



June 19th, 2017

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Mr. Prime Minister,

Via Email

The BC Métis Federation is a non-profit association that works with Métis communities to ensure the well-being of grassroots BCMF members. The Crown has a legal obligation to consult with the Métis.

In your guidelines for Aboriginal Consultation and Accommodation the Guiding Principle No. 1 is that:

“The Government of Canada, in carrying out its activities, will respect the potential or established Aboriginal or Treaty rights of First Nation, Métis and Inuit people by consulting with Aboriginal groups whose rights and related interests may be adversely impacted by a proposed Government of Canada activity.”

Over the last few months you have made two major decisions that affects our members rights and related interests. Last November you decided without consultation to dismiss the Northern Gateway Project. This was after the Federal Court of Appeal found that the federal government’s consultation was woeful. Instead of consulting properly you decided not to consult at all. We invested in our Métis Economic Development Corporation and the end result is million in actual lost revenues and we are now more hopeless than before. Many of our members and their businesses desperately needed this project to succeed.

This month you introduced the *Oil Tanker Moratorium Act* legislation into Parliament. This was done without any consultation with the BC Métis Federation. We call upon you to fulfill your duty to consult with us before advancing the legislation any further.

We believe that we are in a strong position to defend our rights for environmental protection and economic development. Instead your blanket moratorium leaves the dangers of existing shipping with inadequate response. At the same time, by these recent decisions you eliminated an economic opportunity that profoundly impacted our members, included many living in poverty.

We look forward to hearing a positive response and beginning a constructive consultation process that results in a solution that better needs the interests of our members and of all Canadians.

Therefore we are requesting a meeting to discuss future engagement that will find a healthy balance between the Federal Government policies while not terminating legitimate economic opportunities for our Métis members or their businesses.



I look forward to a positive response. Please have staff email me k.henry@bcmetis.com to discuss the matter.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith" followed by a stylized flourish.

Keith Henry
President
BC Métis Federation

cc The Honourable Marc Garneau, P.C., M.P., Minister of Transport
The Honourable Doctor Carolyn Bennett, P.C., M.P.; Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
Members of Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities
BC Métis Federation Board Members
BC Métis Federation Members