media availability. How the reconciliation agreement is received by stakeholders and perceived in media is highly dependent on strong stakeholder communications in advance and immediately following the announcement.

### **Feb. 9-11 – Stakeholder briefings**

- internal and external stakeholder briefings. See Appendix A.

### **Feb. 11, 2pm**

- Premier, Minister Rustad and Tsilhqot'in chiefs sign "The People's Accord", a five-year Reconciliation Framework Agreement.
- Photo to be taken.

### **Feb. 15, times TBC**

- News Release w/link to photos
- Joint teleconference media availability. Speakers:
  - Hon. John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

- Joe Alphonse, Tribal Chair, Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Roger William, Chief, Xeni Gwet'in First Nation
- Webpost agreements and related agreements
- Cross-government internal notification of signing – Email from DM Caul for counterparts
- More stakeholder briefings. See appendix A.

**Media Targets – outlets interested in Tsilhqot'in file:**

- Vancouver Sun/Province
- Globe and Mail
- Canadian Press
- Black Press
- Global News
- CTV News
- CBC Radio
- CFNR Radio
- CBC Aboriginal
- Business in Vancouver
- APTN
- Williams Lake Tribune
- Quesnel Cariboo Observer
- Cariboo Country/Goat FM/My Cariboo Now

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Mineral tenure holders within Schedule A map territory.	Letter (May Mah-Paulson)	After signing	Key messages to be developed.
<b>ENV/BC PARKS</b>			
Brief MMP on final agreement	Jim Standen	Week of Feb 8	Minister Polak does sit on the BC-TN Leadership table so should be briefed in advance of signing.
Permit holders in title area	Letter (Jim Standen/regional staff)	After signing	Key messages to be developed.
Permit holders within Schedule A map territory.	Letter (Jim Standen/regional staff)	After signing	Key messages to be developed.
<b>OTHER FIRST NATIONS</b>	<b>NOTIFICATION</b>	<b>TIMING</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
NStQ Chiefs	Phone call (MARR TBD)	Week of Feb 8	Negotiation teams for NStQ and Lheidl T'enneh believe it should come from TNG negotiation team; however, trying to keep notification low profile. This is not consultation. Neilane will speak with Mark Lofthouse on preferred option.
Lheidl T'enneh Chiefs	Phone call (MARR TBD)	Week of Feb 8	As above
Other FNs with overlap	Letters ? (MARR)	After signing	Work with MARR regional staff and treaty negotiators. Robert has suggested we proceed as you would with treaty, i.e. get a map with overlapping interests. <b>This is not consultation.</b>
<b>INTERNAL (STAFF)</b>	<b>NOTIFICATION</b>	<b>TIMING</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Cross-government internal notification of signing	DM email to coincide with public release of communication	Feb. 15 – day of announcement	Neilane and Lisa Leslie will draft messaging for DM email to internal staff. NR agencies, social agencies, JTST.



For Immediate Release



Tsilhqot'in National Government  
Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

### **Tsilhqot'in and B.C. sign historic agreement**

VICTORIA – The B.C. government and the Tsilhqot'in Nation have signed a historic five year agreement, establishing a shared vision, principles and structures for BC and the Tsilhqot'in Nation to negotiate one or more agreements to effect a comprehensive and lasting reconciliation between the Tsilhqot'in Nation and British Columbia.

The agreement outlines eight "pillars of reconciliation" to be negotiated in a holistic manner, including Tsilhqot'in culture and language, children and families, healthy communities, justice, education and training, lands and resources and economic development. Sub-tables comprised of senior Provincial staff and Tsilhqot'in citizens will be established to make progress in all of these areas while the longer-term negotiations unfold.

The agreement applies to the entire Tsilhqot'in territory with implementation funding of \$10.3 million for the first three years.

#### **Quotes:**

##### **Chief Joe Alphonse, Tribal Chairman, Tsilhqot'in National Government**

"This is a historic step, but it is only a first step. We view this Agreement as a guide for further negotiations. It will provide us with durable resources that will be used to chart a culturally relevant and prideful path for our people. A path that understands the necessity of holding the Tsilhqot'in up, honouring our past and recognizing our future."

"Our people will ultimately have the authority on any agreements that are negotiated out of this. We call on our members, our citizens, to be fully engaged in shaping their future as Tsilhqot'in. Title to our land was recognized – we won that fight, but the larger fight – the fight for peace – that's the work ahead of us."

##### **Chief Roger William – Vice Chair, Tsilhqot'in National Government**

"This Agreement is about moving forward for our future generations. We have 150 years where no agreements have been signed. This is the first stepping stone in making alliances – in seeing if B.C. is willing and able to make the changes that we as Tsilhqot'in need to see. In signing this agreement we are asking B.C. to commit to improving the lives of the Tsilhqot'in people. Our vision is to build the strength of the Nation, to match the strength of our ?Esggidam (ancestors)." (still in draft form).

**John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation –**

**Learn More:**

Agreement: link

Tsilhqot'in National Government: <http://www.tsilhqotin.ca/Lands/RightsTitle.htm>

**Media Contacts:**

Media Relations

Ministry of Aboriginal Relations  
and Reconciliation

Myanna Desaulniers

Communication Coordinator

Tsilhqot'in National Government

778 836-0122

BACKGROUNDER...

