Wet'suwet'en Solidarity Statement

The Wet’suwet’en people’s unseeded lands were violently raided one year ago by the RCMP and Coastal GasLinks (CGL), specifically targeting the Gidimt’en checkpoint which blocks the path to the proposed CGL pipeline construction on Wet’suwet’en territory.

This raid involved extreme violence, resulting in the arrest of fourteen members of the Wet’suwet’en Nation on their own land. Wet’suwet’en people have been occupying their traditional territories and exercising their sovereignty and ‘Anuk nu’at’en (Wet’suwet’en law) in the face of several proposed pipeline projects across their territory.

These projects, such as the CGL pipeline by TC Energy (formerly TransCanada), have been using violent and forceful action to illegally gain access to Wet’suwet’en territory by operating without free, prior, and informed consent from Wet’suwet’en Hereditary Chiefs. CGL’s actions continue, despite two rulings from the Supreme Court of Canada recognizing Wet’suwet’en Hereditary chiefs as titleholders with full authority and jurisdiction over Wet’suwet’en territory.

All five Hereditary Chiefs oppose pipeline construction, but their authority and ‘Anuk nu’at’en (Wet’suwet’en law) continue to be ignored by TC Energy, both provincial and federal governments, and the Canadian courts. On December 31st, 2019, the B.C. Supreme Court granted an injunction against members of the Wet’suwet’en Nation, thereby criminalizing Wet’suwet’en law and those defending and upholding it. Wet’suwet’en Hereditary Chiefs responded by evicting CGL workers from their territory and now, RCMP are once again preparing violent action against Wet’suwet’en people.

Wilfrid Laurier TAs United stands with Wet’suwet’en people and those on the frontlines defending Wet’suwet’en sovereignty against colonial and corporate violence. We call on the B.C. provincial government as well as all Canadian governments, to abide by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.

Finally, we rebuke the Canadian state for its historical legacy of criminalizing Indigenous resistance movements to justify extreme violence to gain access to land and resources. *The Guardian* recently reported that RCMP officers were instructed to use lethal force against Wet’suwet’en land defenders. We strongly condemn this unwarranted violence.

#AllEyesOnWet’suwet’en #WetsuwetenStrong #NoTrespass #LandBack #RiseUp #Sovereignty

Follow this link to join solidarity actions near you: <https://www.facebook.com/events/3117435991815112/>

Tell the RCMP to Stand Down:

<https://dogwoodbc.ca/petitions/rcmp-stand-down-on-wetsuweten-territory/?fbclid=IwAR2G4Cj1j6ShDwnBRPKmwO8az_v-10Ata_3nnT02t-O23wWIloEJrdMt17o>

Wet’suwet’en Supporter Toolkit: <http://unistoten.camp/supportertoolkit2020/?fbclid=IwAR1HjIW4IsEofzS5ZVkYnFeLOl3m-Txgo0xLlhanhtVzjtHcRKbFGOkiw8w>

Resources

<http://unistoten.camp/alleyesonwetsuweten/?fbclid=IwAR39PkWvbEAokdf627VoHQGRV_e6Dni54RxQAhwXy0Dvnacbp_89f_c7WCc>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xoGCEZdwn9ExzYPEDwqY063V5fLj3iatu-AOF-lqGQ4/edit>

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/dec/20/canada-indigenous-land-defenders-police-documents>

<https://thetyee.ca/News/2020/01/05/Year-After-RCMP-Raid-Wetsuweten-New-injunction/>

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