

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **First Nations Going to Court United Against Enbridge's Northern Gateway Project**

## **Federal and provincial governments disregard Indigenous Title and Rights**

Today, we unequivocally reject the Harper Government's decision to approve the Enbridge Northern Gateway tanker and pipelines project and First Nations will immediately go to court to vigorously pursue all lawful means to stop the Enbridge project.

We have governed our lands, in accordance to our Indigenous laws, since time immemorial. Our inherent Title and Rights and our legal authority over our respective territories have never been surrendered.

Our inherent rights are human rights constitutionally enshrined, judicially recognized and embodied in international legal instruments including the United Nations' *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*.

This project, and the federal process to approve it, violated our rights and our laws. We are uniting to defend our lands and waters of our respective territories. Our rights and laws compel us to act.

Enbridge's Northern Gateway tanker and pipeline project exposes all communities from Alberta to the Pacific Coast to the undeniable risk of pipeline and supertanker oil spills. First Nations and the majority of British Columbians believe this project poses an unacceptable risk to the environment, the health, the safety and livelihoods of all peoples throughout this province.

We will defend our territories whatever the costs may be.

Council of the Haida Nation  
Gitanaax Band Council  
Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs  
Gitgaat  
Gitxaala  
Gitxsan (Delgamuukw)  
Haisla  
Heiltsuk  
Kitasoo Xai'xais  
Lax kw'alaams  
Metlakatla

Nadleh Whut'en  
Nak'azdli  
Neskonlith Indian Band  
Office of the Wet'suwet'en  
Saikuz First Nation  
Takla Lake  
Tlazten  
Tsetsaut / Skii km Lax Ha  
Tsleil-Waututh Nation  
Wet'suwet'en First Nation  
Williams Lake Indian Band

Xatsull  
  
Carrier Sekani Tribal Council  
Coastal First Nations  
St'at'imc Chiefs Council  
Tahltan Central Council  
Yinka Dene Alliance  
  
BC Assembly of First Nations  
First Nations Summit  
Union of BC Indian Chiefs

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