

OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIAN CHIEFS

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UBCIC Statement

January 7, 2020

Wet'suwet'en Jurisdiction and Governance Must be Upheld

((X̱w̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish) and sə̱ilw̱ətaʔ/sə̱ilw̱iṯulh (Tsleil-Waututh)/Vancouver, B.C. – January 7, 2020) On December 31, 2019, the BC Supreme Court granted an injunction against members of the Wet'suwet'en Nation who have been defending their sovereign and unceded territories from the impacts of resource extraction projects, including a proposed 670-km long liquified natural gas pipeline. The Hereditary Chiefs of all five Wet'suwet'en clans rejected the Court's decision and issued an eviction notice.

The UBCIC Chiefs Council fully supports the efforts of Indigenous Nations to ensure that their inherent Title and Rights are unconditionally recognized and upheld. As directed by Resolution 2019-07, we reiterate our call upon the governments of Canada and B.C. to honour the S.C.C.'s precedent-setting *Delgamuukw* case which confirmed that Wet'suwet'en Title and Rights have never been extinguished. Further, we fully expect B.C. to uphold the new provincial legislation that applies the *United Nations Declaration on the Right of Indigenous Peoples* to B.C. laws. Free, prior and informed consent of the proper Title and Rights holders impacted must be achieved prior to the approval of any project affecting their land, territories and other resources. We encourage organizations, advocates, and members of the public to participate in the solidarity actions that are planned:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/s/international-call-to-solidari/3117435991815112/>.

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UBCIC is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

For more information please visit www.ubcic.bc.ca.