## **Leamy, Michelle T PREM:EX**

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**From:** Wray, Stephanie PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2016 10:14 AM  
**To:** Henderson, Kim N PREM:EX; Leamy, Michelle T PREM:EX; Olson, Alisha PREM:EX; Plecas, Bobbi PREM:EX; Sweeney, Neil PREM:EX; Wharf, Sandy PREM:EX  
**Subject:** Call for Records OOP-2016-62419

*Please let me know by June.29<sup>th</sup> whether or not you have any records responsive to the following request:*

**If you have records please provide them to me in printed form.**

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All documents and draft documents in any form or medium including but not limited to correspondence, memoranda, emails, electronic message systems e.g blackberry messenger, text message, i-message etc., reports, notes of discussions or calendar entries created on or after January 1, 2013 in the possession or control of the Office of the Premier including, but not limited to, the executive branch, Deputy Minister's office, Premier's Vancouver and Victoria offices and cabinet operations that have as a recipient, a carbon copy cc, or sender any one of the following Christy Clark, Dan Doyle, John Dyble, Steve Carr, Kim Henderson, Michelle Cordero, John Rustad, Doug Konkin, Doug Caul, Mary Pollack, Wes Shoemaker, Kevin Jardine, Bill Bennett, Elaine McKnight, Dave Morel, Dave Nikolejsin or Peter Robb in each case by name or by office, that mentions in any way: Taseko Mines Limited, Taseko, TKO, TML, TM, or New Prosperity Project, New Prosperity, Prosperity, NP, NPP, or, any abbreviations, acronyms, variations, nicknames, reference names or any other means.

**(Date Range for Record Search: From 01/01/2013 To 06/07/2016)**

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*If you think that the search for records will take you over 3 hours and/or the total volume of records will exceed 200 pages, please let me know as soon as possible.*

*Thank you all for your assistance with this request!*

*Stephanie*

**Stephanie Wray, Executive Administrative Coordinator**  
Deputy Minister's Office | Office of the Premier  
Room 272 - West Annex, Parliament Buildings  
Victoria BC V8W 9E1  
Phone: (250) 387-2987

**MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES  
MINES AND MINERALS RESOURCES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2016/17**

**ISSUE:** Mine Development Projects

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- In 2015, the Mines Fee Regulation was established, enabling an additional \$1.9 Million to be allocated to Health, Safety and Inspections; as well as an additional \$2 Million to be allocated to the coordinated permitting of major mines and First Nations engagement.
- As a result of this injection of funding into the Ministry, the Major Mines Permitting Office (MMPO) was created and has been working closely with the Environmental Assessment Office to ensure a seamless transition from EA review to the permitting process.
- This has resulted in increased process certainty for industry, high-quality applications being submitted for review, and timely and enduring decisions being issued on permits.
- This maintains BC's strong position for new mine developments and associated economic growth.

**BACKGROUND:**

- There are currently 20 mines in B.C. under active review through either the EA process or the MMPO permitting process.

Mining Projects Currently Subject to EA and/or MMPO Coordinated Permitting Process:

Project	Company	Commodity	Community	Est. FTEs	Status
Ajax	KGHM Ajax Mining	Cu, Au	Kamloops	380	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Application submitted Jan 2016</li> <li>• Synchronous MMPO Permitting Process to be established</li> </ul>
Aley Niobium	Taseko Mines Ltd	Nb	Mackenzie	350	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In EA Pre-Application since Sept 2014</li> </ul>
Blackwater	New Gold	Au/Ag/Pb/Zn	Vanderhoof	500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Application 42-day suspension</li> <li>• End of EA review: Aug 21, 2016</li> <li>• MMPO Permitting Schedule complete by end of 2016</li> </ul>
Brucejack	Pretium Resources	Au/Ag	Stewart	unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received EA Certificate (EAC) and Permits in July/Aug 2015</li> <li>• Amendment package out for EAC and permitting decision week of Mar 7, 2016</li> </ul>
Burnco Aggregate	Burnco Rock Products	Aggregate	Squamish/Howe Sound	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Pre-Application since Jan 2010</li> <li>• Subject to coordinated prov/fed EA</li> </ul>

Contact: Peter Robb  
Cell Phone: 250-812-7392  
Date: March 8, 2016

Estimate Note: 5

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## Mine Development Projects

