

**JOINT REVIEW PANEL FOR THE ENBRIDGE NORTHERN
GATEWAY PROJECT
COMMISSION D'EXAMEN CONJOINT DU PROJET
ENBRIDGE NORTHERN GATEWAY**



**Hearing Order OH-4-2011
Ordonnance d'audience OH-4-2011**

**Northern Gateway Pipelines Inc.
Enbridge Northern Gateway Project
Application of 27 May 2010**

**Demande de Northern Gateway Pipelines Inc.
du 27 mai 2010 relative au projet
Enbridge Northern Gateway**

VOLUME 44

**Hearing held at
Audience tenue à**

**Hudson Bay Lodge
3251 Highway 16
Smithers, British Columbia**

**April 23, 2012
Le 23 avril 2012**

**International Reporting Inc.
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Canada

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as represented by the Minister of the Environment
and the National Energy Board

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participant à l'audience publique.

Imprimé au Canada

HEARING /AUDIENCE

OH-4-2011

IN THE MATTER OF an application filed by the Northern Gateway Pipelines Limited Partnership for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity pursuant to section 52 of the *National Energy Board Act*, for authorization to construct and operate the Enbridge Northern Gateway Project.

HEARING LOCATION/LIEU DE L'AUDIENCE

Hearing held in Smithers (British Columbia), Monday, April 23, 2012
Audience tenue à Smithers (Colombie-Britannique), Lundi, le 23 avril 2012

JOINT REVIEW PANEL/LA COMMISSION D'EXAMEN CONJOINT

S. Leggett	Chairperson/Présidente
K. Bateman	Member/Membre
H. Matthews	Member/Membre

ORAL STATEMENTS/EXPOSÉS ORAUX

David Anderson
Gladys Atrill
Magdalena Bayer
Phil Briennesse
Zita Conway
David Conway
Jim Davidson
Don Goalder
Ali Howard
Dennis MacKay
Pauline Mahoney
Nick Meyer
Joanne Nugent
Robyn Oakes
Sheila Peters
Lothar Schaefer
Robert Lynn Shervill
Bryan Swansburg
Alison Candela

ERRATA

Thursday, April 23, 2012 - Volume 41

Paragraph No.:

Should read:

29953:

"I am in Grade 4 and attend Kitasoo Community School."

"I am in Grade 5 and attend Kitasoo Community School."

29954:

"...and I have a five year old brother, Jamie Neasloss."

"...and I have a five year old brother, Jayden Neasloss."

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(i)

No.	Description	Paragraph No./No. de paragraphe
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--- Upon commencing at 1:03 p.m./L'audience débute à 13h03

31929. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Good afternoon, everyone. As we get under way, I'd just like to invite Chief Namox of the Wet'suwet'en Nation to come forward and provide some welcoming remarks.

31930. Chief Namox.

--- (Opening ceremony/Cérémonie d'ouverture)

31931. **CHIEF NAMOX:** (Speaking in native language).

31932. On behalf of Chief Gyolo'ght, Darlene Glaim, the caretaker of this territory, the Gitdumden portion of the territory that you stand on, I'd like to welcome all of the guests that are here today and the JRP itself.

31933. Chief Gyolo'ght is one of 13 Hereditary Chiefs that have the authority on the land of the Wet'suwet'en's 22,000 square kilometres. She is a House Chief of one of the 38 houses that the Wet'suwet'en have never ceded, surrendered, or given away our authority on.

31934. Today on her behalf, I ask that each of you show wakoos (ph), "respect". When you ask your questions and when the JRP listens to you, it must be given in respect, received in respect and your words cannot be just taken as words. You are speaking from your heart, from your passion. They must take it that way.

31935. This is not just a whistle stop for them. This is our land. This is our future. I ask highest wakoos (ph) once more from both. And, once again, welcome to Gyolo'ght territory, part of the Wet'suwet'en Nation territory.

31936. Misiyh.

31937. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you very much, Chief Namox, for your welcome to the Wet'suwet'en territory.

31938. Good afternoon again, everyone.

31939. My name is Sheila Leggett, and on my right is Mr. Kenneth Bateman, and on my left is Mr. Hans Matthews.

Opening remarks

31940. Before we start this session, I'd just like to go over some introductory information.
31941. If we did need to leave the room, there's a number of exits located around the room. There's two exits at the back of the room, a couple of exits over on the side wall, and then as well, two exits at where I would call the front of the room here.
31942. There are washrooms in the vicinity of the meeting room. The ladies' is just across the way and apparently the men's is up some stairs. In addition to that, there are two washrooms also just outside the restaurant. So go out this door, turn right down the hallway and head towards the restaurant.
31943. We have a number of staff members with us today as well who are helping. You've already met them before you were even seeing us, get you registered for the process for those of you who are giving oral statements today.
31944. All of our staff members have gold name tags on them, and if you have any process-related questions, I would encourage you to look for one of our staff members. I'm sure they'll be able to help you and direct you for whatever information you need.
31945. In addition to that, we have a couple of contractors with us as well. We have our court reporter and our IT sound person.
31946. Kenneth, Hans, and I are all members of the National Energy Board and have been tasked to make decisions for the Northern Gateway Pipeline's limited partnership application. The NEB is an independent, quasi-judicial regulatory body. Our decisions as a panel will be based solely on the information that we receive through the joint review process.
31947. The session today, as all sessions, is being broadcast live on the Panel's website.
31948. The process for the joint review includes two sets of hearings and we're here today for a set of the community hearings where we're going to hear oral statements from people who have registered to provide those oral statements in advance.
31949. Oral statements are an opportunity for participants to provide their personal knowledge, views, and concerns about the proposed project to the Panel in

Opening remarks

their own words. In order to help provide a reference point for registered participants, the staff have prepared a couple of maps which I understand you've been shown if you're giving a presentation.

31950. This is one of the maps here, and you're welcome to refer to either of these two maps in your presentation if that's useful to you. Both of these maps have come from the written evidence that's been filed with the JRP.

31951. The timeframe for each oral statement is a maximum of 10 minutes. After that time, you'll be asked to end your statement. We do this to be fair and to make sure that we can hear from all the participants who are scheduled to speak to us today.

31952. We have a timer system to help everyone out. This is the black box here, and it will be green and then it will go yellow at the seven-minute mark and there will be an audible sound. And then at the 10-minute mark, there'll be another audible sound, and I believe it goes red at that point.

31953. And I think just before we get under way, the only other point I would make is that we confirm that all the individuals who will be presenting oral statements to us today were sworn or affirmed previously by the Panel staff.

31954. So with that, if we could seat the first group of individuals who are going to speak with us today, that would be great.

--- (A short pause/Courte pause)

31955. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Thanks very much, Ms. Mills.

31956. Welcome. Mr. Anderson, when you're ready we'd be pleased to hear your oral statement.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. DAVID ANDERSON:

31957. **MR. DAVID ANDERSON:** Good afternoon, Panel. Thank you for the time that you've put in for this, and welcome back to Smithers.

31958. My place of residence is in Smithers. My family moved here from Ocean Falls in 1952. I came to Smithers from Ocean Falls in the fall of '94. Because of job situations, I have moved around the province and the world for work, but have always

returned to Smithers. Smithers is an ideal community to raise children.

31959. I have four daughters and five grandsons. We have five acres just west of town with a small fish pond that is a place for Lake Kathleen cutthroat to spawn and the waterfowl to come and eat. We don't stock this pond. It is connected to Lake Kathleen. It is 23 feet deep in places and is spring fed; therefore providing oxygen for the fish under the winter ice.

31960. We have Simpson Creek cutting our property in half. This creek flows into the Bulkley River and then into the Skeena River. In the spring, the first birds to use it are the mallards, followed by the mergansers, belted kingfisher, Canada geese and a great number of songbirds. And the woods on our property also have grouse.

31961. Our well water is regularly tested by our laboratory. Usually we have a reading of 99.9 percent pure. The only filtration is from the water flowing through the gravel as we are on an alluvial fan.

31962. A huge concern for us is the pipeline rupturing and contaminating our drinking water as well as our pond and creek.

31963. I remember an earthquake off Haida Gwaii that registered 6.8 on the Richter scale. I was in Smithers and it rattled the pictures on my wall and swayed the lamps. Smithers is some 300 miles from the epicentre of that particular quake; so that would have an effect, I think, on a pipeline.

31964. We have moose sleeping and eating here on a regular basis as well as deer and coyotes. Sometimes black bears come through and investigate our porch. Occasionally, we have had grizzly visit.

31965. I had a call from my youngest daughter one fall day; she asked me to pick her up for school. When I asked her if she had missed the school bus, she said she couldn't get to the bus because a bear had taken over the porch for a snooze.

31966. We get visitors from all over there are enthralled by our wildlife and our mountain views. I'm afraid that this idyllic place that we love and want to have our children and grandchildren enjoy in their lifetime would be severely threatened in the event of an oil spill; not only us, but the entire ecosystem around us, which is substantial.

31967. We also own a recreational lot on Babine Lake, with a creek running

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through it as well. The Babine system also flows into the Skeena. There we fish for rainbow trout, burbot and lake trout. We have osprey, bald eagles, lynx, deer, moose, wolves, black and grizzly bear, coyote and fox, both red and cross fox.

31968. I can see the salmon returning to spawn in the fall, and when the hatcheries close the gates, salmon often spawn in our small creek, coho, sockeye and chinook. Further upstream in Babine Lake to the southeast, we have kokanee, a type of sockeye salmon.
31969. We also own a diesel cruiser in Prince Rupert, an ex-salmon trawler, and fish for those same salmon in the Chatham Sound and basically from the Alaska border to the central coast.
31970. We take our family members to fish and explore the many beaches and islands around the north coast area. We always see many waterfowl and marine mammals, including humpback whales, orcas, sea lions, seals and occasionally otters.
31971. The beaches are usually deserted and fun for the kids in the tidal pools, where they search for small crabs and fish. We can still get a food feed of crab or prawns.
31972. I'm quite familiar with the north coast. I worked at Ridley Terminals Incorporated for 16 years, loading the coal ships there. I use my boat as a charter boat on my days off, and on summer vacations, sometimes they're fishing charters, but mainly for eco tours.
31973. My clientele came from all over the world, South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Germany, Holland, Denmark, the U.K., the U.S.A., and almost every province in Canada.
31974. When I was retired from the RTI, I spent four years at the Canadian Coast Guard as a relief lighthouse keeper. The worst weather that I have ever experienced in my life was in some of those lighthouses.
31975. I was on Green Island one winter; we had six hurricane strength winds in December alone. I think the worst one was over 92 knots. It did a lot of damage to the boardwalks. Green Island is also known as the ice palace because of the freezing conditions that coats the stations in the winter.
31976. On Triple Island lighthouse I experienced some of the highest waves on

the coast, some breaking over the top of the building, others taking out windows on the third floor. The top of the building is 65 feet above the water.

31977. Tsunami warnings were frequent. I think the last one to affect Prince Rupert was at low tide. If it had occurred at a high tide it would have inundated the waterfront under 15 feet of water.
31978. There are also very strong currents and 24-foot tides in that area. Sometimes when we are out cruising my instruments give me false readings, especially the GPS, because of the mountainous terrain and most of our inlets. Some rain storms are so intense that the radar doesn't cut through them.
31979. Our VHF radios are good out in the open waters but very restricted communications in the inlets. The weather readings from lighthouses and other navigational aides are miles apart.
31980. For example, we drug anchor in Welcome Harbour in 60 knots of wind. In Hunt's Inlet at the same time, they only had five knots of wind from the same direction. That's only 10 kilometres apart. I believe that people that are taking these ocean conditions a bit lightly when they plan on sending VLCCs up and down our coast.
31981. My family and I love our land and our wildlife, our fresh water and our clean beaches. I used to hunt moose and deer until our youngest daughter declared I shouldn't hunt any more; so now we just catch fish and other seafood to supplement our food supply, and collect berries and mushrooms. Again, I am concerned that an oil spill would devastate this coast that we enjoy so much.
31982. One other thing I'm concerned about is the ballast water that these tankers would pump out right at the mouth of the Kitimat River or the Skeena River if Prince Rupert is chosen. Look to the east where they have problems with the zebra mussel, look to the south and west where the European green crab was introduced into San Francisco Bay some years ago and now are as far north as Tofino.
31983. I have heard -- I have heard of rumours that perhaps if the pipeline doesn't go through, the CN rail will transport the oil. By looking at the track record of the CN up and down this -- from Rupert to -- from Prince George to Prince Rupert, the track record with derailments is immense. That'd be even worse than having pipeline come through.

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31984. So I and my family are not interested in having a pipeline or tanker traffic coming through my backyard because of the horrendous damage that could take place in case of an oil spill.

31985. Thank you for your time.

31986. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you, Mr. Anderson.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

31987. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Okay. Welcome, Ms. Atrill. Please go ahead and present to us.

--- **ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MS. GLADYS ATRILL:**

31988. **MS. GLADYS ATRILL:** Thank you.

31989. I would like to start by saying thank you to the Members of the Joint Review Panel for holding hearings in Smithers and other Northwest B.C. communities. This permits you a chance to see this marvellous part of the world, its natural amenities, and to get a sense of our communities, the residents of this area and our values.

31990. My name is Gladys Atrill. I have lived in Smithers for my lifetime. My mother came to Smithers in 1948 after World War II, from Europe. My father was born just down the road in Hazelton.

31991. I would also like to acknowledge that I am on Wet'suwet'en territory. I'm grateful for the welcome today from Chief Namox, and I'd like to thank my First Nation neighbours for speaking first and with strength about this project.

31992. I have grown up and made my living here in the Bulkley Valley for much of my adult life. I've worked in tourism and outdoor recreation. Together with my business partner, I have taught outdoor skills and guided visitors on our lakes and rivers and canoe expeditions.

31993. I have personally experienced and had the good fortune to watch others experience the incredible health benefits of our natural environment, being outside, breathing our fresh, clean air and drinking the crisp, clean water directly from the stream. As MasterCard says, priceless.

