



District of Vanderhoof

Incorporated 1926

Geographical Centre of BC

Office of the Mayor

June 22, 2015

Kiel Giddens
Land Community and Aboriginal Relations Liaison
TransCanada Pipelines
201-760 Kinsmen Place
Prince George, BC
V2M 0A8

Dear Mr. Giddens,

re: Letter of Support

For fifty years and more, forestry, agriculture, and mining have been key ingredients to economic success in the North.

More recently, we've started to diversify successfully into other areas and the emergence of the LNG industry on the horizon expands the opportunity for residents of Northern BC.

When the representatives from TransCanada's Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project first visited our communities, they presented a new opportunity. It was clear that the project would bring employment into northern B.C. with as many as 2500 construction jobs created from the Northeast to the Coast. But how much of that benefit would go to the local economy?

We made it a priority to communicate that we expect this major project to support our communities in a lasting way. For example the District of Vanderhoof and TransCanada are in preliminary discussions regarding the siting of 1000 man work camp. We see this potential partnership opportunity as a primary example of how industry and local government can work together.

That was three years ago. Since then, Northern BC Communities have developed a much greater knowledge of what goes into pipeline development. This is largely due to the ongoing presence of project teams from TransCanada and competing companies. Through dialogue, communities like Vanderhoof, Fraser Lake, Burns Lake Houston and Smithers have helped to focus the Coastal GasLink team on issues such as local hiring and local contracting, as well as environmental protection. The result is a set of project commitments that are written into the provincial government's regulatory documents.

Coastal GasLink is already making significant contributions to our region. Local businesses are involved in their fieldwork, and the company is contributing to community organizations. This includes support for things like skills training, emergency response, and environmental protection and community events (sponsorship of public skating). These benefits will continue and the North will be stronger if we can move major projects like Coastal Gaslink to construction. Our businesses will be able to take advantage

of new opportunities, apprentices will gain work experience and students will have greater confidence in staying at home in the North.

TransCanada and Coastal GasLink have shown a real willingness to listen and take note of the input provided from BC residents and municipal governments. As in any relationship, it will take continued work from all sides to make this project work for everyone. We support sustainable, long-term development that boosts the economy and provides real opportunities for the communities in Northern BC. We would like to see the Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project go forward so that our communities can show the work what we can build, safely, reliably, while respecting the environment.

Regards,
DISTRICT OF VANDERHOOF



Gerry Thiessen
Mayor