

UNBC Faculty and Staff in Solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs

We, the following faculty and staff at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC), are expressing our solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs who have evicted Coastal Gas Link (CGL) and their employees from their territories. We call on the Government of British Columbia and the Government of Canada, as well as the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to respect this eviction that is based on the fact that the Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs have never ceded their jurisdiction to the lands they have governed for thousands of years.

The Supreme Court of Canada, in *Delgamuukw & Gisday wa*, upheld the fact that Aboriginal Rights to traditionally occupied, unceded lands in British Columbia have not been extinguished and that provincial laws cannot extinguish Aboriginal Rights.

Our federal government talks of reconciliation and our provincial government has recently passed a bill that says they will honor the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). These are hollow promises if they continue to support resource development projects like CGL against the expressed will of the Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs.

Our university has a long history of recognizing and honoring Aboriginal leaders who have fought for the land rights of their people. The late Dr. Alfred Joseph held the name *Gisday wa* and spent a great deal of his life fighting for the land rights of the Wet'suwet'en people. Dr. Roger William led the *Tsilhqot'in* land title case that was decided by a unanimous decision in the Supreme Court of Canada. Our present Chancellor, Dr. Joseph Gosnell was a key figure in the *Nisga'a*, fight for self-government of their lands. These individuals were all awarded honorary degrees from UNBC.

At this pivotal point in Canadian history, we ask our elected leaders, provincially and federally to insist the RCMP stand down. We also ask our elected leaders to

begin honorable and respectful negotiations with the Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs in regards to their rights and title to the lands they have been responsible for since time immemorial.

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| 1. Dr. Ross Hoffman | First Nations Studies |
| 2. Dr. Marieka Sax | Geography Program |
| 3. Michelle Connolly | Pacific Institute for Climate Solution |
| 4. Antonio Muñoz Gómez | Geoffrey R. Weller Library |
| 5. Dr. Si Transken | School of Social Work |
| 6. Dr. Arthur L. Fredeen | Ecosystem Science & Management Program |
| 7. Aneta Douglass | Finance Department |
| 8. Dr. Gail Fondahl | Geography Program |
| 9. Felicity Edzerza | International Student Services |
| 10. Dr. Zoe Meletis | Geography Program |
| 11. Sheila Iwanciwski | School of Education |
| 12. Dr. Paul Sanborn | Ecosystem Science and Management |
| 13. Dr. Sean Maurice | Northern Medical Program |
| 14. Dr. Rajeev Pillay | Natural Resources & Environmental Studies |
| 15. Mandi Schwarz | Geoffrey R. Weller Library |
| 16. Dr. Kristen Guest | Department of English |
| 17. Valerie Boyes | Institutional Planning Analyst |

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| 18. Dr. Sarah de Leeuw | Northern Medical Program |
| 19. Dr. Pamela A. Wright | Ecosystem Science and Management |
| 20. Dr. Loraine Lavallee | Department of Psychology |
| 21. Dr. Philip Mullins | Outdoor Recreation & Tourism Mngmnt. |
| 22. Dr. Denise Tarlier | School of Nursing |
| 23. Dr. Tina Fraser | School of Education |
| 24. Anita Shaw | Instructor, Women's and Gender Studies |
| 25. Spencer Hammond | First Nations Centre |
| 26. Erica Hernandez-Read | Northern BC Archives & Special Collections |
| 27. Danika Doucette | Facilities Management |
| 28. Marian Kotowich-Laval | School of Education\ |
| 29. Dr. Natalia Loukacheva | Department of Political Science |
| 30. Vaunda Dumont | Geoffrey R. Weller Library |
| 31. Dr. Paul D. Siakaluk | Department of Psychology |
| 32. Dr. Steve Helle | Environmental Engineering |
| 33. Belinda Larisch | |
| 34. Dr. Paul Bowles | Department of Economics |
| 35. Earl Henderson | First Nations Studies |
| 36. Maria Walsh | |
| 37. Robert Laval | |

38. Dr. Scott Green	Natural Resources & Environmental Studies
39. Dr. Daniel J. Weeks	President & Vice-Chancellor
40. Bethany Haffner	Office of Graduate Studies
41. Dr. Jason Lacharite	Department of Political Science
42. Dr. Hossein Kazemian	Northern Analytical Lab Services
43. Jenni Bomford	Department of English
44. Dr. Jernej Polajnar	Computer Science
45. Nicole Balliet	Office of Research
46. Dr. Jonathan Swainger	History Department
47. Dr. Sylvia Barton	School of Nursing
48. Katriona S. Auerbach	Health Arts Research Centre
49. Dr. Vanessa Sloan Morgan	Geography Program
50. Dr. Eduardo Martins	Ecosystem Science & Management Program
51. Dr. Thomas Tannert	Integrated Engineering Wood Design
52. Dr. Susan Burke	School of Social Work
53. Dr. Jacqueline Holler	History Department
54. Dr. Alina Constantin	Northern Medical Program
55. Dr. Henry Harder	School of Health Sciences
56. Dr. Antonia Mills	First Nations Studies
57. Dr. Linda MacKinley-Hay	Department of English

58. Dr. Alexander Lautensach	School of Education
59. Dr. Richard Schuster	Ecosystem Science & Management Program
60. Dr. Diana Kutzner	ECHO Network
61. Glen Thielmann	School of Education
62. Shannon MacKay	Student Recruitment & Advising Centre
63. Hugues Massicotte	Ecosystem Science & Management Program
64. Linda Tackaberry	Ecosystem Science & Management Program
65. Dr. Margot Parkes	School of Health Sciences
66. Dr. Stephen Rader	Department of Biochemistry
67. Dr. Kevin Hutchings	Department of English
68. Dawn Hemingway	School of Social Work
69. Dr. Farid Rahemtulla	Anthropology Program

As of 4:00pm Jan. 10, 2020