31994. I am opposed to this proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline. I realize the scope of this review is limited to the pipeline, but it cannot be discussed without acknowledging what is to be transported in that pipeline. It's to carry bitumen from the Alberta tar sands to our coast for transport in tankers to Asia. I just can't support that.
31995. A pipeline during construction will alter the territory it passes through and once built it will be a permanent risk to the environment until the moment the leak takes place then the risk becomes reality. All of that risk is borne by those who live and work along the pipeline, but more than that, it poses such a risk to our environment that simply cannot be mitigated.
31996. If a spawning channel is coated in bitumen it is lost. If the stream bank is coated in bitumen what of the birds and the wildlife that cross through it; what of the people who rely on the rivers and the natural environment for food in the form of wildlife, moose and deer, in the form of fish? What of the river guides? What of the trappers?
31997. As I hear news of spills in other places I am not comforted that we are capable of cleaning up spills. Only today I was listening to fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico speak of the deformed marine species post oil spill. They are fishermen. Their livelihood is affected. What of their jobs?
31998. What of the clean-up in the Kalamazoo? Three miles of 37 contaminated miles of the river opened just a few days ago to residents following a rupture of an Enbridge pipeline nearly two years ago. If we can't clean it up and we know spills will happen why would we proceed?
31999. We have so much to lose here and so little to gain, from my perspective. Our local economy and our local environment has nothing to gain. I have made my living, in part, in a healthy natural world attractive enough, as my colleague here has said, to attract people from other parts of the world. They travel here to experience what we have in commercial recreation.
32000. We in the Skeena system, as I'm sure you've heard, have \$100 million salmon economy. Why would we jeopardize what we have, and know, for all the risks of this pipeline proposal? Why jeopardize the vast resources of our marine environment for the risk of tanker traffic? People already have jobs in this part of the world.

32001. I am not a radical. I am a resident of Northwestern British Columbia, with my home in Smithers. I have a small business that has supported me since the mid-eighties. I am not opposed to development if it is sensible and I can see the benefit. I want to live in a modern world and to continue to drive my vehicle. I favour maintaining control of Canadian resources in Canada.
32002. I am not supportive of sending our raw natural resources offshore at the cost of our environment, the cost of the loss of natural resources, and the loss of autonomy. If we are going to develop the tar sands then let's refine the product here and be in charge of our own resources. Let's be sure we have fuel for our needs.
32003. I've been told that our farmers and our truck drivers already in the Bulkley Valley face diesel shortages. We should ensure that we have fuel for our businesses to operate. Those are our jobs.
32004. The people who will benefit from this project do not live here. They do not make their living on the Skeena or the Bulkley; they do not get their food from the valleys. The risk is too great.
32005. A pipeline carrying a toxic product through our mountains and valleys, through our streams and rivers, just makes no sense.
32006. As I've said, I've spent much of my life on the local waters, the lakes and rivers. They have an intrinsic value beyond money.
32007. If the powers that be decide in favour of this pipeline project and the rest of the components that go with it -- that's tankers and accelerated tar sands development -- then when the inevitable spill occurs, the environment is damaged, will not be cleaned up totally, and will not be replaced, words like precautions taken, mitigation measures will have little meaning.
32008. The value of what is here now, the value of the wilderness, the ability of the forest to absorb carbon dioxide, the value of fish to our economy, guiding, commercial fishing, gathering of food, both wildlife and indigenous plants, we have that now.
32009. And I do have one final point that I would like to raise to you, and it relates to what's happened in our community since this pipeline was proposed. There has been division as people struggle to try to understand what this project might

mean.

32010. We've lived for the past few years trying to figure it out and it's led to acrimony and fear. We don't know what our future holds. What if the pipeline is approved? What then when a spill happens? What of the jobs that we have here now that depend on our clean water and our salmon economy? This proposal from far away has already affected our lives.

32011. I trust that you, the Panel, will hear the concerns of the people who live here, the people who will live with the consequences of your decision. If you recommend this project, when the spill happens you will not be here to see it in person. We who live here will be here, as the residents of the Gulf of Mexico or Valdez, Alaska, or Kalamazoo continue to live after the spill.

32012. Words like taking all precautions, best pipeline technology or mitigation will not have meaning then. We trust you to make the right decision.

32013. We thank you for coming and I thank you for listening to me.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32014. **MEMBER BATEMAN:** Ms. Bayer, thank you for coming today. Please begin when you're ready.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MS. MAGDALENA BAYER:

32015. **MS. MAGDALENA BAYER:** It is amazing to speak to the issue of the Enbridge pipeline at this time and place. I first heard about this pipeline 20 years ago. At that time the rumour was dubbed conspiracy theory. We all need to ask, what is it now?

32016. Imagine, please, at least 100 people behind me speaking through me to you. By way of introduction, my micro business is land-based. We live in Wet'suwet'en territory, near the border with Kazan. I've been gardening and farming from a healing perspective, studying biological systems and energy for some 30 years.

32017. In summer, Flying Hands Farm grows garlic and onions, the premier foods for cancer prevention when grown organically. Granny M's products, herbal salve, shampoo, and toothpaste are available mail order, locally, on the internet. Formulas

were developed for drugless pain relief, a need for personal care products without cancer causing additives, recycling, and no packaging strategies.

32018. Much of our inherited, clear-cut forest is left to rejuvenate. We cherish our 30 percent wetlands filled with frogs, toads, salamanders, moose, and mosquitoes. Our Bashkir curly horses eat forested pasture. We harvest rainwater. Soil is very rocky; so rocks are used for terracing and heat retention. No tillage because there's too many rocks, and the soil micro organisms and earthworms don't like it.

32019. We're predator friendly, which means our guardian horses and dogs take care of the predators with diplomacy and hyperbole. The dogs entertained a lonely wolf for a week this past winter.

32020. We live with six hours hydro a day with passive solar earth berm geothermal bio-compost systems to date. We get a full six months of winter. It takes all our educational past experience, intuitive and professional knowledge to grow food and sustain us in rural B.C., with a highly erratic climate, growing slowly, organically.

32021. From my point of view, I'd like to look at some things that we could at least agree on. We might agree that environmental review processes in written form, and I quote, "consider comments from the general public and Aboriginal peoples". Then okay projects that kill wetlands, rare species habitat, put golf courses on burial grounds, roads through burial grounds, ski resorts on sacred great glaciers. We might agree that natural resource extraction has made Canada a rich country.

32022. Greece, in contrast is the country extracted, so to speak. The same could be said of parts of the Middle East and sub-Saharan Africa. There is still money to be made for the very few from minerals and oil in the earth's crust. The general populations are controlled through poverty and more brutal means.

32023. Point being; as the beauty and natural diversity of a region diminishes, as forests are cut, as water is not protected so the mental and physical health of humans living there diminishes. Haiti was forest once. How much peace have the people of Afghanistan?

32024. We may agree statistically, Canada is the most urban society in the industrialized world. Most Canadians live in cities. The cherished and exalted Canadian landscape immortalized in culture and art is considered by some to be uninhabited industrial fodder.

32025. First Nations and other folks that choose to live rurally with partial infrastructure, partial access to services, a fraction of the jobs provided by a high population base don't have it easy. Rural residents are the last best protectors of Canadian wilderness.
32026. We may agree that Edmonton and Winnipeg being the exception, the comfy climate zones of Canada are well populated, taken up for human use. Here, up north, it's much trickier to survive, grow and get food, live with any independence. In fact, be it food, oil, water, or energy, the system is designed to make people vulnerable, dependant on big business with no options. Enbridge threatens our water and our food supply.
32027. We might agree that money buys the good life, that conspicuous consumerism makes a good impression, it feels good, reminds you that you are the special privileged people. Your duty is for you and yours to remain part of the privileged, not the multitude of other people, wildlife, ecosystems that become the expendables.
32028. One may audaciously believe that the more civilized, educated, superior races have control of the planet now. Then we may agree that indigenous people are being effectively assimilated and extinguished and are a rare endangered species of human-kind, along with rural populations in Canada.
32029. We can all agree that Canadians need jobs. But the bunch in behind me that I speak for, the folks behind me want helpful, constructive, productive work.
32030. I quote, "Chip it, strip it, rip it, ship it, burn it, churn it, dam it, slam it, crash it, dash it, waste it". The planet's taken enough of this. Being tools of business and soul-sucking work leaves empty space here. That space is filled with useless toys, stuff, distractions, alcohol, drugs at what cost? We may all agree that rural Canadians, especially in the Pacific Northwest are neither feeble-minded nor fainthearted.
32031. My statement to the Panel is that planet earth is a cooperative endeavour. The vast planetary system cannot be understood by humans if they are truly informed, neither arrogant, nor ignorant, nor that terrific combination of both.
32032. My statement to you is that First Nations have more right to the land than monetary multinational and industry interests and the Queen of England. The time is

now to stand in support of First Nations rights with sincere hope that indigenous people are the wiser, kinder occupiers of the land.

32033. Human cycle circles are poised eternally inevitably for change. Gas, hydro, biofuels, geothermal, solar, wind, tidal, energy conservation, efficiency, optimum placements of buildings in the landscape, insulation, small community systems, these are all energy of the now and to come. Canada, Canadians could be leaders in what is the next best step in energy systems.
32034. As I said before, I heard of this pipeline for tar sands oil export along with the next pipeline to export Canadian water 20 years ago. Whether Canada is owned by the people who live here or Canada is owned by industrial and monetary interests is the issue here.
32035. The old ways no longer work. Proponents of businesses usual will only be able to persevere without dated schemes through crazy policies, passing laws that reveal factious attitudes, unjustifiable behaviour, criminality and cheating. As long as there's people of the land, who love the land, this Enbridge pipeline and tanker traffic cannot be.
32036. In this case, the path of resistance is the path of the heart. It is meaningful, potent and cannot be ignored. The idea of cooperation with the earth as a way of living is a concept we must regain on a local and global scale if humans are to survive and evolve.
32037. We thank you for this opportunity to speak, for an opportunity to heal historical wounds, for an opportunity to voice and share our collective dreams, building solidarity, strong rural community and collective wholeness.
- (Applause/Applaudissements)
32038. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Welcome, Mr. Briennesse. Please proceed when you're ready.
- **ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. PHIL BRIENESSE:**
32039. **MR. PHIL BRIENESSE:** (Speaking in native language)
32040. I begin my address to you today in the traditional manner of the Wet'suwet'en people, in part to recognize we conduct our business today on

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Wet'suwet'en land, Gitgumden territory, but also to acknowledge the special connection that the Wet'suwet'en have to this place, to the land, and to the river.

32041. For generations the Wet'suwet'en people have been protectors of the land. They teach their children to care for the land and the river so it will provide for them and for future generations.

32042. I have done my research and for many reasons feel that the risks involved in this project are just too great and a likelihood of a spill is just too high. I will not provide you with all the scientific reasons to back that up, as I know there are far greater intellectual minds than myself who will provide evidence disputing Enbridge's claims of economic prosperity and safety measures.

32043. What I would like to talk to you today is the connection that I have developed with Smithers and how this project threatens my way of life. I moved to Smithers in 1995, and I've enjoyed time on the ski hill, hiking and camping in the back country, mountain biking, and most recently have become an avid angler and fly tier.

32044. My wife and I try and provide as much as we can for ourselves. We have a house on the river where we garden, raise chickens and tend bees. We try and supplement our food with fish as well, although I admit, I'm not a very good fisherman.

32045. Living on the river I am intimately acquainted with its cycles. Many nights in the spring I have stayed up late listening to the thunder of rocks rolling along the river bottom from the sheer force of moving water and flood. Now I wonder how will they clean up a spill when the river is that high and moving that fast.

32046. It is not unusual for the river to overflow onto a portion of our property in the spring. I used to worry if it would reach our house, as it has before, now I will be worrying about what that water will do to my land, my drinking water, if it is contaminated from a spill.

32047. My little piece of the earth where I raise my family and my food is directly put in jeopardy by this project.

32048. Like the Wet'suwet'en, I consider myself a protector of the land, Smithers in particular. I choose to do this through political involvement. I was elected to Town Council in the last municipal election in part because of my stance against this project.

32049. There are many people in our community who make their livings directly from the river; guides and outfitters, retail stores, hotels, tourism operators and anglers. There are many people who depend on what the river provides for food and recreation.
32050. The Bulkley River is so much a part of this place, the people; it's who we are and what we do. I can't imagine a spill on our river like the Enbridge spill in Michigan, particularly in the wake of the government's decision to close the B.C. Oil Spill Centre. I can't imagine the river being closed for two years like it was in Michigan. Who knows when it will be safe for them to eat the fish there again, to kayak and canoe in the river. I don't want to imagine what that would do to peoples' way of life here.
32051. It is my duty as a councillor to ensure that Smithers thrives as a community. This project will provide no economic benefits for our area and at the same time threatens the livelihoods of many people.
32052. Enbridge is asking us to take all of the risks for their corporate benefit and so other countries can benefit from refining the raw product. I fail to see how this even benefits our country as a whole, a point that economists have also made. To this effect I am proud that I have played a part in our council passing a resolution opposing the pipeline.
32053. When I was trying to writing this speech I was having a difficult time deciding what to say. My wife asked me why I felt it was so important to speak, that I took the time to sign up and didn't just write a letter.
32054. Well, everything I have talked about to this point is important; my answer to that question was, I think, the most important. I said because I think everyone who is opposed to this project should speak up loudly and clearly to the Panel so you can hear the passion in our voices, the concern, and understand how strongly we feel this project is just wrong, and most importantly, because of my two and a half year old daughter Fiona.
32055. When she is an adult and there is no more salmon because of a spill on the river from this project, I want to be able to look her in the eyes and say I did everything I could to stop it from happening.
32056. The qualities I spoke about at the beginning of my address, the connection

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to the land, to the river, to this special place we call Smithers is something that I feel is very strong in many of us. Like the Wet'suwet'en I would also like to teach my child to care for and protect the land but there must be something there worth caring for.