Project	Company	Commodity	Community	Est. FTEs	Status
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MMPO Synchronous Permitting Process to be established</li> </ul>
Baldy Ridge Extension	Teck Resources	Met Coal	Elkview/Sparwood	1060	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Application Review complete Oct 2016</li> <li>• MMPO Permitting Schedule-Mines Act complete Dec 2016</li> </ul>
Bingay Main Coal Project	Centermount Coal	Met Coal	Elkford	Unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Pre-Application since Nov 2012</li> <li>• Section 11 Order Issued Feb 2016</li> </ul>
Coal Mountain Phase 2	Teck Resources	Met Coal	Elkview/Sparwood	Unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved EA Application Info Requirements Feb 2016-on hold in EA process</li> <li>• MMPO Permitting Schedule delayed</li> </ul>
Crown Mountain	NWP Coal Canada	Met Coal	Elkview/Sparwood	Unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Pre-Application since May 2015</li> </ul>
Dome Mountain	Gavin Mines Inc. (Metal Mountain Resources)	Au/Ag	Smithers	Unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sub-EA Project, and not subject to MMPO Permitting Schedule</li> <li>• Decision package for permitting Q2 2016</li> </ul>
Gething	Canadian Kailuan Dehua Mines	Met Coal	Hudson Hope	400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In EA Pre-Application since Nov 2006</li> </ul>
Giscome Quarry and Lime Plant	Graymont Western Canada	Limestone	Giscome/ Prince George	15-20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Application Review complete July 2016</li> <li>• MMPO Permitting Schedule complete late 2016</li> </ul>
Harper Creek	Yellowhead Mining	Cu/Au/Ag	Vavenby	430	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised EA Application suspended in Application Review</li> </ul>
Kemess Underground	AuRico Gold	Au/Cu/Ag	Mackenzie	350	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entering EA Application Review April 2016</li> <li>• MMPO Permitting Schedule complete Q4 2016</li> </ul>
Kootenay West	CertainTeed Gypsum Canada	Gypsum	Canal Flats	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entering EA Application Review Aug 2016</li> <li>• MMPO Permitting Schedule complete mid-2017</li> </ul>
Michel Creek Coking Coal	CauAus Coal Ltd	Met Coal	Elkview/Sparwood	220	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Pre-Application since Oct 2015</li> </ul>
Murray River	HD Mining Inc.	Met Coal	Tumbler Ridge	780	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EA Certificate Issued Oct 2015</li> <li>• MMPO Permitting process start June 2016</li> </ul>
Red Mountain Underground Gold	IDM Mining Ltd	Au/Ag	Stewart	100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In EA Pre-Application since Nov 2015</li> <li>• Section 11 Order Issued Feb 2016</li> </ul>
Ruddock Creek	Ruddock Creek Mining (50% owned	Pb/Zn	Clearwater	200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In EA Pre-Application since Feb 2009</li> </ul>

Contact: Peter Robb  
 Cell Phone: 250-812-7392  
 Date: March 8, 2016

Estimate Note: 5

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## Mine Development Projects

Project	Company	Commodity	Community	Est. FTEs	Status
	by Imperial Metals)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Description submitted May 2014</li> </ul>
Sukunka	Glencore	Met Coal	Tumbler Ridge	700	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suspended in EA Review indefinitely while Proponent addresses outstanding information requirements</li> </ul>

Contact: Peter Robb  
 Cell Phone: 250-812-7392  
 Date: March 8, 2016

Estimate Note: 5

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**TASEKOMINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINES  
MINES AND MINERAL RESOURCES DIVISION  
ESTIMATES BRIEFING NOTE 2016/17**

**ISSUE:** Operating Metal Mines in British Columbia

**KEY MESSAGES:**

- There are currently eight metal mines operating in B.C., employing approximately 4,000 workers.
- The key metals mined in B.C. are copper, gold, silver, lead and zinc.
- B.C. is Canada's largest producer of copper and among the top three provinces in the production of gold.

**BACKGROUND:**

- The following metal mines are currently operating in B.C.:

Operation	Company	Community	Est. FTEs	Commodities
Copper Mountain	Copper Mountain Mining Corporation	Princeton	430	Copper/Gold/Silver
Gibraltar	Taseko Mines Limited	Williams Lake	620	Copper/Molybdenum
Highland Valley Copper	Teck Resources Limited	Logan Lake	1,340	Copper/Molybdenum
Huckleberry	Imperial Metals Corporation	Houston	160	Copper/Molybdenum
Mount Polley	Imperial Metals Corporation	Likely	200	Copper/Gold
Mt. Milligan	Thompson Creek Metals Company Inc.	Prince George	565	Copper/Gold/Silver
New Afton	New Gold Inc.	Kamloops	460	Copper/Gold/Silver
Red Chris	Imperial Metals Corporation	Iskut	300	Copper/Gold

- According to preliminary estimates from Natural Resources Canada, the estimated production value of B.C. metal mines in 2014 was nearly \$3.4 billion.
- The Mount Polley mine has received a restricted restart permit.
- Operations at the Endako mine are temporarily suspended due to low molybdenum prices.
- Operations at the Myra Falls mine were temporarily suspended in May 2015 to restore and upgrade the mine's infrastructure. In October 2015, Nyrstar postponed funding of the mine upgrades given the weak commodity price environment.
- In January 2016, pit operations at the Huckleberry mine were suspended and approximately 100 employees were laid off. In February, Imperial Metals Corporation



announced that it plans on shutting down all operations at the mine by August 31, 2016 as a result of the significant decline in copper prices.

## Olson, Alisha PREM:EX

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Friday, November 13, 2015 9:41 AM  
**To:** Olson, Alisha PREM:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed new Dasiqox Tribal Park: Nexwagwez?an - "There for us"  
**Attachments:** FW: normal Fraser River silt load (along its entire length of 1,375km) from headwater glacial rock flour in Rocky Mountains - makes Quesnel Lake water, after the Mount Polley tailings spill, look very clean (see the two photos below)

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** November-12-15 3:43 PM  
**To:** 'carolyn.bennett@parl.gc.ca'  
**Cc:** [Dianne.Watts@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Dianne.Watts@parl.gc.ca); 'todd.doherty@parl.gc.ca'; 'cathy.mcleod@parl.gc.ca'; Walt Cobb (Mayor) ([wcobb@williamslake.ca](mailto:wcobb@williamslake.ca)); Gavin Dirom s.22 ; Karina Brino ([kbrino@mining.bc.ca](mailto:kbrino@mining.bc.ca))  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed new Dasiqox Tribal Park: Nexwagwez?an s.22

Dear Minister Bennett:

Congratulations on your recent election win and appointment as Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs.

