Meet Edward

Up to 2,500 women and men will work to safely build the Coastal GasLink project over the four-year construction period.

Many of these workers are from local and Indigenous communities along the project route. People are our most valuable asset on the project and every job matters — from pipe fitters and welders who will assemble the pipeline, to caterers who will feed the workers, and the environmental monitors who will ensure all regulatory commitments are upheld and the local environment is protected, among many other important jobs.

Edward Tom is a member of Coastal GasLink’s Construction Monitoring and Community Liaison Program. The program provides opportunities for Indigenous community members to participate in construction within their traditional territory for the purposes of observing, recording and reporting on implementation of construction activities to their communities.

Tell us a bit about yourself and your role in the Coastal GasLink project.

My name is Edward. I’m a Gitdumden member. I’ve been out here for three years. I’m here representing my people as a Construction Monitor and a Community Liaison. I observe everything going on construction-wise and document everything I see. I’ve got 25 years experience, and you can’t fool me.

Why did you want to work on the Coastal GasLink project?

They are the first ever industry that included us in the planning, the executing of everything that is going on, and we are a major part of it. We are working alongside them. For example, today we are working on putting in a 60-foot bridge and it’s going right over a creek and it’s also going over a cultural trail and we’re doing that to preserve the trail. It’s very important to our people, to preserve these culturally-modified trees and traditional trees; it means a lot to us.

How is your work and this project important to your community?

It means a lot to me to be here, representing my people. And it’s very important to our people. The Project is 670-kilometres long, and we Wet’suwet’en have 120-kilometres of it to do, and we’re going to do it efficiently, safely, environmentally-friendly, and culturally-sensitively.

What do you look forward to when you go to work?

The people. It’s great — I love it. I spend more time with these people that I do my own family. Well, I guess they are my family now.

To learn more about employment opportunities on the Coastal GasLink Project, visit CoastalGasLink.com/employment
Pipeline construction 101: What you can expect along the Coastal GasLink route

Building a pipeline is a lot like building a house — you start by clearing and grading, then dig the foundation, bring trades in for related tasks, ensure it passes inspection, and plant the yard. And, like the construction of a house, it takes time and there can be some stops and starts in the process.

In this issue, we show you what to expect in the various stages of pipeline construction.

Coastal GasLink’s parent company, TC Energy, has over 65 years experience safely building and operating energy infrastructure.

“From design and construction to operation and maintenance, we are committed to keeping Coastal GasLink and your communities safe. It’s part of being an experienced pipeline builder,” he adds.

Community members and road users in the vicinity of the project route may see trucks hauling pipe, and construction vehicles and buses that are transporting onsite working crews. Road use agreements are in place to ensure this traffic doesn’t interrupt regular road use and that roads are maintained to desired standards.

“Individuals who are nearby may see and hear equipment with construction of each stage taking up to several days in a given area during mainline construction, depending on how challenging the terrain is,” says Casey Bajnok, project engineer. “We are committed to making sure local communities have access to up-to-date information about construction activities, including locations and timing of works,” adds Bajnok.

TC Energy has constructed projects like Coastal GasLink many times before. We use high-quality materials and the latest proven technology, monitored by expert staff, every step of the way,” — Arend Deelen, Section 8 Project Manager for the Coastal GasLink Project.

What’s happening when

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<td>Improve access and upgrade roads</td>
<td>Clearing and grading ongoing</td>
<td>Land restoration and reclamation activities</td>
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<td>Establish workforce accommodation sites</td>
<td>Trenching, stringing, welding and lowering-in activities</td>
<td>Anticipated in-service (2023)</td>
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<td>Clearing and grading</td>
<td>Backfilling and pressure testing</td>
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<td>Deliver pipe to storage sites</td>
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The 670-kilometre Project is divided into eight construction sections. Each section undergoes site preparation before construction. Construction is being carried out by our highly-qualified prime contractors and their schedules are designed to enable crews to work in both summer and winter months.