32057. Now I know that may sound a little melodramatic but I feel very strongly that if this project goes through eventually there will be an incident that changes this place forever and the people that are connected to it.

32058. Now it seems this government plans on approving this project regardless of what we have to say, but I would ask the Panel to listen to us anyway and make the right choice and not recommend this project be approved.

32059. Thank you. Misiyh

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

--- (A short pause/Courte pause)

32060. **MR. MATTHEWS:** Okay, good afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Conway. So I understand you'll be both sharing the presentation together. So, okay -- okay, we look forward to your presentation.

32061. Thank you.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. DAVID CONWAY AND MS. ZITA CONWAY:

32062. **MS. ZITA CONWAY:** Thank you for giving us the opportunity to present our concerns to the Panel.

32063. We understand that the task of the Joint Review Panel is to examine whether the Northern Gateway pipeline would be in the national interest, a balance of environmental, economic and social interests. The pipeline debate has been framed as a classic conflict between economy versus environment.

32064. The Joint Review Panel has heard and will be hearing from hundreds of people who are eloquently and passionately expressing their concerns about the environmental effect of the pipeline for this region.

32065. We would like to focus on the other two legs of the stool; whether building the pipeline would be in the overall economic and social interests of the whole of Canada. We will be referring constantly to the economic and social effect of expanding the oil sands industry as the pipeline is after all being built for that purpose, not for its own sake.
32066. This is also necessary, because as we understand it, the vast majority of the economic benefits that the government talks about and Northern Gateway promised in its Volume 2 submission, are based on the growth in the oil sands that will result from the pipeline, not the building and maintenance of the pipeline itself.
32067. The Canadian Energy Research Institute, May 2011 report on Economic Impact of New Oil Sands Projects in Alberta 2010 to 2035, assumes that production of bitumen from the oil sands will more than double in the next 25 years.
32068. The first aspect of the national economic interest we would like to consider is the effect of the deliberately increasing oil prices.
32069. The business case for building the pipeline is built around making oil prices paid in North America, paid in Canada for our oil to go up, forcing American and Canadian refineries to compete with those in Asia.
32070. What would be the effect of this price increase on the rest of the country outside the oil patch? At this point, we should confess our own selfish economic interests in this. We do drive a car or two.
32071. We live in the country, 33 kilometres from here and we drive a lot of kilometres every year. So a plan to raise the price of oil by selling a lot of it to China will certainly affect us and our neighbours directly. Ultimately, higher fuel costs will depress our real estate values as it is less affordable to commute to town to work.
32072. But this isn't about us. It is obvious that higher fuel prices inflate the cost of everything, including doing business in farming, mining, manufacturing and retail, to name a few.
32073. As the energy sector gets stronger at the expense of most other sectors, all of our economic eggs will be increasingly in one basket. We move away from diversification.
32074. Living in an area that has always been heavily dependent on cutting trees

and mining rocks, we know how relying on just one or two resource industries makes you far more exposed to boom and bust cycles than places like Vancouver.

32075. **MR. DAVID CONWAY:** However, the government keeps telling us that we don't have to worry because we all benefit from becoming an energy superpower. In the 1950s it was said that what is good for General Motors is good for America.

32076. Today, the underlying assumption seems to be that what is good for Alberta is good for Canada. No question, the benefits of growth in the oil sands are very one-sided. This is very clear in -- in terms of a contribution to the gross domestic product and jobs.

32077. In the CERI's 2011 report Zita mentioned, Table 2.1 shows the economic impact of investment and operations for the next 25 years. If we crunch the numbers we find the following: The oil sands are forecast to contribute \$2.1 trillion to Canada's GDP, 94 percent of that is in Alberta. But one-quarter of that figure is wages and salaries and almost 90 percent of that is paid out in Alberta.

32078. Of all the oil -- sorry, of all the employment forecast to result, an average of around 400,000 full-time job equivalent per year, 86 percent of those jobs would be in Alberta.

32079. This means that on average only around 56,000 jobs in the rest of Canada would result from the oil sands. That sounds like a lot until you hear that 80,000 jobs being created or lost is just a normal monthly fluctuation of the labour market.

32080. **MS. ZITA CONWAY:** Of course, it's obviously true that people from all over Canada have flocked to Alberta to work. They may live in Alberta now or for a lot of the time but they send a chunk of their paycheques home to New Brunswick or Newfoundland or Northern B.C.

32081. So the argument goes that a lot of those fat oil patch incomes make their way back to the rest of the country in the same way that Turkey benefits from its migrant labourers in Switzerland and Germany; the same way that Bangladesh families are supported by their fathers and brothers working in Dubai.

32082. But it's becoming a country of migrant or displaced labourers a healthy thing economically and socially? It is well known that Alberta has been already suffering from a labour shortage for a number of years because of the boom in the oil sands production.

32083. We recently had a conversation with a young man in his late twenties who grew up as one of our neighbours in Quake. He now works as a heavy duty mechanic in Edson, working on machines that are used in industry far to the south of the oil sands.
32084. Having just completed his apprenticeship in the last two years, he's already in charge of the company shop and has new trainees working under him. He earns very good money and talks about how hard it is to find and keep skilled workers because of all the extraordinary high wages tempting employees north into the oil sands. He mentioned \$100,000 signing bonuses, for example.
32085. **MR. DAVID CONWAY:** So what's not to like? Lots of jobs with good pay is all good news, right?
32086. Let's consider the metaphor of the oil sands as a black hole. Never mind the literal similarities and the effect on surrounding space. A black hole has so much mass and thus so much gravity that surrounding objects tend to get sucked into it and the space nearby becomes distorted.
32087. The oil sands' profitability and huge thirst for labour means that its jobs pay much more than most other industries can afford to pay; this means distortion in the labour market, both in Alberta and in the rest of the country.
32088. The oil industry and resource industries in general, as well as construction, tend to be tilted towards work suitable for strong young men like our former neighbour. Heavy physical work, the tendency to long hours and for oil, relatively isolated locations all contribute to this.
32089. With an aging population, strong younger men are already becoming an increasingly scarce part of the demographic compared to 30 years ago. Without massive immigration this will only get worse.
32090. The problem is that the rest of the country also needs its share of construction workers and skilled trades people, and can't afford to compete with oil sands' wages.
32091. A report released by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in February calls the labour shortage the most severe barrier facing businesses in this country. Over the next 10 years alone it projects a national shortfall of over 210,000 workers

in construction, trucking and skilled metal trades.

32092. That list of jobs pits the oil patch, with its inflated wages, in competition against other parts of the country for workers with similar or identical skills.

32093. Amazingly, they are even now talking of a labour shortage in Newfoundland and Labrador. So many younger men have left to work elsewhere, half of them to Alberta, that the province now has the oldest median age in the country.

32094. It isn't just your St. John's reno contractor who can't keep up with Alberta wages. The manager of construction for Vale's \$3 billion nickel processing plant on Placentia Bay said in a Globe article in December that:

"They can't compete with the wages and benefits that are offered in the Alberta Oil Sands."

32095. This is a clear example of how encouraging the unlimited growth of the oil sands has negative effects on the economy and the rest of the country.

32096. **MS. ZITA CONWAY:** Where might this national labour shortage end? The obvious solution is to do what has happened in Europe and is now starting in Canada; bringing migrant workers from other countries.

32097. This doesn't mean immigration with its use of backlog and careful screening, but hiring temporary workers with no long-term right to stay in this country other than the jobs for which they are imported.

32098. It seems obvious that workers from developing countries will work for less than Canadians, at least in the context of Canadians who would have to leave their families and move across the country for the job. It becomes impossible to fill many positions with Canadian workers. More temporary workers from overseas will be brought in to work for less.

32099. So gradually, wages will start to come down. This will make it less attractive for workers from the Atlantic Provinces or B.C. to go to Alberta, away from their families. And the Alberta labour shortage will get worse with the result that more migrant labourers are brought in and the cycle continues.

32100. The companies will be happy because their labour costs are going down

and the mine at Placentia Bay will be happy to have more workers, but there is no happy ending for everyone if Europe is any guide.

32101. Migrant labour brings with it social tension and resentment, especially when it comes to the point that the home-grown unemployed can't afford to live on the lower wages that the migrants accept. All Canadians workers may start to resent the downward pressure on their paycheques that result from a lot of cheaper imported labour.

32102. **MR. DAVID CONWAY:** But for now, it is mostly Canadians from other provinces who migrate to Alberta to seek work. What are the social effects of this? Boom towns back to the days of the gold rushes have historically tended to be full of young men with too much money, too fast and too little wisdom in the spending of it.

32103. I remember one of my friends going to Alberta in the first boom in the late '70s, coming back with no money and stories of how all his money got gambled away and spent on drugs and alcohol.

32104. How much has changed since then? Well, our daughter graduated from high school here in Smithers just a few years ago, 2006. By October, one of the young men in her graduating class was dead of a cocaine overdose in the oil sands. Some call it "Fort McCrack".

32105. In 2008, when the recession hit there were several fathers of my elementary school teachers -- sorry, of my elementary school students -- who went away to Alberta to work because of the layoffs in the forest industry here. They were living in Houston.

32106. I'm sure they were very glad of the income to tide them over, but I also know it took a toll on their wives and children. There was more than one student who missed his father when he was away for months at a time to the point it really affected his behaviour, his concentration and his school work.

32107. So these are some glimpses of the social costs of the oil boom economy. On the one hand, you have the young men with too much money sucked into drugs and alcohol, and on the other, the responsible fathers who aren't able to be there to help raise their families.

32108. In both cases, men have gone to where the money is, but not to where their community is, and there is a cost.

32109. For all those jobs in oil, won't they mean lots of cash and taxes and royalties for social services? That's what we're told.
32110. It is not readily apparent from the CERI numbers how much future oil sands revenue could be attributed to this particular pipeline. So we're relying on the numbers provided by Volume 2 of the Northern Gateway Submission of May 2010.
32111. On page 14, they forecast government revenue, federal and provincial, for the first 30 years to be \$81 billion. Now, \$81 billion sounds like a lot of money at first glance. Let's look at the numbers a little harder. Spread over 30 years -- that's the timeline they give -- that is an average of \$2.7 billion per year, both federal and provincial.
32112. Of that \$2.7 billion, how much stays in Alberta versus how much is benefiting the rest of Canada? According to the CERI projections for the next 25 years, Alberta's combined tax and royalty revenues would come in at \$455 billion, while federal tax revenues would be \$311 billion. That is very close to a 60/40 split of revenue with a 60 percent staying in Alberta.
32113. So we're looking at an average per year of 1.6 billion for Alberta and just over a mere one billion for the federal government coffers. Now, \$1 billion sounds like a lot of money. But by way of comparison, it is less than half of 1 percent of the revenues for this year's federal budget. It is less than 1/30 of the federal deficit this past year.
32114. So according to the figures in Volume 2 of the Northern Gateway Submission of May 2010, the overall effect on government revenues proportionally for this country, outside Alberta, over the 30-year period cited will be closed to negligible.
32115. How willing are Albertans to go beyond their current contribution and subsidize the rest of the country through higher equalization payments and higher taxes? To judge by the deficits run by the Alberta provincial government, maybe they won't be so keen or, for that matter, able to send more of their windfall elsewhere.
32116. We didn't hear any of the candidates in today's election run on a platform of "Let's be more generous with the rest of Canada".

--- (Laughter/Rires)

32117. **MR. DAVID CONWAY:** It is fair to raise the question whether the way the oil sands are run is even good for Alberta, never mind the rest of us.

32118. In recent years there have been criticisms made by -- you may call them radicals, Peter Lougheed and his former cabinet -- who have said that Alberta's oil is being given away with ridiculously low royalty rates. They point out that since the 1980s almost no money has been retained and invested for the long term.

32119. And now Danielle Smith wants to write checks directly to Albertans like Ralph Klein did. Maybe it isn't just the young single men with the gambling and crack who don't know how to spend their money wisely.

--- (Laughter/Rires)

32120. **MR. DAVID CONWAY:** And it seems that it is not just cocaine but also easy money that's addictive.

32121. I met a man at my 30th high school reunion in Victoria who had spent most of that time -- that 30 years -- in Alberta. He told me that in the 1980s, during the oil bust, there was a bumper sticker in Alberta and it read: "Lord, grant me another boom and I promise not to piss it away this time."

--- (Laughter/Rires)

32122. **MR. DAVID CONWAY:** He told me the bumper sticker had lied.

32123. The bottom line, we think that a half of 1 percent contribution to national revenues, the handful of jobs in all the other provinces that aren't Alberta are not worth the risk to our rivers and marine life, not worth the social disruptions and addictions, and not worth the labour shortages and damage to other sectors in the -- most of the rest of the country.

32124. If being an energy superpower brought happiness, the average person in Nigeria, Libya and Saudi Arabia would have been as happy as clams for the last few decades.

32125. Thank you for your time.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32126. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** As we mentioned in the beginning, the oral statements are an opportunity for participants to provide your personal views and concerns about the proposed project to the Panel.

32127. We understand that you're concerned about further development of the Oil Sands, but we've been clear on a number of occasions that we will not be considering these issues in our decisions that we need to make.

32128. We've outlined in a number of places why we won't be including the environmental effects of Oil Sands development to the list of issues for the project.

32129. So we didn't want to interrupt you; you've spent a lot time preparing for this. But we are interested -- for everybody here -- to hear personal views about the proposed project. That's the scope of what we're here to listen to today.

32130. Thank you.

32131. **MR. BATEMAN:** Mr. Davidson, thank you for coming today. Please proceed.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. JIM DAVIDSON:

32132. **MR. JIM DAVIDSON:** Thank you very, very much, Members of the Panel.