Following is a matter that is very important to the many prospectors, mineral exploration and mining companies working in BC. Please put a stop to the s.22 described below as it is hurting the BC and Canadian economies.

Sincerely,  
s.22

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** October-09-15 12:10 PM  
**To:** Walt Cobb (Mayor) ([wcobb@williamslake.ca](mailto:wcobb@williamslake.ca))  
**Cc:** [premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca); Prime Minister/Premier ministre; G. Dirom ([gdirom@amebc.ca](mailto:gdirom@amebc.ca)); Garth Kirkham s.22 ; [gordon.hogg.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:gordon.hogg.mla@leg.bc.ca); [mark.strahl@parl.gc.ca](mailto:mark.strahl@parl.gc.ca); [Ralph.Sultan.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Ralph.Sultan.MLA@leg.bc.ca); Dan Albas ([dan.albas@parl.gc.ca](mailto:dan.albas@parl.gc.ca)); Garth Kirkham ([gdkirkham@shaw.ca](mailto:gdkirkham@shaw.ca)); Karina Brino ([kbrino@mining.bc.ca](mailto:kbrino@mining.bc.ca)); Honourable Steve Thomson ([steve.thomson.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:steve.thomson.mla@leg.bc.ca))  
**Subject:** Proposed new Dasiqox Tribal Park: Nexwagwez?an s.22

Dear Mayor Cobb:

Further to our recent correspondence, be aware that the area currently being proposed as a huge new park by the Chilcotin Natives was in fact excluded from the circa 1970s provincial parks: South Chilcotin, Big Creek, Chilcotin because of the known mineral wealth along the entire length of the Taseko River. It was left open as Crown Land for the benefit of all BC residents via the development of the mineral resource wealth, and access to it, that was known at the time.

s.22

It is time for the local community governments, BC government and the Federal government to push back very hard  
s.22 so that we the people may get on with creating wealth  
in the region.

s.22

## Olson, Alisha PREM:EX

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**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 30, 2015 8:16 PM  
**To:** 'Walt Cobb (Mayor)'  
**Subject:** FW: normal Fraser River silt load (along its entire length of 1,375km) from headwater glacial rock flour in Rocky Mountains - makes Quesnel Lake water, after the Mount Polley tailings spill, look very clean (see the two photos below)

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** September-30-15 8:12 PM  
**To:** Grant Carlson s.22 ; Gerald Carlson s.22 ; Jon Rempel  
s.22 Diane Nicolson ([DianeNicolson@hdimining.com](mailto:DianeNicolson@hdimining.com)); Mark Rebagliati; G. Dirom ([gdirom@amebc.ca](mailto:gdirom@amebc.ca))  
**Subject:** FW: normal Fraser River silt load (along its entire length of 1,375km) from headwater glacial rock flour in Rocky Mountains - makes Quesnel Lake water, after the Mount Polley tailings spill, look very clean (see the two photos below)

Gentlemen,

Following Chief Roger's scare tactics: <http://desmog.ca/2015/09/16/dasiqox-headwaters-tsilhqot-territory-threatened-amarc-mine-exploration>

The Taseko River has eroded the Ike area of billions of tonnes of rock for many thousands of years – all of the glacial flour (including sulfides) has gone down the Taseko (past the Chilcotin Aboriginals' homes) to discharge into the silt laden Fraser. Look at the white silt laden nature of the Taseko Lakes (from adjacent glaciers) on Google Earth. Amarc would be doing the Taseko watershed's area residents a favour by removing thousands of tonnes of sulfides (metals) and selling them into the metal markets!

s.22

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** August-09-14 11:08 AM  
**To:** Jon Rempel s.22  
**Subject:** normal Fraser River silt load (along its entire length of 1,375km) from headwater glacial rock flour in Rocky Mountains - makes Quesnel Lake water, after the Mount Polley tailings spill, look very clean (see the two photos below)

Hello Jon,

Salmon have historically traversed the Fraser River with its very high sediment load without any negative effects. I fish the Fraser for salmon between Hope and Chilliwack and most times you cannot see more than 0.75m into the water because of the glacial flour content.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock\\_flour](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_flour)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fraser\\_River](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fraser_River)

Page 070

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.22





## Dolan, Chelsea PREM:EX

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**From:** Dolan, Chelsea PREM:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2015 1:14 PM  
**To:** Oliphant, Sam PREM:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Your approval needed for our press release  
**Attachments:** JABC Press Release embargoed until Sep18.pdf

Business Laureates of BC would like to send this embargoed NR this afternoon. Are you ok with that timing? It mentions that PCC was in attendance.

---

**From:** Annie Ko [mailto:[annie.ko@jabc.org](mailto:annie.ko@jabc.org)]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2015 12:28 PM  
**To:** Dolan, Chelsea PREM:EX  
**Cc:** Sheila Beveridge  
**Subject:** RE: Your approval needed for our press release

Hi Chelsea,

Hope you had a good weekend. I'm wondering if you had a chance to look into our embargoed press release for this Thursday's event at the Vancouver Convention Centre? If you approve this to be released within today, I will send this out to various media outlets by the end of today.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

---

**Annie Ko**  
Manager, Marketing & Communications | 604.688.3887 x. 231 | [annie.ko@jabc.org](mailto:annie.ko@jabc.org)

*We're on a mission to inspire and prepare youth to succeed in a global economy.*

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*Join us as we celebrate 60 Years of Inspiration (1955 – 2015)*

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Annie Ko  
**Sent:** September 11, 2015 3:28 PM  
**To:** 'Scheffel, Emile HLTH:EX' <[Emile.Scheffel@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Emile.Scheffel@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** Sheila Beveridge <[sheila@portfolio-inc.com](mailto:sheila@portfolio-inc.com)>; Dolan, Chelsea PREM:EX <[Chelsea.Dolan@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chelsea.Dolan@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: Your approval need for our press release

Thanks Emile.

