

INDIGENOUS



Advisory and Monitoring Committee

Burrard Inlet/Lower Fraser Report

Building relationships.



The Indigenous Caucus traveled to where the Fraser and Coquihalla rivers meet with Peter Watson (CEO/Chair, National Energy Board) and Phillip Jennings (Associate Deputy Minister, NRCan).

In my role as Interim Member for Burrard Inlet/Lower Fraser on IAMC's Indigenous Caucus, I present this report.

I was selected to sit on the Indigenous Caucus at a Regional Meeting held in Sooke in June 2017. Indigenous communities along the shipping lanes associated with the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) attended this meeting.

There are 11 Indigenous members, as well as six senior representatives from federal departments and the National Energy Board, on the IAMC.

Indigenous members' participation is "without prejudice," meaning that we have members who come from communities that oppose TMX, others who support it.

IAMC is a new way of doing things. We're moving forward; sometimes it feels slow, but, we're making progress.

For example, IAMC Indigenous Monitors have been on-site for DFO and National Energy Board inspections at the Westridge and Burnaby facilities. I appreciated having them there; Indigenous Monitors are a core reason why we're doing this work at IAMC.

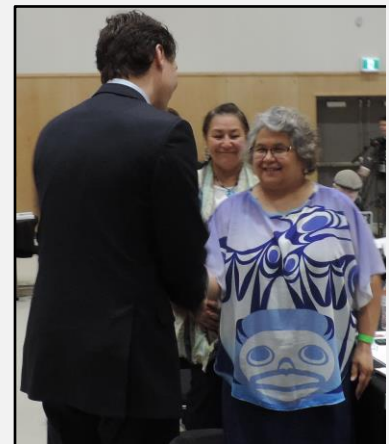
We also have four subcommittees focusing on Marine Shipping; Socio-economic impacts; Indigenous Monitoring; and, the one that I Chair, Engagement.

IAMC is ambitious. It takes time to build relationships, to build trust. But it feels like we're on the right path. Contact me if you have any questions.

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Indigenous Caucus (IAMC-TMX)
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Nations in Burrard Inlet/Lower Fraser

The IAMC Terms of Reference lists a total of 117 Indigenous communities, from Alberta to Vancouver Island, that are potentially impacted by TMX. The communities in Burrard Inlet-Lower Fraser are: Katzie; Kwikwetlem; Musqueam; Semiahmoo; Squamish First Nation; Tsawwassen First Nation; and Tseil-Waututh.



Prime Minister Trudeau attended the IAMC monthly meeting on June 5th. The Indigenous Caucus presented five key messages him. We also issued a News Release which you can find on page 2 of this report.



NEWS RELEASE

Indigenous Caucus presses Prime Minister Trudeau over purchase of Trans Mountain system.

June 5, 2018

For immediate release

The Indigenous Caucus raised five key concerns, with respect to the government's intended purchase of the Trans Mountain system.

The Indigenous Caucus' key messages to the Prime Minister:

1. The government's decision to buy the Trans Mountain system will have huge impacts on Indigenous nations in the pipeline corridor and shipping lanes. Some Indigenous Caucus members come from nations that support the pipeline, others who are opposed. But all have a shared interest in minimizing the impacts of the TMX expansion and existing pipeline.
2. The IAMC must be transformed from advising government to truly co-managing with government, in a manner consistent with United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We urged the Prime Minister to work with us on regulatory changes and protocols in order to make co-management a reality.
3. If the government is going to build the TMX, then it must build it better than Kinder Morgan would have – safer, more respectful of Indigenous rights and title and treaty rights, and fairer in its distribution of economic benefits to affected Indigenous nations.
4. The IAMC must be improved to remove bureaucratic roadblocks and to support the work of the Indigenous Caucus.
5. Although IAMC is not a consultation body, we took the opportunity to urge the Prime Minister that Indigenous nations must be consulted and accommodated regarding the government's decision to buy the Trans Mountain system.

We appreciated the opportunity to have an open and forthright discussion with the Prime Minister. If the Prime Minister wants to bring about real change in the nation-to-nation relationship, we want him to work with us.

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