32133. I'm probably going to change my track a little bit because of what has just happened. First I'm going to say this to you; my name is Jim Davidson. I was born in this town over some 80 years ago. I've grown up here. It's not only been my home, it's been where I have lived and there's a difference.

32134. I have been Mayor of this town; I have served on councils for 20 years; I have been honoured for having participated in my community.

32135. I'm saying things slightly differently because I understand clearly why you're here. Your task is the environmental review. I understand that. And I'm going to -- and it's not an apology; it's an explanation.

32136. Our people take an active concern in our area, in our valley. That concern

was over-weighted when remarks to the effect that radicals and NIMBY's and so on wanted to take over this process.

32137. I know that wasn't going to happen with you, but I want you to understand that it's still important that you come, that you are here, that you're going to listen to our concerns about our rivers and our valleys, that this is not -- yes, it is about other things but first and foremost for the people, it's about here. It's about this place, it's about those rivers.

32138. My business is farming, I farm with my sons. Now, in actual fact, you know, at times in the past couple of years we haven't been able to get diesel fuel; in other words, they couldn't come and fill our tanks.

32139. You know, there are some problems with the system, but that's not why I understand you are here. You are here to hear what we have to say about our rivers and our valleys. Now, this is what Wet'suwet'en said to me. I've known them all my life. No fish, no future.

32140. The Wet'suwet'en have lived here with us and never starved to death; they have always provided for themselves. The reason for this is that the rivers had fish, that they smoked them and that was how they provided for their people.

32141. You probably never heard of Haglegate. Haglegate is a little community down near Hazelton. It's on the Bulkley River. Haglegate is in Gitxsan territory. Haglegate came into being because of a rock fall on the Bulkley.

32142. Now, what are the people going to do; wait at Moricetown, the canyon, where they normally catch their food and every fish that gets through that rock fall and gets to the canyon has to make its way to spawn? No.

32143. Those people were wise. The Gitxsan saw their need, they caught the fish before the rock fall, and those that escaped through the rock fall got to be the spawners for the future. No fish, no future.

32144. Look, for this country, our rivers, those mountains, the things you see are our future. You might say to me, well, the commercial fishery on the Fraser River is finished, is it? The Fraser -- the fishery, commercial fishery on the Skeena Bulkley is in peril, is it?

32145. These are things that lie in the environmental area, things that we all have

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to be concerned about. And I know it isn't specific to your project, but the perseverance and the ability to continue having fish, having that resource is crucial to our future.

32146. You -- when did the sports fishery really happen; in the forties. You probably by now have heard of Rainbow Valley, that wonderful piece of water on the Babine that even amateurs like me can catch wonderful trout in. That wonderful water was visited by Bing Crosby, by Bob Hope.

32147. Those were names in the world. They came here and fished. And a national treasure was found because it was a financial treasure, as well as one that we all enjoyed. And we all enjoy it. We fish there.

32148. But the dollars generated by the pipeline are nothing compared to those for tourism. Let me -- I'm going to read you this. Here's some figures I was given; they come from the Town of Smithers.

32149. A number of years ago when I was Mayor we were able to get a hotel room tax. Now, these numbers I'm going to read you are that. This isn't tourism dollars, these numbers -- and I've just got them for 2007 through 2011.

32150. Two thousand seven (2007), \$107,439 -- \$107,439 tax that came out of the hotels because of tourism, because of people that came here, because of visitors to our valleys and our mountains.

32151. Not the gross. I can't give you the gross, and nobody really knows that, but I can tell you this is a real number. It shrunk. The economy has shrunk.

32152. In 2009, it was only \$95,960 taxed, paid into the coffers of Smithers to promote tourism. Well, last year, it was up to \$108,155 of tax revenue that went to the Town of Smithers from tourism. Tax revenue, not the gross, but that one small indicator of how important, how vital that industry is to these communities.

32153. The passion of the people for their valley is understood. The economic value is misunderstood. It isn't just the value of the fish; it's not just the fishermen; if you go down to the bridge now you'll see the river is pretty dirty. If you go down there at the end of June you'll see a beautiful, beautiful blue river.

32154. Lots of supreme value to this valley is that water running through it. It's that river. It's that water that's available to you if you're an industry and you're

interest in our valley. We have water. It's essential to our life here, and it's not just fish. That's -- that's part of our lives, and it certainly is part of our business.

32155. But here we are asking you to consider the southern river at the south end of Babine where the pipeline crosses through, to consider the Morice, avalanche prone. The best I ever could have done for you I can't do because I would have taken Roy Morris (ph) and Dan Michel (ph) and had you go into the Morice, and they could show you.

32156. That land is sacred to the Wet'suwet'en because their people have lived here and have existed because it's there.

32157. What could you do? I really don't know, but I do ask this. Your mandate is to look at the environmental concerns that might be raised by that pipeline. I don't know the answers. I don't know the conclusions.

32158. I do know we're all concerned that -- and I'm not trying to be insulting -- that maybe some of your task has been lifted from your shoulders.

32159. But we are asking -- I am asking that you look at this situation, that you evaluate it, that you, in your respective -- you are knowledgeable people in this area. You don't look at this, that, the other. You look at the task that was given you; you look at our valley, at our rivers, and you decide for them. Thank you.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32160. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Welcome, Mr. Goalder. Please proceed when you're ready.

--- **ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. DON GOALDER:**

32161. **MR. DON GOALDER:** Thank you very much. I'd like to welcome the Panel to Smithers, and I would like to thank the Wet'suwet'en people for allowing us to meet here on their territory in this issue that is such concern to them and all the rest of us.

32162. Unlike Mr. Davidson, I wasn't born here. I came by way of kind of a process, I guess. I was born in Calgary, kind of a connection now. But I moved to Stewart in 1970 before there was even a road in there, and I've lived in Northern B.C. ever since that time.

32163. I've lived 25 years now in the Bulkley Valley because I found this was the best place that I could live and raise my family. I've never found any place that I thought would be better.
32164. I've done my share in raising my seven kids. Four of them presently live in the Bulkley Valley along with my four grandchildren. I supported my family by working as a heavy duty mechanic, as a logger, as a construction worker.
32165. Most of my livelihood was earned in the resource industry, mining, logging, what have you. And I well understand the importance of those resources to everything we have; our hospitals, our roads, everything in our life.
32166. My career was spent mostly in what the Workers' Compensation Board here in B.C. used to call "A hazard industries". That means it's a little more dangerous than the work most people did. And you soon figure out that the way you stay alive in that environment is by assessing the risk everywhere you go, looking at it, thinking about it, never stopping thinking about it. You do your risk assessment and then you act accordingly. Nothing else works.
32167. The proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline would cross the Fraser, Skeena drainages, many others. A spill in any of the salmon-bearing streams would be catastrophic for at least generations, if not bringing extinction to the salmon.
32168. In addition, in the event of a spill, this would not cause the pipeline to be abandoned. There's too much money in it. So the pipeline would be repaired and used again. These waters are not at risk of a single spill but of many, again and again, over the decades-long life of the proposed pipeline.
32169. There's plenty of evidence that pipelines do leak, especially as they age. Much of this pipeline would be situated in mountainous terrain, terrain I've worked in and I know it well, is subject to floods, avalanches and other acts of nature. Access in the event of a spill would be difficult; in winter, close to impossible.
32170. I worked for years as a logger, hand logger, high-lead logger, tugboat deck hand from Work Channel down to Princess Royal Island, the same waters that are proposed as tanker route. And this is what I learned out there. Rocks don't move. Everything else does, wind, water and especially the vessels on that water. They all move, but the rocks are there.

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32171. Wind changes everything. Wind changes direction suddenly. The larger the vessel, the more area for the wind to push on. In most of the channels these vessels would be operating, there is not enough room for one of these very large crude carriers to come about into the wind. If it's coming from broadside, they take it broadside, and they go sideways. Anybody that thinks differently hasn't been there.

32172. This brings me back to risk assessment. Any way I look at it, the risk of destruction of our environment, whether it's our rivers or our coastline, it's not worth it for whatever money can come from a couple of generations worth of oil pipeline.

32173. As a grandfather and as an old logger, I say walk away from this one. We have to walk away. Thank you.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

--- (A short pause/Courte pause)

32174. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Thanks, Ruth.

32175. Welcome, Ms. Howard. Please present to the Panel. Thanks.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MS. ALI HOWARD:

32176. **MS. ALI HOWARD:** Thank you, Members of the Panel, for taking the time to listen to myself and the rest of the presenters this week, and thank you to Chief Namox and the Wet'suwet'en for inviting us to be on the territory and for speaking out so well in January and with such conviction and determination.

32177. In 2009, I had the unique opportunity and privilege to swim the entire length of the Skeena River. It was an undertaking that was brought about by my conviction that plans like this one, the Enbridge pipeline, are not equitable for residents of the Skeena watershed.

32178. They don't offer long-term jobs and the cost beyond the dollar cost of mounting these projects -- this particular project, the human cost, the cultural cost and the environmental costs are just too high, they don't make sense to me.

32179. I was very reluctant to talk to you today about the swim because I didn't want to come across as self-aggrandizing. As a small business owner here in Smithers I could speak to the fact that I'm concerned about the health of my

community should the pipeline go through and the long-term health of it beyond that.

32180. As a chef I could express my worry over food security should there be a pipeline leak in the event that the pipeline is built. But I finally came to the conclusion that I bear a responsibility to all of the people that supported me during the swim and continue to support me now.

32181. For instance, I was given a speaking feather in the Village of Kitseguella and with it comes the responsibility to speak for and to people from my heart. So I thought it was doing a disservice to people not to mention the swim.

32182. The swim had the twin goals of raising awareness about industrial projects and bringing residents of the Skeena watershed together to form a dialogue for the future of the watershed.

32183. During the swim and after the swim I spoke with literally hundreds of people within the watershed and the consensus was clear, people here want clean water and salmon for the future, future generations. As Jim said earlier; no fish, no future.

32184. I heard again and again how salmon or the river are the lifeblood of each of the communities along the Skeena River. This is in stark contrast to the Mayor of Whitecourt who in a January interview with CBC Radio suggested that -- or didn't suggest, stated that pipelines are the lifeblood of his. People here know that you can neither drink nor eat oil.

32185. In the months following the swim there was an atmosphere of hope, of great ideas, people were energized. Because I'm just a regular person and someone within their community, they saw that an individual has the power to effect change and I believe that inspired a lot of people to action, people that wouldn't otherwise have spoken up or come up with their own ideas, took initiatives.

32186. What I'm seeing now, and especially since January, since your hearings began, and with each new announcement from the federal government, what I'm hearing now, because I still -- as the girl who swam the Skeena, I still engage with people on a regular basis and what I'm hearing now frightens me.

32187. The tenor of the conversation has changed; people are now full of despair, despair that their own government is not listening to them, despair that this process is not fair and in fact it's just so much lip service to the fact that the -- or the potential

that the decision is being taken out of your hands and that your recommendations won't be listened to.

32188. And beyond despair there is anger, and this is what concerns me most. The people, who I met along the swim and afterwards, were so generous and so giving. These are wonderful loving people, peaceful people, moderate people. And now what I'm hearing and what I'm sensing is great anger and what I'm afraid of is that there's the real potential for something catastrophic to happen, beyond a pipeline spill.

32189. Please don't do this to our community. Yes, I am frightened by the anger that people are conveying to me.

32190. On the day that the hearings began in Kitimat -- or not the -- in January, it was a clear blue winter's day here and you could see around the valley for miles and miles all of the red trees. We've lost our trees. We're losing our trees. Please don't let us lose our clean water and fish.

32191. Thank you very much for your time. I hope that you take everything that we're speaking to to heart. And one of the great successes of the swim was that people really felt like they were being listened to. And I hope that you're listening to all of us when we tell you no, we don't want this.

32192. Thank you.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32193. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Mr. MacKay, thank you for choosing to be with us today. Please proceed.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. DENNIS MacKAY:

32194. **MR. DENNIS MacKAY:** Well, thank you. And I would like to welcome the Panel to Smithers.

32195. I hope some of the controversy that you've encountered during your travels throughout our province will not be evident in Smithers today and I hope everybody is respectful for the people that do the presentations before you today.

32196. I'd like to start my comments by saying simply that everything we do in

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life there is a certain amount of risk attached to it, whether we drive on roads, walk across our streets, get onto an airplane or take a cruise on a large ship.

32197. What about the risk to the environment? Is there risk associated to environmental damage in our day-to-day lives?
32198. Let's look at construction jobs to build homes and roads. We disturb the ground in which our homes will be built or on the roadbeds on which we will later drive our cars. The earth, on which we rely on to sustain us, is damaged to build homes and roads but yet the planet continues to sustain us.
32199. Is anything we do in life without risk? How do we know what the risk is unless we test the components of a project to see what works and what needs improvement.
32200. Sixty (60) years ago, as a youth of 10 years in age, I watched the TransMountain Pipeline being laid through the town site of Jasper, Alberta. Jasper National Park is within the Rocky Mountain World Heritage site. To this date I am not aware of any adverse environmental damage from that original pipeline that has been in the ground now for 60 years.
32201. In 2007 I watched with great interest as a second larger diameter pipeline with a 30 to 36-inch pipe was laid within the same corridor, for the same purpose, to move oil. At full production it now moves 300,000 barrels per day to the lower mainland in British Columbia. It crosses 100 watercourses, 39 of which are fish-bearing. The pipeline runs for a distance of 158 kilometres through the National Park and in the year 2007 560 workers were involved in all aspects of laying that pipe.
32202. I am originally from the Province of Alberta and have spent the last 50 years in the Province of British Columbia in the role of serving the public. I had spent the first 28 years as a member of the RCMP, followed by 10 years as a coroner, and that was followed by eight years as an MLA.
32203. I have seen firsthand of what happens when the economy starts to suffer. My father was a coalminer in the Province of Alberta. In 1957 the demand for coal disappeared and the coalmines in the area closed, my dad was out of work.
32204. Rather than sit at home and wait for the jobs to come to him we moved to Jasper to live with my grandmother while dad went to work at the Hinton Pulp Mill which was under construction. My father had to go back to school to upgrade his

skills and he spent the rest of his working life as a pipefitter at that pulp mill.