Chelsea: I look forward to your response.



Annie

-----Original Message-----

From: Scheffel, Emile HLTH:EX [mailto:Emile.Scheffel@gov.bc.ca]  
Sent: September 11, 2015 3:20 PM  
To: Annie Ko <annie.ko@jabc.org>  
Cc: Sheila Beveridge <sheila@portfolio-inc.com>; Dolan, Chelsea PREM:EX <Chelsea.Dolan@gov.bc.ca>  
Subject: Re: Your approval need for our press release

Hi Annie,

I'm no longer in the Premier's Office. I've copied my replacement, Chelsea Dolan.

Thanks E

From: Annie Ko  
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 3:18 PM  
To: Scheffel, Emile HLTH:EX  
Cc: Sheila Beveridge  
Subject: Your approval need for our press release

Dear Emile,

We would like to send this embargoed press release out to various media outlets for them to work on the story of our event on Sep. 17th. We have received confirmation that the Premier will be attending, but we understand your office has specific protocols about our communications on this.

Attached please find the embargoed press release for your review. Please let me know of your approval and when we can send it out to the media.

Thanks Emile.

---

Annie Ko  
Manager, Marketing & Communications | 604.688.3887 x. 231 | [annie.ko@jabc.org](mailto:annie.ko@jabc.org)<mailto:annie.ko@jabc.org>

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Google+<<https://plus.google.com/+JABritishColumbia-JABC>> |  
YouTube<<https://www.youtube.com/c/jabritishcolumbia-jabc>> | Flickr<[https://www.flickr.com/photos/ja\\_bc/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/ja_bc/)> |  
SoundCloud<<https://soundcloud.com/jabritishcolumbia>>

Join us as we celebrate 60 Years of Inspiration<<http://british-columbia.jacan.org/about-us>> (1955 - 2015)



**EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 18, 2015**

## **Business Laureates of British Columbia Unveiled Its New Hall of Fame**

**Vancouver, British Columbia – September 18, 2015** – BC business leaders, Junior Achievement (JA) students and guests gathered at the Vancouver Convention Centre West on Thursday September 17<sup>th</sup> for the unveiling of the new Business Laureates of British Columbia (BLBC) Hall of Fame.

The BLBC Hall of Fame was created by Junior Achievement of British Columbia (JABC) in 2005 to honour the outstanding BC business leaders whose efforts have shaped our province and country. In recognition of the 10th anniversary of the Hall of Fame and its 60 Laureate members, a new site has been built at the Vancouver Convention Centre West. The new site, designed by BC-based artists Cheryl Hamilton and Michael Vandermeer, features a towering glass BC Business Laureates "Wall of Fame," an information kiosk honouring its members, and a specially commissioned sculpture "Shape of Inspiration."

According to Jim Shepard, BLBC Co-Chair, locating the new site for the BLBC Hall of Fame in the iconic Vancouver Convention Centre West building was important to increase awareness of the legacies the Laureates have shared with the province. "We are simply delighted to bring recognition to these unique individuals in a space so significant to the business community in BC and the world."

"This is a wonderful day and it's been a long time coming. Years ago we realized the great importance of having a place where all British Columbians could come and take pride in the individuals whose exceptional accomplishments helped build this province," says BLBC Co-Chair Barbara Brink.

After a brief reception, the evening featured remarks from BLBC Co-Chairs Jim Shepard and Barbara Brink, Jan Bell-Irving, JABC President and CEO, Jefferson Mooney, Chairman, A&W Food Services of Canada Inc. and BLBC Laureate, and the Honourable Christy Clark, Premier of British Columbia, who also helped unveil the curtains revealing the Laureate "Wall of Fame" and "Shape of Inspiration" sculpture.

JABC students were in attendance and also played an important role in the conception of the Hall of Fame, according to JABC President and CEO, Jan Bell-Irving. "This project truly serves as an inspiration to our BC youth and gives us an important perspective on how business leaders in BC help build our province and communities. We are proud to celebrate these dynamic and very worthy individuals with our students, the future leaders of BC."

### **About the Business Laureates of British Columbia Hall of Fame**

The Business Laureates of British Columbia (BLBC) Hall of Fame was created by Junior Achievement of British Columbia (JABC) in 2005 to honour the outstanding BC business leaders whose efforts have shaped our province and country. The Hall of Fame stands as a testament to the positive legacy the Laureates provide to the youth of British Columbia. Laureates have demonstrated a level of Vision, Leadership, Integrity and Legacy unique among their peers. Visit [www.businesslaureatesbc.org](http://www.businesslaureatesbc.org) for more information.



