



MITCHIKANIBIKOK INIK

Algonquins of Barriere Lake
Les Algonquins du Lac Barrière

Kitiganik • Rapid Lake - Lac Rapide, Qc J0X 2C0
Téléphone: (819) 435-2181 Fax: (819) 435-2181

February 18, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barriere Lake Stands with the Wet'suwet'en

Rapid Lake, QC – The Mitchikanibikok Inik – Algonquins of Barriere Lake stand with Wet'suwet'en and Hereditary Chiefs as they protect their unceded territory, land and water from industry corporations attempting to undermine their Indigenous rights and jurisdiction.

At 10am, Barriere Lake members will begin slowing traffic on the highway 117 to distribute information packages to the public on the situation involving Wet'suwet'en and Unist'ot'en Camp.

The criminalization of Wet'suwet'en as well as other Indigenous peoples peacefully protecting pristine land and water from corporations such as the LNG Canada and TransCanada pipeline is shameful. In 2020, Indigenous peoples continue to face threats to their human rights as Police invade territories to enforce injunctions supporting resource extraction.

Barriere Lake stands in solidarity with Wet'suwet'en recognizing that what is happening in British Columbia may also happen on our own unceded territory with the proposed Gazoduq pipeline. Barriere Lake condemns the use of armed police, arrests, legal prosecution, and physical violence against their Indigenous brothers and sisters in Wet'suwet'en.

Barriere Lakes calls upon the provincial and federal government to uphold their responsibilities to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Degamuukw decision and Wet'suwet'en law.

The Delgamuukw decision stemmed from a 1984 **case** launched by the leaders of the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en First Nations, who took the provincial government to court to establish jurisdiction over 58,000 square kilometres of land and water in northwest British Columbia.

For more information:

Casey Ratt 819-441-8002