32205. So yes, I can relate to what happens to families when the economy takes the down cycle. I have seen firsthand in my jobs in the Province of British Columbia what happens to communities who lose or don't have an economic base. I also experienced this firsthand in my family.

32206. Let's look for a moment at the social conditions when an economy does not present itself to improved living conditions.

32207. We often hear about the high unemployment rates and terrible living conditions on Indian reserves. Alcohol and drug abuse is rampant due to the lack of some purpose in life such as the prospects of a job to better the lives of their families and to instil some purpose in life to the family providers.

32208. Suicide is also very common during the poor economic times and not just on the Indian reserves. The family provider and spouse argue over financial issues and physical fights are not uncommon. The police are often called to these very unpleasant disturbances.

32209. In many other cases, the provider will find employment away from his usual home base, and this requires disruption in the family unit as the provider travels to a new job to provide for his family.

32210. With the high unemployment rates so evident on many Indian reserves because there is little or no employment opportunities, a chance of a job coming close to where they live should be a wake-up call for better things to come.

32211. Our college system throughout the Province of British Columbia offers a variety of training skills. Just to mention a few, there are training programs for large equipment operators and welding, both of which are transferable to many of the opportunities that are being offered in the northwest part of our province.

32212. What are the benefits of new jobs to the people who live here? Let me list a few that just come to mind.

32213. Skilled construction work, taxes to government, \$1.2 billion over 30 years -- not a great deal, but you know, a million here, a million there can be well spent by government -- royalties to governments from infrastructure placements; training and new skills which are transferable, as I just said; increased business for existing

business establishments, such as motels, hotels, restaurants, and gas stations; opportunities to create new businesses; increased transportation with the increase in people being hired to look after air, bus and rail travel; rental vehicle increases; housing increases as new families move into the area; more teachers due to the larger number of children in our schools; more teachers at the college to train for the increase in job skills; job opportunities and skills training for the many native Indians living on the reserves as well as other unskilled -- under skilled workers; tug boats services and maintenance; electrical and mechanical contracting; environment monitoring; fuel technicians; supplies such as concrete, gravel and building materials; clearing, logging and salvage.

32214. In total, 165 long-term jobs and \$17 million in wages created by the Kitimat operations alone. Five hundred and sixty (560) long-term jobs worth \$32 million a year in labour-related income across the province.
32215. I would like to close with a few positive thoughts on where we are today as this project moves through what is an exhaustive process. What are the risks and what are the benefits that wait for us down the road?
32216. Do we think for a moment that we will continue to get opportunities for new jobs if the project is deemed safe and the proponents of the project are told no, you cannot proceed with your project? It is so easy to say no to everything until the economy weakens and we experience the many problems that I have spoken about.
32217. We have in place something that has evolved over many years to protect the public and the environment. We have federal and provincial environmental ministries staffed by professional people who are the conscience of those of us who live in the area.
32218. The professional people who work in the ministries of environment don't come out and say yes or no every time there is a proposed project without going through the process that considers the risks associated with a project and the benefits to Canadians and British Columbians.
32219. As citizens of British Columbia, together with corporations, we also assume the risks associated with any development. I do not believe for one minute that any of us wants to proceed with a project that will damage our environment. After all, we all live here. If the risks outweigh the benefits, the project will not proceed.

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32220. One only has to look at two mining projects that have been proposed and were told no. I refer of course to KSM North, which is near a current operating mine in the northwest part of our province, and Taseko Mines, a proposed world-class mining project west of Williams Lake.

32221. As Canadians, we enjoy one of the highest standards of life on the planet. Much of the high quality of life comes from the wealth and jobs generated through the export of our natural resources. We are moving to alternate levels of energy, but we still have a long way to go. And the world moves today on oil.

32222. Thank you very much.

32223. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you very much, Mr. MacKay.

32224. Ms. Mahoney, have I got your last name pronounced correctly?

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MS. PAULINE MAHONEY:

32225. **MS. PAULINE MAHONEY:** Thank you. Hello and welcome to Smithers. I have lived in Smithers for 22 years. I am a stay-at-home mom and have a six-year old daughter and a nine-year old son. We are a single-income family with my husband providing us all income.

32226. Prior to becoming a mom, I worked as an occupational therapist in various hospitals and in my own private practice for 20 years. I state this now to emphasize that I am an ordinary Canadian and assert that my credentials do not fit the criteria of radical and I'm certainly not funded by any group to be here today.

32227. I am here to state firmly and clearly that I am opposed to the Enbridge Northern Gateway proposal. There are questions that need to be put forth to the Canadian government, to yourselves and Enbridge. It seems to me that the citizens of this region are having to work very hard to prove and express that this proposal poses a threat to our very way of life.

32228. The chasm between the people who have developed this proposal as something desirable and possible and the people like my family and community who live here seems vast and, to me, incomprehensible.

32229. Do these people who put forth this proposal not understand that we all need clean air to breathe and clean water to drink? Our opposition is about the simple

human need for clean air and clean water.

32230. What do we have to say to have our message truly heard and truly felt? What would it take for the Canadian government to say that the risk of this project outweighs the benefits, that the risks, no matter how small, are too high?
32231. If there is a pipeline or tanker leak, that the damage to local First Nations, local communities, the environment, the fish, the ecosystems, tourism, and our local economy is just too great and that it is not in the Canadian public interest to proceed. How many of us have to speak up and stand up to finally hear this from our government?
32232. What is the story that we will tell our children and our grandchildren? That we need to keep using fossil fuels at an ever-increasing rate to keep up economic growth; that we're stuck with business as usual because it was easier? Sorry about the mess we've left behind? Or will we be able to tell them the story of a transition to a low-carbon energy future instead?
32233. I believe that the Canadian government now has to step back and let the democratic process work. The Canadian government needs to develop a national energy plan that really truly addresses our energy needs and facilitates the development of diverse and innovative ways of meeting our energy needs.
32234. The government needs to stop creating such divisiveness that pits the government in hand with corporations against local citizens. People can become radicalized when pushed into a corner by a government that refuses to listen and corporations who use their incredible wealth and power to subjugate us.
32235. You have traveled this region now. I assume you have seen our beautiful rivers, the mountains and the coastline. Surely you have been moved by the incredible beauty around you, by the dignity and the power of the First Nations people who live here.
32236. This is my home and my children's future is here, and their children's future is dependent on what we can do now, on what we do now. Excuse me, I did not realize how emotional I would become.
32237. I will not be silent and I will not stand by and let the potential for my children and my grandchildren to grow up in a clean environment, alongside a thriving First Nations people be spoiled by this rush to export our raw resources.

32238. This is not the way of the future. Building a pipeline for export demonstrates a hanging on to a fossil fuel dependency. The proposal reflects a clinging to of an old way of exploiting the environment without a care to the future when smart governments around the world have already realized that now is the time to move off oil dependency.
32239. Building a pipeline now ensures continued resource instruction -- extraction and oil dependency. This approach indicates to me that our government has no recognition of, has no intent, and is not preparing for a transition to a low carbon energy future.
32240. Canada needs to smarten up. We know all the arguments in support of this proposal regarding job creation and to build the economy, but where is the sense in destroying local economies and environments in the process.
32241. I implore you, the Joint Review Panel, to act independently of Mr. Harper and Enbridge, to give us back the faith that we do have a voice and that this process is truly their voice.
32242. I implore this Panel to put forth that Mr. Harper has to face our energy needs in a new and more sustainable manner. I believe Canada can indeed become an energy superpower by developing long-term policies that ensure we can supply our own clean energy to all Canadians first and foremost.
32243. This proposal is asking us to accept the unacceptable. Why would anyone think it is acceptable to knowingly risk our waterways?
32244. At the end of this process what will your story be for your grandchildren? Do the right thing and reject this proposal. It is not in the Canadian public interest to proceed.
32245. Thank you.
- (Applause/Applaudissements)
32246. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Good afternoon, Mr. Meyer.
32247. Please go ahead.

32248. **MR. NICK MEYER:** Hi.

32249. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Okay.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. NICK MEYER:

32250. **MR. NICK MEYER:** Thank you.

32251. Thank you for allowing me to present today.

32252. Clear your minds as you listen to me speak. Please, I know we're -- it's a bit of a stuffy room and it's -- you guys have to hear a lot here, I think, so I'm trying to spice it up a bit for you maybe.

--- (Laughter/Rires)

32253. **MR. NICK MEYER:** Just -- just relax and -- I mean, if it's not -- if everything that I say doesn't fit in exactly, just -- you guys are doing a great job of riding it out anyways, so.

32254. I'm here as an engaged Canadian. My name is Nick Meyer; I am an optimistic young father. I speak on behalf of myself, my wife, Nika, my kids, Ruby May and my son Max, who is here; he's 15 days old today.

32255. Following the news headlines over the last few years I can't help but get excited. In a time of world-wide economic recession Canada as a country has merely had its feathers ruffled in comparison to other first world countries.

32256. This leg up presents us with opportunity; opportunity to contribute on the global stage, leading by example. Opportunity to become a modern Canada, embracing the challenge of investing in ourself, embracing the challenge, because it's going to be a challenge and that's okay, in achieving long-term sustainable management of our resources, opportunity to reinvent our business model as a country, prioritizing the morals of its citizens first.

32257. Imposing multinational corporate infrastructure on Northwest B.C. that exports raw Canadian resource diminishes these opportunities. I believe completion of this project, as proposed, disregards this country's most important resource; that is the fundamental values of Canadian citizens.

32258. This is the tough part.

32259. Growing up on Prince Edward Island, on a small family potato farm, I have seen the adverse effects of rapid commercialization.

32260. Always the tough part, right? I got lots of time.

32261. All right, I have seen firsthand the adverse effects of rapid commercialization on the agriculture industry. Experiencing international buyers and processors diminishing the value of our product and steering our markets was my first taste of industry's hasty and poor decisions.

32262. We lost the family farm. My brothers and I moved west working in forestry. I made it.

32263. Again, I've seen such dramatic mistakes. Reforesting dead monoculture tree plantations two and three times over, seek and destroy pine beetle pest control programs, both examples of industry's malpractice at the cost of our environment and our tax dollar.

32264. I have made mistakes in my life. I acknowledge them, rather than repeat them. With acknowledgement they cease to be mistakes but they evolve into lessons.

32265. Canada has made mistakes with resource management. We all can attest to that. We need to acknowledge them rather than repeat them. We must attain our lessons.

32266. My wife and I own and operate a business here in Smithers. We have found that basing our decisions with our business on our fundamental values of community and quality before immediate return in income, not only does our quality of life improve but more often than not we exceed our projections.

32267. There's no mathematical -- I haven't found anything for that. Maybe I'll invent it in my lifetime and then I'll be able to just show you guys the numbers then. Being happy and caring about what you do works better for everybody. I'm not there yet though.

--- (Laughter/Rires)

32268. **MR. NICK MEYER:** As a bonus we have found that our clients and

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suppliers tend to be influenced by the way we operate and do the same. And this turn compounds making us happier as a family and allowing us to succeed as a business.

32269. A modern approach based on old ideas and methods. A modern approach based on old ideas and methods, this is what our country wants.

32270. My JRP representatives, you know that this pipeline project is tempting environmental tragedy, creating cultural divides, and is economically irresponsible and unsustainable. You have heard the reasons to oppose and will continue to hear them again and again the whole time you're here.

32271. I want you to hear something new. I want to present you with something positive. I give you my trust.

32272. As you compile your report to reflect the interests of Canadians know that I trust this process. Sheila, Kenneth, Hans -- sorry, cut off the web page -- as Canadians you need to go above and beyond the boundaries of your job description; impose the long-term interests of Canadians, the interests of my children.

32273. You are strong important people doing much more than a job here. Ensure this process works. Thank you for your dedication and hard work. You must help us encourage our government to come up with something better than this. We are better than this.

32274. Thank you.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32275. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Let's take a 15-minute break. According to my watch it's five to three, so we'll come back at 10 after three.

32276. Thank you.

--- Upon recessing at 2:52 p.m./L'audience est suspendue à 14h52

--- Upon resuming at 3:08 p.m./L'audience est reprise à 15h08

32277. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** If we can get everyone to take their seats, we'll get ready to get underway again. Thank you.

32278. Just as we get underway, is Ms. Carol Bob in the audience? No.

32279. Okay, thank you.

--- (A short pause/Courte pause)

32280. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Good afternoon, Ms. Nugent.

32281. Thank you very much for being with us to share your oral statement.
Please proceed when you're ready.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MS. JOANNE NUGENT:

32282. **MS. JOANNE NUGENT:** My name is Joanne Nugent. I was really nervous about coming here today, but having listened to some of the other people make their oral presentations I've calmed down somewhat.

32283. I think it's really good that I can only read without my glasses on so I can't actually see the faces of people. But I do -- I see fuzzy outlines of you, and I can generally tell by hairstyles of the people in our town who they are.

32284. I'm really happy that I've been able to register and participate in a process that speaks to my heart on so many levels, politically, and some of the values that I have. And thank you for listening to me.

32285. I'm speaking today because I wanted it on record that I am opposed to the proposed Northern Gateway pipeline and the oil tanker traffic on the Pacific Coast. The reasons to me seem obvious.

32286. Our region and much of the B.C. economy relies on pristine wilderness and waterways. Some of the stuff I'm going to talk about here isn't new news it's information I've gathered off of Government of Canada websites, and I just thought it might be a good idea to throw some statistics out there.

32287. Tourism and fishing do not work if our world-class waterways are compromised by oil spills. Our community and our people rely on these waterways and the wildlife surrounding them to provide basic needs such as food and water. I believe that the proposed pipeline poses too great a risk to the food security and economic security of our region.

