Coastal GasLink — Connector

Q4 2020 EDITION

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Coastal GasLink workers give back to our local communities

Coastal GasLink is especially grateful for the generous giving by our workers, and the community partners that support those most in need in our communities.

Whether it's partnering with community groups or supporting local initiatives, Coastal GasLink's goal is to build strong and vibrant communities along the project route. Throughout 2020, Coastal GasLink's Build Strong community investment program has supported local communities with contributions to local initiatives such as training equipment for the Chetwynd Fire Department, a metal lathe for the Fort St. James Secondary School Trades Improvement plan, and new team gear for the Bulkley Valley Search and Rescue in Smithers.

To help further close the funding gap for local charities impacted by the pandemic, our team worked hard to fundraise and give back to local initiatives through the Empower employee giving program run by Coastal GasLink's parent company, TC Energy.

"The Empower program empowers our workforce to not just give to local communities, but also allows their donations to be matched up to \$10,000 by TC Energy," explained Tanner Moulton, Coastal GasLink's Public Affairs



Coordinator. "The program encourages our team to go above and beyond by supporting communities at a time when it's needed most."

This holiday season, instead of Christmas parties, TC Energy gifted each employee \$150 to give to local organizations of their choice through Empower. "The holiday parties were something people really enjoyed, but this year we get to make a larger impact on our communities to support causes we're passionate about," said Moulton.

The generosity of our workers is being felt all across Coastal GasLink's 670-kilometre project route.

In Sections 1 and 2, workers raised over \$16,000 for the Chetwynd Christmas Bureau Society, with another \$10,000 matched through the Empower program.

The team in Sections 5, 6 and 7 were not to be outdone, raising over \$34,000 with the help of Empower for organizations in neighbouring communities, such as Spirit North, the Lakes District Family Enhancement Society (The LINK), Autumn Services in Fraser Lake, and the Houston Community Services Association, among many others.

Through dedicated fundraising and with Empower's support, Coastal GasLink team members and TC Energy donated over \$150,000 to community organizations. Combined with Coastal GasLink's Build Strong community investment initiatives, and a \$100,000 donation to the United Way of Northern BC's COVID-19 Relief Fund, communities in BC have received over \$787,000 in direct funding from the project and its employees this year.

"It means a lot to me and my coworkers that we get to give back to the communities that we're a part of. We have folks doing 50/50 fundraisers, going out to safely deliver toys to young families in need, or volunteering their time to help their communities. They might seem like small actions, but collectively they've made 2020 an extraordinary year to look back on," shared Moulton.

Together, we achieved big things in 2020



For Coastal GasLink, 2020 was a year of incredible progress. We could not have achieved these milestones without the extraordinary work being done every day by the people on this project, and with the support of Indigenous and local communities.

We reached major milestones such as surpassing one-third of the overall progress, beginning mainline pipe installation, completing the final weld at the Kitimat Meter Station (see page 4), and a continued commitment to hiring Indigenous and local first while supporting B.C.'s healthy economic recovery. "It's a thriving community now with this operation being here, the town has become alive again, which is great. It makes me feel really proud that Indigenous people have stood up and taken the reins and are making a living for themselves and their families," said Pius Charlie, one of our Community Workforce Accommodation Advisors.

Vanderhoof Mayor Gerry Thiessen shares that enthusiasm. "With everything that's happened in 2020, and the highs and lows of the forest industry, having a consistent project like Coastal GasLink become part of the community at a time when we've needed it has proven to be a real positive benefit to Vanderhoof," said Mayor Thiessen.

To our workforce, contractors, Indigenous and local communities across the project, thank you for an amazing year and for being part of the Coastal GasLink family.



Pius Charlie, Community Workforce Accommodation Advisor

TC Energy and Coastal GasLink wishes you and your family a safe and joyful family season. Stay connected by visiting **CoastalGasLink.com** or by following us on social media **@CoastalGasLink**.

Cultivating new relationships

The harvesting of wild fungi used in traditional Indigenous healing and cultural practices is helping to cultivate new relationships among Coastal GasLink's diverse workforce.