1. **Clearing and grading**
   After crews identify and mark the pipeline right-of-way, the topsoil is removed and stored for future reclamation. The ground is then prepared to ensure the surface is level for construction equipment.

2. **Trenching**
   Construction crews use backhoes or ditching machines to dig a trench for the pipeline.

3. **Stringing/bending**
   Pipeline crews line-up sections of the pipe end-to-end along the edge of the trench. A machine bends the pipe to ensure it follows the route and contour of the land.

4. **Welding/coating**
   Welders join the pipe segments together. Each weld is inspected and certified using X-ray or ultrasonic technology. Pipeline joints are coated with an anti-corrosion material and then the coating is inspected.

5. **Lowering/tie-ins**
   Following careful inspection, a special crane lowers the section of welded pipe into the trench. A separate crew completes the final welds (tie-ins) connecting continuous lengths of pipeline.

6. **Backfilling**
   The soil is returned to the trench and is replaced in the sequence it was removed to bury the pipeline. The land is prepared for reclamation.

7. **Pressure testing**
   The pipeline is filled with water and pressurized to a level that exceeds the operating pressure of the pipeline, ensuring it’s ready to transition safely to operation.

8. **Cleanup/reclamation**
   Once testing is complete, the right-of-way is stabilized and the ground surface is contoured to reestablish original drainage patterns. The topsoil is replaced, allowing for the re-establishment of appropriate vegetation. The goal is to bring the land as close to the original state as possible.
Road safety: a critical part of our legacy

Road and driver safety is a key part of our commitment to safety.

Building an extraordinary legacy means raising the standards of one of the most foundational aspects of construction: moving people and equipment safely.

Every project relies on an invaluable ingredient – people. And every day, hundreds of our people travel to work sites – mostly by bus – along the 670-kilometre project right-of-way, in remote areas, and sometimes under difficult weather conditions. And we must make sure every one of them makes it to their destination safely.

As part of our extraordinary legacy in action, Coastal GasLink has set the bar high when it comes to driver safety. We have implemented specific measures to raise awareness about potential driving hazards and our goal is to improve driver safety and prevent motor vehicle incidents.

“As a project team we can’t accept status quo on this known hazard when we know there are tools available that will significantly improve driving safety,” says Michael Gibb, Coastal GasLink’s Director of Health, Safety, and Security.

“That’s why Coastal GasLink has developed Safe Driving Guidelines as part of our Extraordinary Legacy Initiative to raise the bar for how safe driving practices are managed,” says Gibb. “These guidelines specify the requirements around driver orientation, In-Vehicle Monitoring Systems (IVMS) and reporting, roadside coaching and monitoring, and safety performance incentives for log haulers.”

Already an industry leader in jobsite safety, Coastal GasLink is taking the innovative step of mandating the use of IVMS by all employees, prime contractors, and subcontractors who use motor vehicles while engaged in work on the Coastal GasLink project.

IVMS allows all equipped vehicles to be monitored in real-time via GPS by our team of safety experts who can track information such as a vehicle’s location, speed, acceleration and deceleration, seatbelt use, and more. The system ultimately helps mitigate accidents on the project and encourage safer driving practices.

“With the combination of committed leadership, technology, accountability, training, monitoring, and coaching we will see a significant reduction in the frequency and severity of motor vehicle incidents on the Coastal GasLink project,” says Gibb.

Safety is our number one value at Coastal GasLink. Along with our Safe Driving Guidelines, several management plans, including environment, traffic, and emergency are in place to maximize safety and minimize potential effects on the environment and local communities during construction and operation.

For more information, visit CoastalGasLink.com

Keeping you informed

We want to make sure you are connected to the most up to date information as construction progresses – from timelines, to location of activities, to potential community effects.

Coastal GasLink recently implemented a series of new tools to help you access information about the project. These tools include a refreshed website with more information about pipeline construction, an interactive map of all current and upcoming construction activities, and monthly construction reports.

Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project

TC Energy

We’d like to hear from you
If you have any questions or comments about the project, please reach out.
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