**BUSINESS LAUREATES OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA HALL OF FAME**

*They Built. We Benefit.*



**JA BC**

A Member of JA Canada

**About Junior Achievement of British Columbia**

Junior Achievement of British Columbia (JABC) is a member of JA Canada and part of JA Worldwide (JA), the world's largest not-for-profit organization dedicated to educating young people about business. Since 1955, British Columbia schools have relied on JA to inspire and prepare youth to succeed in an ever-changing global economy. This year in 2015, over 35,000 students in BC benefit from JABC programs delivered free of charge by volunteers from local business communities, who bring real-life experience into the classroom. JABC programs focus on work readiness, financial literacy and entrepreneurship, giving students the confidence and skills they need to become the next generation of business and community leaders. Visit [www.jabc.org](http://www.jabc.org) for more information.

**For more information, please contact:**

Annie Ko  
Marketing & Communications Manager  
Junior Achievement of British Columbia  
[annie.ko@jabc.org](mailto:annie.ko@jabc.org)  
604.688.3887, x. 231

**Photos:** [https://www.flickr.com/photos/ja\\_bc](https://www.flickr.com/photos/ja_bc)

###



**BUSINESS LAUREATES OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA HALL OF FAME**

*They Built. We Benefit.*



**JA BC**

A Member of JA Canada

## **BACKGROUNDER**

**Donors to the new Business Laureates of British Columbia Hall of Fame site:**

### **Cornerstone**

- Dave Ritchie / RBA
- Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP
- Jefferson Mooney
- Jim Pattison
- Michael J. Audain
- Peter & Joanne Brown Foundation
- Teck Resources Limited
- WESBILD

### **Brick**

- Barbara Brink
- Boston Pizza International Inc.
- Brad Bennett
- Brian A. Canfield
- Canfor
- Canfor Pulp
- Concert Properties Ltd.
- Dave Lede
- Finning
- Interfor Corporation
- James F. Shepard
- John C. Kerr Family Foundation
- Kelly and Sylvia Heed
- Kingswood Capital Corp.
- KPMG LLP
- Ledcor Group
- LifeLabs
- Peter Bentley
- Peter J. Blake
- Peter R.B. Armstrong
- PwC
- RBC
- RBC Foundation
- Robert H. Lee and Family
- Robert J. Macdonald and Family
- Russ and Ellen Cmolik
- Rusty Goepel
- Ryan Beedie
- Taseko Mines
- Taseko's Gibraltar Mine
- TELUS
- Terry Lyons and Family
- Trinity Pacific Foundation
- Vancity
- West Fraser



**BUSINESS LAUREATES OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA HALL OF FAME**

*They Built. We Benefit.*



**JA BC**  
A Member of JA Canada

**Members of the Business Laureates of British Columbia Hall of Fame**

1. Michael Audain, O.C., O.B.C., LL.D. (Hon)
2. Nathaniel (Nat) Ryal Bailey
3. Irving (Ike) Barber, O.C., O.B.C.
4. Henry Ogle Bell-Irving
5. Charles Bentall
6. L.L.G. (Poldi) Bentley
7. Peter Bentley, O.C., O.B.C., LL.D. (Hon)
8. David Black, LL.D. (Hon)
9. Dick Bradshaw
10. Peter M. Brown, O.B.C., C.B.H.F., LL.D. (Hon)
11. Jennie Butchart
12. Alex A. Campbell, O.B.C., LL.D. (Hon)
13. Brian A. Canfield, C.M., O.B.C., D.Tech. (Hon)
14. Hon. John V. Clyne, C.C.
15. Jack Diamond, C.C., O.B.C., LL.D. (Hon)
16. William Farrell
17. Earl B. Finning
18. Thomas James Foord, O.B.C.
19. Frank A. Griffiths, F.C.A.
20. Bob Hager
21. Chester A. Johnson, C.M., O.B.C., B.Comm, F.C.A.
22. Lucille Johnstone, C.M., O.B.C., LL.D. (Hon), C.G.A.
23. Dr. Norman B. Keevil, O.C., Ph.D., F.G.S.A.
24. Dr. Norman B. Keevil, O.C., O.B.C., Ph.D., C.B.H.F., LL.D. (Hon.), P.Eng.
25. Henry Holman (Hank) Ketcham III, O.B.C.
26. Henry Holman (Pete) Ketcham Jr.
27. Samuel Kendall (Sam) Ketcham
28. William Peters (Bill) Ketcham
29. Hassan Khosrowshahi, O.B.C.
30. Leon J. Koerner, LL.D. (Hon)
31. Dave Lede, B.Comm., LL.D. (Hon)
32. Robert (Bob) H. Lee, C.M., O.B.C., B.Comm., LL.D. (Hon)
33. Brandt C. Louie, O.B.C., C.B.H.F., LL.D. (Hon), F.C.A., C.A., C.P.A.
34. Hok Yat Louie
35. Tong Louie, C.M., O.B.C., B.S.A., LL.D. (Hon)
36. John S. MacDonald, O.C. Ph.D., F.C.A.E., P.Eng.
37. H.R. MacMillan, C.C.
38. G. W. Grant McConachie
39. Wendy B. McDonald, C.M., O.B.C., LL.D. (Hon), D.Tech.
40. George C. Melville, CPA, F.C.A., LL.D. (Hon)
41. William M. Mercer, B.Comm.
42. Jefferson Mooney
43. Dr. Rudy North, C.M., O.B.C., B.Comm., LL.D. (Hon)
44. David Oppenheimer
45. Jim Pattison, O.C., O.B.C., C.B.H.F.