This is happening through the Construction Monitoring and Community Liaison (CMCL) Program, created to provide opportunities for Indigenous group members to participate in construction within their traditional territory. The program has, in some cases, led to enhanced environmental and cultural preservation as well as cross-cultural education and understanding, including about wild plants that play a role in traditional healing.

"To the Coastal GasLink community, the advisors bring a lot of stories, a lot of history about the area to the team," says Rocky Desjarlais, a CMCL coordinator and West Moberly First Nations member.

Desjarlais is one of the driving forces behind the harvest and collection of Diamond Willow Fungus and Chaga in Sections 1 and 2 of the route, 140 kilometres to the south of the Dawson Creek area.

Diamond Willow Fungus grows on the side of injured willow trees in northern British Columbia. As Desjarlais explains, traditionally, Indigenous people would burn the Diamond Willow Fungus using the smoke to help purify the air and treat headaches. The fungus can also be used for smudging and mosquito repellent. It is typically found in wet environments and is harvested throughout the year.



CMCL Coordinator Rocky Desjarlais

Chaga, which is a mushroom found on birch trees, is packed with antioxidants and described by Desjarlais as "the multi-vitamin of plants."

Desjarlais' efforts to share cultural knowledge stems from the belief that if, "we don't teach the non-Indigenous people about these things then how are we to expect them to take it seriously when we ask them to preserve them."

When Diamond Willow Fungus and Chaga were discovered along the route, Desjarlais shared his traditional knowledge about the plants and collaborated with Coastal GasLink Lead Environmental Inspector, Jeff VanHeukelom, to make a plan to identify and harvest the culturally important species.

Prior to any clearing work taking place, CMCL Advisors would locate and harvest the species. As the harvesting efforts progressed, Rocky was able to further educate the workforce about the cultural importance of the species and to help identify the Diamond Willow Fungus and Chaga in the surrounding area.

Rocky noted that one of the surveyors was so excited about the harvesting that "he was always coming back to me about Diamond Willow Fungus that he had found, and we would go out and harvest it," he says.

As news of the harvesting efforts circulated, construction foremen took the initiative to harvest the species when the CMCL Advisors were not on site, demonstrating how sharing cultural knowledge on the project has helped protect the environment as well as Indigenous traditions.

When clearing in the area comes to an end, so will the Diamond Willow Fungus and Chaga collection. The precious species will be distributed to the Indigenous groups in the area as part of Coastal GasLink's continuous efforts to foster and deepen relationships with Indigenous groups.

Kitimat Meter Station nears completion

The Coastal GasLink project route ends at the Kitimat Meter Station, a **facility that will measure natural gas** to be delivered to the LNG Canada plant, and at the end of 2020, construction of this facility is mostly complete.

Construction began in June this year, and over the past five months significant construction progress has been made. The work was completed in November with no reportable safety incidents over 36,000 person-hours and an excess of 61,000 km driven by the almost 60-person workforce. A big highlight was the final weld on the meter station piping performed near the end of November. With that complete, construction activities on the Kitimat Meter Station will pause until we return for pressure testing of the pipe, scheduled for the second quarter of 2021.



This is one of the most impactful projects in Canada right now and to be someone on the ground witnessing it happen is incredible" — Olamide Opadokun, Engineer-in-Training at the Kitimat Meter Station.





Olamide Opadokun is an Engineer-in-Training at the Kitimat Meter Station

In your community



Coastal GasLink announced a \$150,000 investment in the College of New Caledonia that will support students by equipping them with the skills they need for a meaningful career in trades and technologies.



Coastal GasLink and prime contractor Pacific Atlantic Pipeline Construction (PAPC) team members raised over \$14,800 for organizations like Spirit North, which empowers Indigenous youth across Canada for sport, school and life through recreational activities.



Kitimat Meter Station team members raised funds that were generously matched by prime contractor Aecon Group Inc. and TC Energy's Empower program for a total of \$12,400 in support of the Kitimat Food Bank and Tamitik Status of Women.

Coastal GasLink

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We'd like to hear from you

If you have any questions or comments about the project, please reach out.

1.855.633.2011 (toll free) CoastalGasLink@tcenergy.com facebook.com/coastalgaslink twitter.com/coastalgaslink