



TSLEIL-WAUTUTH NATION
THE PEOPLE OF THE INLET

Key Language

West Coast Oil Pipeline Summit and
Signing of International Treaty to Protect the Sacred From Tar Sands Projects

Event Name

West Coast Oil Pipeline Summit and
Signing of International Treaty to Protect the Sacred From Tar Sands Projects

Tagline

Say yes to a beautiful BC and a clean energy direction for the future, say no to Kinder Morgan and pipeline expansion!

When

Friday, April 19, 2013

12.30 pm Signing of International Treaty to Protect the Sacred From Tar Sands Projects
02.00 pm West Coast Oil Pipeline Summit and Gala Dinner

Where

Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre
1088 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 2R9
(604) 331-1000

Who

The Tsleil-Waututh Nation is a growing community of 500 located on the north shore of the Burrard Inlet near the neighbourhood of Deep Cove. Tsleil-Waututh traditional territory with its land and waters has been home to the Nation since time out of mind and encompasses approximately 190,000 hectares (720 square miles) stretching from the Fraser River in the south, to Mamquam Lake east of Whistler Mountain in the north.

The Tsleil-Waututh Nation is not opposed to development, rather it focuses on sustainable projects and methodologies and has been successful in economic development for 20 years.

Why

Kinder Morgan has proposed building a new pipeline to bring crude oil/bitumen to foreign markets through the Burrard Inlet and the Salish Sea. Tsleil-Waututh is located at the terminus of Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline, and is adamantly opposed to the new pipeline.

Trans Mountain pipeline proposal details:

- Kinder Morgan proposes to increase transport of crude oil/bitumen through Trans Mountain from its present level of approximately 300,000 barrels per day to 890,000 barrels per day.
- This could mean more than 350 oil tankers per year entering the Burrard Inlet compared to the current 30 to 70 per year.

The pipeline project is not intended to meet the energy needs of the Lower Mainland or British Columbia. The crude oil/bitumen that the pipeline will carry is for export and will not be refined in British Columbia.



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Trans Mountain pipeline's safety record is cause for serious concern:

- Since the Trans Mountain Pipeline was constructed in 1951, there have been 78 spills.
- The largest of these spills have taken place since Kinder Morgan took over the line in 2005.
- In 2007, Tsleil-Waututh Nation witnessed first hand the environmental impacts of a Kinder Morgan oil spill in Burrard Inlet. 232,000 litres of crude oil spilled out of the Trans Mountain pipeline in Burnaby, BC. The crude oil flowed through neighbourhood storm sewers and ditches before contaminating a large portion of Burrard Inlet. The effects of that spill are being felt to this day.

It is now, and has always been, the birthright and the obligation of the Tsleil-Waututh people to care for the lands and waters of their territory and to restore them to their prior state. It is through the fulfillment of this vision that future generations of Tsleil-Waututh thrive. The Trans Mountain pipeline project presents a risk too great for the Nation to accept.

As the *People of the Inlet*, Tsleil-Waututh are opposing this project, and are calling on all **Leaders, elected officials and** community leaders, to stand up against the Trans Mountain Pipeline project.

How

The Tsleil-Waututh Sacred Trust

Tsleil-Waututh have a sacred trust, a responsibility to care for their traditional territory. The Sacred Trust is an initiative of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation mandated to oppose and stop the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project. The Sacred Trust communicates on behalf of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation and is hosting this treaty signing and conference to raise public awareness nationally and internationally.

What

1. Signing of the International Treaty to Protect the Sacred from the Tar Sands Projects

The Tsleil-Waututh Nation will join more than ten US Nations and Tribes in opposition to the expansion of tar sands infrastructure and to raise awareness for the environmental threats posed.

The Treaty was first signed in January of 2013 and, as it garners more support, continues to build momentum.

Indigenous sovereign nations have a long history of treaty making amongst themselves. Many pertain to peace and friendship and to the protection of Mother Earth. In January and on the 150 year anniversary of the Treaty Between the Pawnee and Yankton Sioux, the representatives from sovereign Indigenous Nations, tribes, and governments, participated on Ihanktonwan homelands in the Gathering to Protect the Sacred on January 23 – 25, 2013 and resolved by their free, prior, and informed consent to enter into a treaty to be forever respected and protected. In the Treaty, the undersigned agreed that tar sands projects present unacceptable risks to the soil, the waters, the air, sacred sites, and the Nations and Tribes ways of life.

Tsleil-Waututh is the first Nation to sign the Treaty opposing Kinder Morgan's expansion project.



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2. West Coast Oil Pipeline Summit and Gala Dinner

The one-day conference will look at the concept of transitioning from oil-generated energy to alternative forms of renewable energy production. Presentations from independent subject matter experts will cover the economics, legal and environmental aspects, risk management, Aboriginal title and rights, financing and policy making of both the existing oil industry and future renewable energy options.

Who Signs and Speaks

1. Signing of the International Treaty to Protect the Sacred from the Tar Sands Projects

Chief Maureen Thomas will sign on behalf of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation. The signing will be witnessed by National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo, Assembly of First Nations.

Also in attendance will be Tsleil-Waututh Councillors, Mel Sheldon, Chairman and Deborah Parker, Vice Chairwomen of Tulalip Tribes, Chief Phil Lane Jr., Hereditary Chief and Elder of the Ihanktonwan Dakota and Chickasaw Nations and Jewell Praying Wolf James of the Lummi Nation.

2. The West Coast Oil Pipeline Summit and Gala Dinner

The powerful roster of speakers includes:

- Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President, Union of BC Indian Chiefs
- Dave Coles, President, Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union
- Mayor Gregor Robertson, City of Vancouver
- Mayor Derek Corrigan, City of Burnaby
- Chief Maureen Thomas, Tsleil-Waututh Nation
- Justin George, Tsleil-Waututh Nation
- Robyn Allan, Economist
- Tzeporah Berman, Environmental Activist

Who Says What

"Our future depends on a swift, aggressive transition to renewable energy. For a healthy economy and environment, BC and Canadian governments must halt the subsidies and reckless expansion of fossil fuels, and focus now on creating jobs and prosperity with clean energy and technology." - Mayor Gregor Robertson, City of Vancouver

"We must develop energy policies that focus on meeting North American energy requirements, not on profiting multinational corporations at the expense of our environmental security. Risking an environmental disaster to provide energy supply for export is unacceptable policy and practice." - Mayor Derek Corrigan, City of Burnaby

"The whole community needs to come together to protect the Burrard Inlet and surrounding area for our future generations. This is an issue that effects everyone, and the need to look into alternative forms of renewable energy is more urgent than ever. The Tsleil-Waututh Nation is proud to own TWN Wind Power, a business that is exploring one such alternative energy source." - Maureen Thomas, Chief of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation

Who Should Attend

Anyone who wants to explore options for keeping B.C.'s environment protected for future generations should attend.



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How to Register

The cost is \$100 per delegate.

For more information and to register visit www.twnation.ca.

Who to Ask

Event Contact
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