32288. Currently, tourism is the only primary industry in the province and in

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Northwestern B.C. that has maintained steady economic growth since 2002. Statistics show that 131,000 full-time jobs are currently in B.C., just from tourism. Our region holds 6 percent of this industry. When you do the math that breaks down to 10,480 full-time jobs.

32289. When I first read that number I thought it sounded like a huge number and then I started thinking about all of the people in our region and I thought well maybe it's not that big of a number. But I think what that number doesn't tell us is all of the other jobs that are created because of the tourism industry, all of the small businesses that survive because of the tourism industry.

32290. Our region has watersheds that represent unique diversity of species, pristine settings, and record sized chinook and steelhead. Tourism and sport fishing represent long-term economic stability for the province and our region, as well as ethical environmental practice.

32291. The geography of the proposed pipeline route is some of the harshest and most rugged terrain in North America. In addition, according to the Ministry of Natural Resources website, the coast of B.C. and inland sections of the northwest saw over 1,000 recorded earthquakes over the past year.

32292. These earthquakes range in magnitude of 2 to over 6.0 on the Richter scale. Seismic activity undermines slopes and increases landslide activity, all of which present clear potential to rupture the Northern Gateway pipeline.

32293. I've taken some time to look at the Enbridge website and the Northern Gateway website. Maps on these sites show current pipelines travelling through prairie in the center of the country, and likewise, into the United States. These pipelines travel across land that is essentially free of seismic activity and more navigable and accessible than the mountainous terrain of B.C. and yet, even in these more favourable routes, pipelines rupture.

32294. The Polaris Institute reports that over a 10-year period, from 1999 to 2010, there were 804 spills from Enbridge pipes. Only portions of the oil from these spills have been recovered and site remediation cannot restore them to their original condition.

32295. Enbridge has not demonstrated that they have the capacity to handle spills in these regions, so I do not understand how they propose to handle a spill, should it occur, in our region.

32296. The negative environmental impacts of this proposed pipeline are not just from potential oil spills. The State of Wisconsin charged Enbridge Energy Partners, a U.S. affiliate company of Enbridge, with 545 environmental violations, most of which occurred during the construction of portions of the southern access pipeline.

32297. These environmental violations resulted in negative environmental impacts on streams, wetlands and numerous inland watersheds. Such a poor track record does not inspire confidence.

32298. I work in a social service agency, in an adult community literacy program. I'd like it to be known that I am neither radical nor a jet-setting celebrity. Presenting at this hearing is my attempt to work within the democratic systems in place, to express my opposition to what I believe to be a poor idea. It is not an attempt to hijack our regulatory system with an ideological agenda.

32299. Sadly, I believe that much of the democratic intent and integrity of this process has been undermined by the current government. Statements issued suggest intent to go ahead with the proposed pipeline prior to the recommendations being submitted from the Panel.

32300. As a person who works in a field where accountability and stakeholder input is vital to demonstrate the integrity of a program that relies on public funds, I am offended and angry that similar levels of standards of integrity are ignored by the government.

32301. Instead of accusing stakeholders in this region of clogging up the process with bodies, which there is a considerable list of people, our government should embrace the opportunity to hear from as many of us as possible.

32302. Thank you.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32303. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Okay, good afternoon, Ms. Oakes, please go ahead.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MS. ROBYN OAKES:

32304. **MS. ROBYN OAKES:** Thank you. Hello, my name is Robyn Oakes.

32305. My husband and I moved to Smithers within the last year. We moved here to get away from the city and connect with nature. Previously to living here, we had no knowledge of the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline Project. Since living here and learning more about this project we have also simultaneously fallen in love with the Bulkley Valley.
32306. My husband and I are here today because we love Smithers, my hometown of Vancouver, and his of Prince Rupert. We couldn't imagine the grief that would follow a spill anywhere along the line.
32307. Today I would like to say that my husband and I object to this pipeline project. I would also like to share with you my husband's experience working throughout Alberta and B.C. on various pipeline projects for multiple companies. I would like to share with you how I feel this information relates to the current proposed Enbridge project.
32308. Some of the information I'm about to share is approximate and I cannot guarantee that all pipeline projects operate in the similar manner to the ones that my husband experienced. Though hopefully, this should give you some insight.
32309. My husband, Jarrod, at the age of 19 accepted a job pipelining in the winter of 2005 and worked on and off until 2007. This was during the war in Iraq and post-hurricane Katrina, so oil was in high demand.
32310. Jarrod and two of his friends were attracted to working on a pipeline with the promise of a large paycheck. They soon found this was true. After being hired with no experience or credentials they received a daily living allowance of \$150 and after two weeks of work received a \$4,500 paycheck.
32311. On Jarrod's first day of work, four young boys were given a brand new work vehicle, a trailer towing equipment and hand-drawn map directing them to their worksite.
32312. They were left to their own devices. The young employee who was driving was not experienced in such a vehicle, and the new work crew, unfortunately, ended up in the ditch.
32313. Once they finally made it to their worksite, there was a severe lack of concern for the inexperience of the newly hired crew. In a short period of time these

boys were given quite a bit of responsibility, such as working with little-to-no supervision, dictating tasks to other new employees, pressure site pipefitting without a ticket, and equipment operation without a ticket.

32314. This type of entry-level job with the opportunity to gain lots of experience sounds ideal for them. But this is how such opportunities were abused by these employees without any consequences.

32315. Jarrod and his friends wasted work hours with plenty of immature and dangerous pranks and stunts, some of which included surprising each other by ripping one's uniform, spray painting each other, using a pressurized piece of pipe like a cannon, building dirt jumps with an excavator, and using their work ATVs and/or trucks to jump them, using an excavator to pick up snow and releasing it over top of an unsuspecting co-worker, electrocuting each other with a Jeep, and setting each other on fire with propane torches.

32316. Many other employees would leave the worksites in the evenings to get intoxicated and show up to work the next morning not fit for work but doing so anyways.

32317. While these young employees were behaving like this, they were also responsible for many potentially environmentally dangerous aspects of the construction of a pipeline. Jarrod and his co-workers' job descriptions included checking for errors in pipe welds by pouring windshield wiper solution over the pressurized pipe and checking for bubbles; collecting debris from pipeline related forestation, forming burn piles, soaking them in diesel fuel, and setting them on fire.

32318. It should also be taken into account that due to cold weather there were on-site rules that no work equipment or trucks were allowed to be turned off, including while fuelling. Therefore, vehicles were left idling for 12 to 18 hours a day.

32319. Needless to say, in hindsight my husband regrets working these jobs and feels like the said pipelines were built in an irresponsible manner.

32320. In conclusion, I would like you to think about any 19 year old boys you know. Please think of the ones who just left high school or their parents' basements, the ones who grew up in small and sheltered communities.

32321. Now I would like you to imagine what appeals to them as far as a career or a paycheque. I ask you to imagine what responsibilities would you trust them with?

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What life experiences would you like them to undertake before stepping into their first adult working environment.

32322. The Northern Gateway Pipeline Project is too fragile of a project to be trusted to our naïve, young brothers, sons, and friends. What guarantee do we have that Enbridge will put forth appropriate criteria in order to hire only experienced employees for this project.

32323. Thank you for your time.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32324. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Ms. Peters, thank you for coming today. Please proceed with your presentation.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MS. SHEILA PETERS:

32325. **MS. SHEILA PETERS:** Okay, thank you for that. I have two boys who have mercifully made it to 30.

32326. My name is Sheila Peters. I'm a writer and a publisher. And working with words has been a part of my life as long as I can remember.

32327. So before I go further, I want to be clear when asked the question, "Should Enbridge's Northern Gateway Project be built?" My answer is "No, absolutely not".

32328. And if you believe in this government's so-called economic policy that claims building more ships, prisons, and exporting raw bitumen to China is in the national interest, while it suppresses or vilifies the voices of anyone who might actually have some data to refute that claim, well I have a bridge you might be interested in.

32329. No, not the famous one in New York, not even that new Peace Bridge in Calgary. No, a lovely little footbridge that crosses Driftwood Creek beside our home. A creek our boys fished in, swam in, skated on, and played beside from their earliest days.

32330. A creek that has watered my garden and my creativity with its many voices, a voice that in spring I like to imagine speaks with a thousand tongues of a winter; a creek that is in one of the watersheds this pipeline proposes to cross.

32331. And while you may think water runs only one way, spend enough time beside a creek and you'll realize your mistake.
32332. The salmon and eulachon travelling upstream to spawn are obvious and important examples. But every spring we stand on that bridge and watch two or three Harlequin ducks paddling up Driftwood Creek, often while patches of snow still line the banks. It's usually two males and a female -- I could make jokes about that but I won't -- who have travelled hundreds of kilometres upriver from the coast to build a nest and rear their young in the high alpine.
32333. And every year from that same bridge we see dippers managing -- those are birds -- managing even when it's 40 below, to find an opening.
32334. A quiet seepage, too quiet really to be called a spring, can unlock the earth's heat. The ice exhales and opens a pool for this dipper bobbing on a rock. It dives in and finds a current that's warmer than the winter air. There's spirit in there somewhere and bouncing back, the bird, it dipsy doodles on the slippery dance floor tapping out some bebop riff, something we all wish that we could follow, something in the key of home.
32335. That one small creek and the river it flows into are part of the watershed my family calls home. And home is what I really want to talk about.
32336. It was 1976 and I was on my way into the northwest for a newspaper job when I saw a sign planted on a hill somewhere between Burns and Decker Lakes. "Eternity", it said, "Where will you be?" Well I knew I wasn't going to be here. After one northern winter I was headed back south, back to school, back to civilization.
32337. But before that I had a trip to finish; coming down Six Mile Hill the muffler on my car dropped to become a rattling, sparking, percussive accompaniment to my precipitous descent -- instant comeuppance for my sneer at eternity.
32338. A friendly northerner gave me some wire to bind the muffler back into place until I reached my destination, which like the Enbridge pipeline was Kitimat. I'd spend a few days there, a few months in Terrace, before I moved to Smithers in 1977 where I've lived pretty much ever since, within earshot of Driftwood Creek.
32339. So about that sign, it was located right where the pipelines would cross

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Highway 16, the Endako River, The CN track and continue west across Gerow Creek, still in the Fraser watershed, to Maxan Creek, a fairly nondescript height of land. Maxan Creek flows into Maxan Lake which drains into Bulkley Lake, the headwaters of the Bulkley River and the Skeena watershed.

32340. The pipeline would then cross Foxy and Kloo and Buck Creeks, Owen Creek and Fenton Creek, all on its way to the Morice that used to be called Watsonquah. All the history in those names, all flowing into the Bulkley, the Skeena, the Pacific, right out to where those Harlequin ducks spend their winters on an intricate coastline that defies measurement.

32341. Just last summer we spent a few days on Porcher Island off the coast of Prince Rupert. One day we paddled over to Oval Beach on the eastern shores of Hecate Strait. This poem "Fractals on Oval Beach" came from that day.

32342. And in case you're not familiar with fractals, they're irregular shapes that can be repeatedly subdivided into increasingly smaller copies of the whole and are used to model natural structures that, unlike pipelines, do not have simple geometric shapes.

32343. A fat black raven stands just above the surf line; another perches on a nearby log. Something glints as the water rolls and drops it, stranded on the gravel. One raven hops down and nabs the wiggling silver streak. He jumps back before the next wave crashes -- a surf smelt thrashing in his beak. He gulps, gagging as it struggles in his throat.

32344. We walk into the waves looking and there they are, as numerous as the shards of fractured light, slivers of fish roll and tumble in each wave. The other raven hops down, head sideways. It plucks another smelt from the sand. Both birds eat and both watch and wait for more. The sun lights their feathers with the iridescence of oil floating on water.

32345. On our way here we paddled through a narrow opening between two outcrops. Inside these waters, it's hard to tell which rocks are islands and which are part of something bigger; the tides change the answer every minute. And this week the tides are over 20 feet.

32346. Our boat slipped through, the hull skimming hundreds of anemones, sea squirts, sun stars, bat stars, starfish; some dangling high above us waiting for the tide. Crabs scuttled as crabs do and dug trenches in the sand, claws up for battle; all this

seen in one small pause, in one small opening in the coastline of one small island.

32347. How long you might ask is the coastline of Porcher Island? It all depends on how carefully you measure. The closer you get, the longer it becomes; much longer than you might have thought. Infinity, in fact, contained within this finite space.

32348. This is not just a measurement to amuse mathematicians. It's a line drawn by the daily wash of water full of invisible life filtered to feed the anemone and the humpback whale, to feed the smelts, the herring, the eulachon that feed the salmon that feed the silver sided dolphins we floated among as they thrashed back and forth across the bay, over 100 of them jumping, turning, tail slapping that water into a chop, to feed the wolves that pace the shore.

32349. It's a line that would become an oil slick underscored by globules of bitumen rolling and tumbling onto the same beaches. The surf smelts need to spawn into each kelp bed, each low tide cranny where complexity resides, where our Harlequins return with their young.

32350. The sign has been replaced by one that says, "Jesus cares for you". Well I'm tickled to have outlasted the older one. I've come to miss its urgency, urgency we need now. It isn't the fabricated urgency the oil companies and their political preachers profess from Ottawa's pulpits; it's the urgent voice of a river in full flood, a swollen muddy thing that rips out cottonwoods, bridges, roads and even houses built where they shouldn't be; not to mention pipelines.

32351. I encourage all of you as the high snows melt, to go down to the water and listen. The water is asking us that same question, "Eternity, where will we be?"

32352. Thank you.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32353. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Welcome, Mr. Schaefer. Please proceed when you're ready.

--- **ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. LOTHAR SCHAEFER:**

32354. **MR. LOTHAR SCHAEFER:** Thank you very much. I wish I could be as eloquent as Sheila.