**BUSINESS LAUREATES OF  
BRITISH COLUMBIA HALL OF FAME**

*They Built. We Benefit.*



**JA BC**  
A Member of JA Canada

46. Art Phillips
47. John (Jack) W. Poole, O.C., O.B.C., B.Sc.
48. John Prentice
49. Dave Ritchie
50. Dr. Donald B. Rix, C.M., O.B.C., M.D., D.Sc.(Hon.), F.R.C.P.C., LL.D. (Hon)
51. Benjamin Tingley Rogers
52. Dick (Percy Ritchie) Sandwell
53. William (Bill) L. Sauder, O.C., O.B.C., B.Comm., LL.D. (Hon)
54. Joseph Segal, C.M., O.B.C., C.B.H.F., O.ST.J., LL.D. (Hon)
55. Howard Allan Simons
56. David W. Spencer
57. Dr. Ken Spencer, Ph.D., LL.D. (Hon), MBA, B.A.Sc.
58. W. James Treliving
59. Milton K. Wong, C.M., O.B.C., LL.D (Hon)
60. Charles Woodward

## **New Prosperity**

**Value:** We believe that responsible resource development doesn't need to come at the expense of the environment.

**Contrast:** I'm not going to take lessons from the NDP.

- During the 1990's, two mines closed for every one that opened.
- B.C. lost over 5,000 mining jobs in the 1990's, nearly halving the total workforce.
- Exploration expenditures went from \$227 million when the NDP took power to \$36 million in 2000.

### **Key Facts:**

- The mining and mineral exploration industries provide 30,000 jobs – up from 14,700 jobs in 2001.
- The value of mineral production in 2012 was \$8.3 billion – nearly triple the amount in 2001.
- Mineral exploration in 2012 was \$680 million; in 2013 it was \$476 million.
- Over halfway to completing our Jobs Plan target of 8 new mines and 9 mine expansions by 2015.
  - Two new mines have already opened
    - New Afton and Mount Milligan
  - Two new mines will open this year
    - Red Chris and Roman mines
  - Three new mines are permitted
    - Bonanza Ledge, Treasure Mountain and Quintette
  - Seven major mine expansions have gone ahead
- Average mining salary (including benefits) is \$121,000

# **New Prosperity**

## **Key Messages:**

- We were elected on a platform commitment to support this mine.
- We are not going to let British Columbians down.
- New Prosperity is critical to the economic future of Williams Lake, British Columbia and Canada.
- Williams Lake was hit hard by the mountain pine beetle epidemic.
- The 700 full time jobs during construction and the 550 jobs during operations would make a real difference there, especially over the mine's 20 year life span.
- New Prosperity is not the first mine of its kind in BC.
- Taseko already operates two copper-gold open pit mines in the same area and mitigates the exact same environmental concerns very successfully.

## **Background:**

- BC granted a certificate for the Prosperity project. Federal government rejected – concerns about Fish Lake being used as a tailings pond.
- New Prosperity is a new design. Avoids using Fish Lake as tailings pond. Federal panel found this design would have significant adverse effects.
- Taseko filed a judicial review application on the panel conclusions. This process is ongoing and BC is not involved.
- Federal government is expected to make a decision on whether to approve or reject the project soon.



## Carr, Steve PREM:EX

---

**From:** Syer Tom VANM <Tom.Syer@teck.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 28, 2016 9:59 AM  
**To:** MacLaren, Les MEM:EX; Robb, Peter L. MEM:EX  
**Subject:** Broker notes on Teck  
**Attachments:** 20160324\_Raymond James.pdf; BofAML.pdf; Deutsche.pdf

Les and Peter,

You may have seen earlier versions of these broker reviews as part of the due diligence for the electricity cost deferral program, but these most recent reviews outline some of the market commentary on Teck. Some of the charts/comments provide further context on the overall situation.

s.22 if you have time on April 7<sup>th</sup>, would be useful to have a follow-up conversation.

Thanks guys.

tom

**Tom Syer**  
Director, Government Affairs  
Teck Resources Limited  
Direct Phone: +1.604.699.4458  
Phone: +1.604.699.4000  
Cell: +1 604.880.0128  
eMail: [Tom.Syer@teck.com](mailto:Tom.Syer@teck.com)  
[www.teck.com](http://www.teck.com)

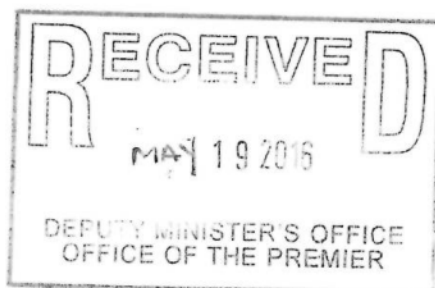
Page 083 to/à Page 201

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May 13, 2016

The Honourable Christy Clark  
Premier of British Columbia  
Box 9041  
Station Prov. Govt.  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1



**WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

Dear Premier Clark:

As you undoubtedly are aware my Company continues with its efforts to advance our New Prosperity Project and we are actively pursuing the matter through the Courts, with the goal of requiring the Federal Government to revisit the position it took under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012 in not granting three authorizations to advance the project tied to fish habitat, navigable waters and explosives.

I firmly believe that the courts will find in our favour once the true facts of the Federal process are unveiled.

I have personally been involved in mineral development around the world and have experienced subversive undermining by government employees of important projects. I cannot believe, as a Canadian that the same could hold true in Canada in terms of what transpired through the Federal Panel Process as it relates to our New Prosperity Project.

