



Conversations for
Responsible
Economic Development

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE –VOICE OF CONCERN FROM BC BUSINESSES OVER NORTHERN GATEWAY DECISION

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VANCOUVER, B.C – CRED BC, a collection of more than 100 BC-based businesses, reacted with disappointment to today's federal government announcement approving the Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline.

CRED's Executive Director Liz McDowell responded to the Harper government decision: "We are disappointed at the lack of cost-benefit analysis in the pipeline approval process. The economic risks to businesses in Northern BC, particularly in the marine tourism and fishing sectors, should have been considered in the decision-making process. We also saw no effort to ensure that the substantial risk to BC's established industries would be balanced by a 'fair share' of the wealth for our province – in short, the risks far outweigh the rewards. We only hope that the National Energy Board considers the economic costs and benefits of future proposals, including the Trans Mountain Expansion Project, much more rigorously."

A study carried out by the UBC Fisheries Economics and Research Unit, and authored by CRED advisor Dr. Rashid Sumaila, has found that in the case of a major tanker spill along BC's north coast, up to 43% of all jobs in coastal industries could disappear.

Gord Johns Executive Director of the Tofino-Long Beach Chamber of Commerce reacted: "The Federal Government and the National Energy Board have ignored overwhelming opposition from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), First Nations, coastal communities, and the voices of the vast majority of British Columbians. They have ignored the weight of the evidence before them. BC's economy depends on a healthy coast, and the effects of a spill would be devastating to our community and to the communities of coastal and northern British Columbia. We will not stand idle--we will continue to defend the economic health of our community. The Tofino-Long Beach Chamber of Commerce will now take our concerns to the Province of BC to defend our interests."

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More information: www.credbc.ca

About CRED:

Conversations for Responsible Economic Development is a collection of professionals and business leaders from the tourism, real estate, tech, health, creative and other service-based sectors who are committed to participating in informed dialogue about long-term prosperity on Canada's west coast. Its mission is to protect the regional economy from threats to long-term development, promote industries that build on BC's creativity, innovation and natural beauty, and foster conversations about the types of energy and resource development and transportation that are compatible with this vision. CRED advisors include restaurateur Meeru Dhalwala, tech entrepreneur Bradley Shende, screenwriter Tarah Stafford, North Shore realtor Dallas LaPorta and UBC economist Dr. Rashid Sumaila.