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32355. My name is Lothar Schaefer and I'm speaking to you today as a longstanding resident of the Bulkley Valley to express my adamant opposition to the proposed pipeline project under consideration here.
32356. I moved here over 20 years ago with my wife and two young children after having spent several months working as a replacement for one of the family physicians in town while he was on holidays. We fell in love with the town and the surrounding landscape and I raised a growing family while enjoying all the best that the area has to offer.
32357. We've paddled from the headwaters of the Bulkley River, we've hiked and skied the mountains that surround us and we've developed deep roots and made enduring connections in this community that has nourished us.
32358. My present partner who is a wildlife biologist has broadened my knowledge of the natural environment and increased my appreciation for what is at stake in terms of negative impacts of industrial projects on our ecosystems.
32359. This place has a hold on me and I'm determined to do what I can to preserve and defend the ecological and social integrity of this place that I call home.
32360. The Enbridge pipeline proposal will have a large local impact, both by its construction and also will pose significant risks to the local watersheds and to the economy that depends on these -- at present relatively unspoiled -- waterways.
32361. At the same time, I'm also a citizen of this country, Canada, and that makes me want to comment on the national interest impacts of the project. And last but not least, I am a citizen of the world and would like to address my concerns around this project proceeding in a crowded ever more polluted and degraded global environment.
32362. First of all, regarding the local effects of this pipeline and tanker proposal, I'm absolutely unconvinced of the safety of operating a pipeline through the geologically unstable landscape of the Coast Mountains.
32363. This has been demonstrated in previous pipeline ruptures in this area involving the much smaller and more benign natural gas pipeline which runs through the Telkwa Pass and on to Prince Rupert.

32364. A large volume bitumen pipeline rupture in remote terrain would -- will have much more destructive effects on all the downstream waterways and the aquatic life in them.
32365. The prospect of having large tankers traversing the Douglas Channel and the Hecate Strait fills me with foreboding as it is only a question of time before an accident occurs, which would be a repeat of the Exxon Valdez spill from which the residents of Prince William Sound are still suffering in terms of economic and ecological damage.
32366. We here are being asked to bear the risks of this industrial project while receiving negligible benefits in terms of jobs in our area.
32367. Secondly, in terms of the national interest implications of the project, I am convinced that the downsides of increasing the fossil fuel component of our national economy far outweigh any short term benefits that we may gain.
32368. There would be more jobs in the Alberta tar sands and more revenues to the Alberta and federal governments, but at the cost of an overvalued Canadian dollar which hurts most other industries.
32369. Do we really want to go further down the road to petro state status with all the economic, social, political and cultural distortions that that results in? Are we really willing to further degrade a rich ecosystem in northern Alberta with the attendant loss of wildlife habitat? How many species such as the Woodland caribou are we willing to sacrifice for our short term gain in greater material wealth?
32370. Where is the respect vis-à-vis First Nations who have stated their adamant opposition to this pipeline and tanker project? Are we really willing to continue to compromise the future prospects of our descendants by liquidating non-renewable resources, polluting our waterways which have provided a sustainable living over the span of countless generations all for short term profit which goes mainly to shareholders in multinational corporations?
32371. I prefer to stand in solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en and other First Nations who have clearly said no to this destructive pipeline and tanker proposal.
32372. Finally, I would like to express my conviction that climate change, driven by human activities, is the single most pressing issue of our time, and one that will define our prospects as a species in this and the following centuries.

32373. I have read widely around the subject and am convinced -- with James Hansen, the respected NASA climate scientist -- that if we persist in exploiting all of our fossil fuel reserves, which includes unconventional deposits in the form of tar sands oil and shale gas, that we will consign our future generations to a world of runaway climate change.
32374. Such a future is likely to be a conflict-ridden one with massive refugee flows, military conflicts over diminished resources and greater inequality between and within nations. Canada has become an international pariah on the climate change issue, reneging on even the weak commitments we made under the Kyoto Protocol, and doing our best to derail and delay meaningful action to reduce global CO2 emissions.
32375. As a rich country we have an obligation to lead in this regard. If anyone has the ability to make some short term sacrifices for the long-term good it is us.
32376. Finally, in closing, I actually want to thank Enbridge for giving us the opportunity to focus on the implications of our fossil fuel addiction. As a physician I have an understanding of addictions as persistent, compulsive behaviour which is harmful to the addict. We know that we are harming ourselves and future generations and the planet which sustains us by our continued use of fossil fuels.
32377. This project brings home to me the local effects of the global fossil fuel industry, the real and potential damage to communities and ecosystems as a result of extraction, processing and transport of fossil fuels, let alone burning it in the end. It forces all of us to confront the implications of our own energy-intensive lifestyles.
32378. Considering the effects at the local level, at the national level and at the global level, I doubt there is such a thing as ethical oil. We need to be transitioning as rapidly as possible to a post-fossil fuel economy, something that we can do if we mobilize as a society, like we did in the Second World War.
32379. Approval of this Enbridge proposal would be a large step in exactly the wrong direction. I would therefore respectfully urge this Panel to reject the proposed pipeline and tanker project as not in the national interest nor consistent with our international obligations.
32380. Thank you.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32381. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Just as we're getting organized, is Ms. Carol Bob in the audience?

--- (A short pause/Courte pause)

32382. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Good afternoon to the panel. Please, Mr. Swansburg, please present your material.

32383. Thanks.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. BRYAN SWANSBURG:

32384. **MS. BRYAN SWANSBURG:** Thank you to the Panel for coming here. I think this is one of the more important things that's happened in Smithers in a while. However, I can't say because I've only been here for about 18 months.

32385. And this brings up the question as to why am I here and -- well, actually why am I here.

32386. The question, I think, for you is, is this pipeline a good idea or not, and if we're going to move oil anywhere in the world, the pipeline is by far the safest way to move oil. So from that perspective, I guess your answer is yes, this pipeline should be built.

32387. My question is why? Now, I'm no Luddite. For 20 years I have burned aviation fuel at a rate that is mind-boggling. I can burn 2,000 litres of fuel before lunch and not even think about it.

32388. I've spent 20 years flying up and down the coast, and it scares the hell out of me to -- sometimes flying scares the hell out of me, but the thought that even driving a boat up and down there, which isn't part of the pipeline but it is a result of the pipeline, is very impressive.

32389. The whole oil-based world is the way that the world is going or has gone and one of the speakers here was very -- you know, said that is the -- the world runs on oil, and it does. That's not in dispute, but maybe it's time to go beyond that.

32390. I flew in the Arctic for three years. About five years ago, every Inuit

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person I talked to talked about how the world had changed, how they're losing the ice, how they're losing the seals. There's lots of polar bears, but that's probably because they're not out on the ice anymore. It's probably because they don't have anywhere else but to wander in the towns. And it's a cliché, oh, the polar bears, whoopitty-do.

32391. I moved to Smithers, for me personally, to change that. I've built a house which -- and built a life which I hope will use about 10 percent of the energy that a normal Canadian citizen does. If I'm any good at this, I should get down to 1 percent.

32392. The federal government and, frankly, most of the world are a no. The North American governments are oblivious to the whole world that has changed sometime in the last several hundred years, since the industrial revolution. It seemed like a good idea at the time, but now we know better.

32393. The climate -- last month there was a 32:1 ratio of high records to low records in the north-eastern United States. Maybe that was just coincidence. It seems improbable that 7,000 heat records could be broken in a single -- did I say 7,000? I think it was 17,000 heat records could be broken in a single month.

32394. So question, should we build the pipeline? Well, yes, it's the most efficient way to move oil.

32395. The second question is, should we be moving our oil, giving it to China, when I don't know if it's doing the world any good, and if we have -- we're certainly running a little low because otherwise we wouldn't be trying to use what is basically asphalt and try to burn it in our cars.

32396. We used to be able to shoot a hole in the ground by a man named Jed and make oil come out of the ground. Now, we fly helicopters and drive ships out to places that are so deep that it's impossible -- the Titanic -- like we're -- the depth of the technology to recover that last bit of oil just so we can burn something else, well, why don't we just keep it in our country?

32397. We know that we're going to -- we're scavenging the bottom of the barrel. Why are we shipping the last of it to China? It doesn't make sense, when New Brunswick has no oil. They're buying it from Arabia.

32398. If we're going to have nation building why don't we give this oil to New Brunswick and in the interim or in parallel try to get off this stuff. Like it's just -- it's

time to change.

32399. I would like to have some deep eloquent story that so many people have given here, but -- and I'm sure that you, as a Panel, are unbiased and will submit all of these stories, but what does it mean when we've already had the Minister of National Resources say that you can talk about it, but we don't want it stopped. The Prime Minister says that it's basically going.

32400. Sinopec has bought all of Syncrude, 100 percent. If you buy a \$5 billion worth of a company, you're going to want something out of it and I think that something might be oil.

32401. And then we have Enbridge itself, who they themselves are saying, "It's our pipeline; it's our decision and it's our country."

32402. Well, you know, the federal government isn't denying that by any means. It seems like the corporations do own the government. It's totally biased. It's completely non-democratic, what has been going on in the newspaper. If this was -- when this came up months ago and said "Speak your mind" I thought that was a good idea. Now it seems like it's just fluff.

32403. Like I totally trust that you're going to submit it, but I totally trust that the government is going to completely ignore your effort, and it hurts me that you guys have to sit here for the next week listening to people from Smithers, and have probably listened for, what, three months, and it's wasting your time because it's already been approved. It's amazing.

32404. And if this is the legal democratic way, I don't know what the option is.

32405. Anyway, that's my voice.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32406. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Mr. Shervill, thank you for being with us this afternoon. Please begin.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MR. ROBERT LYNN SHERVILL:

32407. **MR. ROBERT SHERVILL:** Thank you.

32408. I'd like to speak to you today about the social impact of the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway Project, and with the help of the late Canadian ecologist John Livingston, to place my comments within the context of some First Nations history in Northwest British Columbia.
32409. Livingston, who was a member of the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University, a president of the Audubon Society of Canada and a former trustee of the Nature Conservancy of Canada, wrote a book back in 1981 called Arctic Oil.
32410. In that book, Livingston says the Inuit developed a culture, including social behaviour, customs, traditions, beliefs and technology that was appropriate to the environmental conditions in which they lived.
32411. Wherever they are, Livingston says, human beings cope at least as much by way of culture as they do by way of physical adaption, but there is a limit, he said, to adaptability. Living conditions can be such that external events can push a people and their culture over the edge beyond the limit of survivability.
32412. Here in Northwest British Columbia, there are eight tribal groups that developed cultures appropriate to the land. They are the Haida, the Tsimshian, the Haisla, the Nisga'a, Gitksan, the Wet'suwet'en, the Carrier and the Sekani.
32413. If some of the world's most eminent anthropologists are to be believed, the cultures of these nations were incredibly rich, deeply spiritual and creative, sustaining people and the land over millennia.
32414. And yet, from the first point of contact, there has been an endless, intentional assault on these cultures by waves of colonizing non-indigenous people. I would not try to document all the phases of this assault, but a few examples will acquaint you with the pattern.
32415. Perhaps most devastating was the introduction of contagious diseases: smallpox, tuberculosis, measles, influenza and whooping cough. In a paper from the First Nations Health Council of British Columbia called "Implementing the Vision", the authors state that between first contact in the late 1700s and 1890, 90 percent of the indigenous population was wiped out, primarily due to smallpox.
32416. In that same paper, it should be noted, there is reference to the intentional spread of disease by non-Aboriginal people by throwing infected blankets into First

Nations communities and to not making available to indigenous people an anti-smallpox vaccine developed in the late 1700s.

32417. Then, in 1884, with only about 10 percent of the original population remaining, B.C. First Nations had to cope with a federal ban on the corner post of their culture. The potlatch, according to several sources, is the ceremony at the heart of First Nations governance and social structure and one which validates an individual's role in the community and establishes claims to names, privileges, and social rank.
32418. The ban lasted until 1951. And by the time it was repealed, according to the Canadian Encyclopaedia, serious damage had been done to tribal identities and social stratification.
32419. Other assaults on B.C. First Nations include the reserve system which dates back to the 1850s and involve the relocation of almost 200 bands from the entire provincial land base onto 0.36 percent of the land.
32420. And the now infamous residential school system designed, according to the Encyclopaedia or British Columbia, "to suppress traditional Aboriginal language and culture in the absence of parental influence in order to assimilate First Nations children into mainstream society."
32421. Much has been written about reserves and residential schools and their effects on the culture of First Nations, but there is little in the written record dealing with some other less than savoury institutions foisted on First Nations.
32422. There were the Indian hospitals, of which there were three in British Columbia, one in Sardis, one in Nanaimo and one in Prince Rupert.
32423. According to the cultural safety module of the University of Victoria course called People's Experiences of Colonization, the Indian hospitals were intended to "fulfill the white man's burden to care for those less civilized and thus appear humanitarian and to further assimilate Aboriginal peoples into the general population."
32424. The *Indian Act* gave health authorities the power to forcibly admit Aboriginal people to these institutions of segregation, sometimes for years, essentially locking them up because ironically they had contracted the infectious diseases of the colonizers.

32425. As in the case of residential schools, according to the UVic course materials, there are numerous accounts from Indian hospital survivors of multiple abuses including sterilization and medical experimentation.
32426. And then there was the phenomenon called the sixties scoop, a process whereby First Nations children were literally scooped from their homes and communities without the consent of families and bands by government authorities acting under the colonialistic assumption that Native people were culturally inferior and unable to adequately provide for the needs of the children.
32427. More than 11,000 status Indian children in Canada were taken in the years between 1960 and 1990. Of these children, 70 percent were placed into non-Native homes where many of them experienced verbal, physical and sexual abuse.
32428. Here in our own backyard, we have the experience of the Cheslatta First Nation south of Burns Lake who were flooded out of their community when the Aluminum Company of Canada created the Nechako Reservoir in order to power an aluminum smelter at Kitimat.
32429. According to social worker Richard Grem in a Master's thesis for the University of Northern B.C., neither the province, the federal government, nor AlCan gave the Cheslatta people warning that their land would be flooded. They made only a brief attempt to negotiate a plan for compensation and basically left the people to their own devices when it came to relocation and survival.
32430. In the end, says Grem, they were forced to abandon everything that they owned to the advancing waters and were given no assistance. Individual families wandered in different directions in a destitute state.
32431. In one section of his thesis, Grem says entire First Nations populations in northwest B.C. have experienced severe traumas from which they were unable to heal before experiencing further traumas on a massive scale.
32432. I was a nurse for 20 years in our local hospital working in acute care oncology and palliative care. I witnessed firsthand that lack of trust, the anxiety and the fear that accompanied indigenous people on hospital visits, especially the Elders.
32433. I suspect, given the history, those feelings are also present for many First Nations people when they enter a school or a government building.