It indeed though happens, everyone in this Province should remember Carrier Lumber, one of the more egregious efforts of the state and bureaucracy to destroy a business.

To bring you up-to-date on our findings, Federal elected representatives and senior deputy ministers met secretly with opponents of our Project, these opponents were not just First Nations representatives, but private citizens and NGO groups who had many meetings, after the Panel hearings had closed. As well, a 56 page submission in opposition to our Project was presented to the then Environmental Minister "after the Panel Report had been rendered" – all of which was not part of the process nor disclosed to my Company, and we were never given an opportunity to respond to it before Cabinet made its decision. All of this is contrary to the Federal decision-making process and likely contrary to law.

The British Columbian government should be very disturbed by this because constitutionally mineral assets are owned by the Province and their development is the Provinces' responsibility, not Ottawa's. With the BC government approving our Project and the Federal government torpedoing it by not following their own process is something that needs to be addressed by your administration.

We have recently though obtained through access to information requests, information regarding a submission from British Columbia Ministry of Energy and Mines personnel made to the Federal Review Panel – this submission downplayed a variety of supportive technical information from the BC Government’s own consultants on water quality that, had these reports been presented to the Panel on behalf of the BC Government could have potentially affected the Panel’s ultimate conclusions.

In a nutshell, Premier, BC Government employees were actively working to discredit our new plan with the Panel on the water quality issue around Fish Lake.

Even knowing all of this we have continued our efforts to move forward through the provincial regulatory processes, but have experienced intense resistance and delays from the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) which begs the question “why”. As you know, our original Prosperity project was approved by two provincial ministers in 2010, and we applied to amend our environmental assessment certificate in June 2011 to reflect the modified New Prosperity design (which would avoid the draining of Fish Lake). It is incomprehensible to us that a decision on the amendment application remains outstanding nearly 5 years after it was filed. This is in fact an extremely simple amendment application to grant, given that the revised project will have less environmental impact and more economic benefits. Yet despite all the above, and various letters sent to EAO, the EAO continues to sit on its hands on this project, perhaps in the hope that Taseko will simply go away.

I must, however, assure you that is not going to happen.

My concern about the maladministration by the EAO has been heightened in recent months, with the signing of the Nenqay Deni Accord - without any prior consultation with our Company and I might add many other land owners and citizens of the Cariboo. This Accord makes clear that all lands within the Tsilhqot’in traditional territory (other than the title lands and Indian reserves) will either become category A lands or category B lands. Under the terms of the agreement, either categorization of our project will have material adverse impacts on our project and our economic interests. In June 2011 I sent both yourself and Minister Coleman then Minister of EMPR a letter regarding the Tsilhqot’n Framework Agreement and how we viewed such with respect to our project. Nearly 5 years later the situation continues to deteriorate.

In the circumstances where we find ourselves there are several possible scenarios as to how I would see the matter proceeding:

**OPTION1.** The province:

- (a) proceeds with the timely completion of the Environmental Assessment Certificate amendment application;
- (b) provides written notice to our Company and the TNG that the lands over which our mineral tenures exist will not be on the table for negotiation as category A lands; and
- (c) commits to compensating our Company for any additional costs or adverse implications that arise in future as a result of any changes to the resource management regulatory regime and land use planning that will be applied to category B lands.

**OPTION 2:** The province immediately enters into negotiations with our Company to sell our existing tenures, permits and engineering reports to a private company owned by the province, and the province could in turn transfer ownership of that company to the TNG or any other party it deems appropriate. In order to achieve such an agreement, our Company would expect to be compensated for its substantial investment to date in the project, and be provided a significant Net Smelter Royalty in the event the deposit is ever mined by any other party, including any First Nation group.

**OPTION 3:** Taseko initiates legal proceedings against the province. This could include an application for an order in the nature of mandamus, directing the EAO / Minister of Environment to complete the certificate amendment application. Or we could include a civil suit for damages based upon a claim of *de facto* expropriation, among other things.

Premier – I hope it is clear that this Company and its shareholders cannot simply sit back and allow our project to be placed on ice by regulators, or to be unfairly treated by agreements with First Nations that affect our interests without any consultation with us. We would, of course, like nothing more than to find a way to develop this project that is in the mutual interests of ourselves, the citizens of the Cariboo, and the Tsilhqot'in and we will continue to work towards that goal. But please understand that in the absence of any such agreement we are not able to simply stand down and watch this substantial asset become sterilized to the detriment of our shareholders.

It is doubly disturbing to myself and my Board of Directors that there exists such a double standard with respect to Government projects, ie Site C and the interaction with aboriginal interests versus public companies trying to develop their assets in terms of "veto", contrary to the Supreme Court decisions on these matters. There have been seven First Nations groups taking the Government to court on Site C and you have won all challenges, yet our Project stands isolated against a perceived backdrop of First Nation pushback.

I am prepared to meet with the appropriate spokesperson you assign to this in the coming weeks to discuss these options for the government.

Sincerely,



Russell E. Hallbauer, P.Eng.  
President & CEO

cc. Honourable Bill Bennett, Minister of Energy and Mines  
Honourable Mary Polak, Minister of Environment  
Honourable John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
Donna Barnett, MLA  
Kim Henderson, Deputy Minister to the Premier  
Elaine McKnight, Deputy Minister  
Doug Caul, Deputy Minister  
Kevin Jardine, Associate Deputy Minister