32434. And now we have the proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline, a project which carries with it the risk of enormous losses to the land and to the cultures which have survived here for thousands of years.
32435. More than 130 First Nations in B.C. and Alberta and a growing number of municipal councils and regional districts in the northwest have said no to this project. They have done that for a variety of reasons, but one of the most compelling for me is that a pipeline rupture or a loaded super tanker on the rocks means not just an environmental loss, not just an economic loss, but the further degradation and demoralization of cultures inextricably linked to the health of the land, the rivers, and the ocean.
32436. And this is where we return to Professor Livingston in his book Arctic Oil. He reminds us that environmental impact assessment and prediction is required to be quantitative. It must express in numbers what the effects of a certain course of action may be expected to be.
32437. But then he goes on to say that in the final analysis, the effects of accumulated impacts over time are not quantitative but qualitative. The destruction or radical transformation of a biological community cannot be expressed in numbers because the change is in kind, not in degree.
32438. A tar sands bitumen spilling engulfing the area around Hartley Bay, for example, is not something we would express in numbers. It would represent the conversion of an ecological utopia to a zone of death and decay.
32439. The same is true of social impact, says Professor Livingston, the destruction or radical transformation of a human society or of a culture represents the crossing of a threshold that can never again be experienced. There is no going back. The crossing of that threshold is final. It is extinction, and from extinction, there is no appeal.
32440. Or, as Chief Jackie Thomas from Saik'uz First Nation south of Vanderhoof said back in February of this year, her people have faced government racism for generations and, "Now the government is threatening us with oil spills that could doom us as a people."
32441. According to Professor Livingston, the ancient ways of the Inuit were highly specialized because they had evolved with, not in spite, of the Arctic

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environment. "Like the ways of all northern beings," he says, "those ways were survival-oriented. They worked. But they only worked so long as they were not tampered with by forces from outside that environment with which they had evolved."

32442. The meaning of Professor Livingston's words seems clear to me. Rather than asking ourselves how best to reduce the risk or mitigate the impact of a catastrophic oil spill, we should be asking ourselves how not to proceed with Enbridge's Northern Gateway pipeline and the consequent tanker traffic on our North Coast.

32443. Thank you.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32444. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** I understand that we have one speaker left and that she hasn't arrived yet; so we'll take a break. We expect her to be here momentarily. We'll take a break and we'll let you know when we're going to reconvene.

32445. Just before everybody gets up to go away, just because people may decide to leave at this point, let me express on behalf of the Panel our thanks to all the oral statement presenters who have come forward who have obviously very thoughtfully prepared their presentations for our Panel. We're very much appreciative of the efforts that you've taken.

32446. So we'll take this break and then we'll come back to hear our last oral statement for this afternoon. Thank you.

--- Upon recessing at 4:00 p.m./L'audience est suspendue à 16h00

--- Upon resuming at 4:22 p.m./L'audience est reprise à 16h22

32447. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Good afternoon, Ms. Candela. Am I saying your name correctly, to start off with?

32448. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** That's just fine, thanks.

32449. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you. My name is Sheila Leggett. This is Kenneth Bateman.

32450. **MEMBER BATEMAN:** Hi.

32451. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** Hello.

32452. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** This is Hans Matthews.

32453. **MEMBER MATTHEWS:** Hi.

32454. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** Hello.

32455. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** And we're here this afternoon to listen to your oral statement and thank you for your flexibility in being able to be with us this afternoon.

32456. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** Well, thank you for having me and I'm very sorry I kept people waiting. I didn't realize that I was scheduled this early.

32457. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Please go ahead whenever you're ready.

--- ORAL STATEMENT BY/EXPOSÉ ORAL PAR MS. ALISON CANDELA:

32458. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** Thank you.

32459. Thank you for hearing and considering my submission. Yours is a huge responsibility and the decision you make will be a historic one. You're very courageous to take on such a burden.

32460. My grandfather and his wife in their twenties came from Toronto in the 1890s to provide medical services to the people of Bella Bella and the surrounding villages. He continued in this medical work until he died in Port Simpson in 1920, when my father was six years old.

32461. His sons and daughter born in Bella Bella and Port Simpson provided medical and social services to the people of coastal British Columbia until the 1980s.

32462. I've taught here in Smithers since 1973. My commitment to the wellbeing, social and economic, of people of Northern B.C. is long term.

32463. Then as always, the wealth and energy of B.C.'s people was based on the bounty of the forests, the rivers and the sea. The fish, marine life, and the forest

provided food, work, wealth and health for residents as it had supported the civilizations of the B.C. First Nations people for thousands of years.

32464. In the fifties and sixties, when I was growing up in Prince Rupert, I would watch with excitement and delight as the orcas came into the harbour in February. There was lots of salmon, crab and halibut for us. People gave it in appreciation or as payment.

32465. We had our own boat and explored the islands and coast around Rupert when my dad could take a day off on the weekend. We'd see forest-fringed beaches, orcas and porpoises. We'd watch the sea birds and dig through the huge middens, piles of shells that marked the occupation of the area by First Nations people for thousands of years. We'd cook crabs on the beach.

32466. My uncle Geddes would always point out the graveyards, old village sites and settlements near Tugwell, Digby, Kitkatla, and Metlakatla. Most people had boats and it seemed that if you weren't a fisherman, you worked at the mill or provided the services for the people that lived in town.

32467. As we got older and needed to make good money, we young people got summer work at the canneries or would sign on to a fish boat, making enough in the summer to fund post-secondary school or begin making our way in the adult world. Young people would come up from Vancouver to get summer work.

32468. Rupert was a lively, comfortable community. People made a good living on the boats, in the bush, or at the mill. Our region's health and wealth relied on the rich fishery and the diverse forest. New Canadians came because they could establish their families quickly, moving themselves and their children into the mainstream of the Canadian middle-class in a decade or two.

32469. When I started teaching in Smithers in the early seventies, there were still many people that would go up to Sunnyside, Port Edward, and other canneries to work during the salmon runs. There were people who lived here in Smithers but fished out of Rupert.

32470. The wealth of the Pacific reached far into the interior to support families. People were working in the forest industry here too, logging, falling, and working in mills.

32471. The wonderful thing about this tremendous source of food and wealth was

that we needed to do nothing for it. If the spawning and rearing rivers were clean and healthy, the ocean relatively unpolluted so the plankton could keep growing producing oxygen and supporting the massive bio-web that fed, clothed, and sheltered us all, we could just go out and reap the bounty. B.C. people had done it for thousands of generations.

32472. Of course, we squandered a lot of it and took much for granted. Most people in boats threw their cans into the salt chuck and sunk the garbage overboard. I don't think we even knew the word "recycle" or "ecosystem". We just went out to collect the fish at sea or in the rivers. We'd cut down and process the trees for timber or pulp.

32473. And it's true; it smelled pretty nasty out of Port Edward by the ponds, smokestacks and buildings of Columbia Cellulose, the pulp mill that employed so many people in Rupert.

32474. I don't think we thought that much about the importance of the forests and keeping the rivers clean and safe for the fish. With our logging, we did have slides. I remember when there was a slide down Mount Hayes right over a house that a little girl and her family lived in. We could see it from the school. It was local.

32475. The people caught the fish and processed the fish here. Regional wealth was used to create jobs for local people and to help us prepare for our future.

32476. But exporting our Alberta bitumen may be quite different. This oil can fuel our own energy-hungry economy and lifestyle for hundreds of generations. Canada is so cold, so vast, and so beautiful. It stretches from sea to sea to sea.

32477. Winter is long. Living as we do in this environment demands tremendous amounts of energy. And what incredible good fortune, we have it. With this resource, we're the envy of the world. Plus, with our fishery and our forests and the grain fields of the Prairies, such sustainable natural wealth, we have food and shelter too.

32478. We are a chosen people living in a promised land. Our own energy needs are massive and will continue to be huge. We need to run our cars, import, transport, grow, harvest, and process our food, extract and process our natural resources, heat our homes and schools, warm our meeting places, and transport our social selves across the great distances that are our land.

32479. Who knows what the future will bring? But at this time, there is no viable alternative energy source that will allow us to live in anywhere near the comfort that we enjoy today. Without oil, we, Canadians, would find our food, shelter, and ability to keep ourselves warm, educated, entertained, and connected to each other in the world compromised most unpleasantly.

32480. Before any disposition of this extraordinarily valuable resource, petroleum, that allows us to live so comfortably, do we not need to have a national energy audit? Has any reputable and credible body representing our national interest documented our own present and future needs? Are there long-term projections?

32481. If so, what are the projected needs of the B.C. and Canadian people? If such projections exist, have they been examined by thoughtful peer review and scrutinized by the public to ensure our energy future? How does this proposed pipeline fit into the long-term projected needs of our people? Has there been any national attempt to look at the safest transportation corridors to meet the long-term energy needs of the Canadian people?

32482. If we are to export this vast resource, are we going to be relying upon nuclear energy or windmills to meet our needs?

32483. It's all very well to think of the Chinese burgeoning third world economy with cheap labour, no environmental controls, a totalitarian government and people that have to toe the line that the dictatorship lays down.

32484. We can think of the quick cash and the dividends that corporations can get from selling our oil plus the juicy government royalties for a generation or two, but don't we need to plan for our own future? Should we even consider mass exports of this extraordinarily valuable resource so essential to our own survival before we know if we have enough for our own present and future needs?

32485. How many generations of children do we expect to have here in Canada? Are we planning for two or three future generations or do we have to plan for hundreds? Do we think life ends when our grandchildren are old or do we see a Canada long into the future?

32486. Do we see ourselves as a community of people sustaining ourselves on our own land base, with our own resources, food and water or is the resource base for economies overseas? Are those economies sustainable or is there uncontrolled growth and resource consumption like a cancer growing out of control, eventually to

consume and destroy the body on which it grows?

32487. These are not trivial questions, they need to be answered before we allow Enbridge, multinationals and Asian oil interest to invest billions in building infrastructure to export a resource that it may well -- and I've lost my third -- second page, I'm sorry, I could run out to my car, it's probably there. Do I have time?

32488. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Sorry, you have about a minute left to finish up, so did you know the intent of what you wanted to express to us?

32489. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** But I think I could make it out there very quickly and pick up my last page. May I do that?

32490. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** You mean you want to go to your car and get your last page?

32491. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** If I have time.

32492. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Why don't we do that? Sure, thanks.

--- (A short pause/Courte pause)

32493. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** Thank you.

32494. These are not trivial questions -- oops, sorry.

32495. Who knows what the future will bring, but at this time there's no viable alternative energy source that will allow us to live ---

--- (A short pause/Courte pause)

32496. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** Sorry. These are not trivial questions; they need to be answered before we allow Enbridge, multinationals and Asian oil interests to invest billions in building infrastructure to export a resource that it may well be in our national interest to keep for ourselves.

32497. And it is not just Enbridge that is putting its money on the line. If we permit the construction of this infrastructure and then find that it is not in our national interest to send our oil to be refined out of country and to fuel economies other than our own, we will gut our own economic prospects and our international credibility as

a trading nation.

32498. We must learn whether this project will be good for Canada before the pipeline is built. And we must not allow ourselves to be locked into long-term trade agreements that could force future generations to export oil that is needed for our own wellbeing here in Canada.

32499. Should this oil be refined here in Canada with reasonable environmental controls, providing processing and research jobs for our own people, if the finished product needs to be transported, should it be transported to our own markets across the stable prairies to Eastern Canada, thus eliminating our dependence on imports from the politically unstable Middle East?

32500. Is not the transport of raw caustic sulphuric tar or bitumen through our active watersheds out to and through the rich wild water of the Northern Pacific a threat to our own long-term wellbeing and the integrity of our proven economic base?

32501. Would the massive export of this limited non-renewable energy source, without assessing our own future supplies and needs and without any viable set of alternative energy sources that can meet those undefined needs demonstrate a lack of foresight and planning?

32502. Would such a lack of foresight and planning be called criminal negligence? Do future generations have any rights to these resources or are they all just ours?

32503. What would the Auditor General say about how we are getting a long-term value for our dollar here?

32504. I do not know the answers to these questions but until we Canadians have clear answers, I ask you to recommend against the construction of this pipeline. Although I know very little, I do believe that the construction of this pipeline limits our future energy and development options.

32505. I know too that it poses a clear threat to the beautiful waterways, the health of our lands and the incredible marine world that make my heart soar every summer as I paddle in my B.C. designed and manufactured kayak on the Pacific. With each stroke, with each sighting of seal pup and cormorant, I thank destiny for my good fortune to live here in our beautiful land with such security, safety and hope for the future.

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32506. That these things exist for future generations is in our national interest.
The construction of this pipeline at this time, with the information available for
decision making, I do not believe is in our national interest.

32507. Thank you.

--- (Applause/Applaudissements)

32508. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you and thank you for taking the time to
prepare your comments and to come and present them to us, much appreciated.

32509. **MS. ALISON CANDELA:** Thank you for listening.

32510. **THE CHAIRPERSON:** That concludes our sitting for this afternoon and
we will sit again tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock to continue hearing oral statements
in Smithers.

32511. Thank you.

--- Upon adjourning at 4:38 p.m./L'audience est ajournée à 16h38