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Immediate Release

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TMX Forum Demonstrates Strong Desire for Metis Contracting and Employment

(Surrey, BC) BC Métis Federation members, partner communities and several Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) project partners met this week in Surrey, British Columbia to continue working on a strategy to ensure employment and contract opportunities for our members and Métis small businesses. The TMX Forum was supported by the Government of Canada (through Natural Resources Canada) along with the Trans Mountain Corporation and the Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee (IAMC).

The TMX Forum was attended by 130 delegates (estimated) from Clearwater, Kamloops, Kelowna, Surrey, Vancouver, Coquitlum, Terrace, and several other locations. The TMX Forum was a direct response by the BC Métis Federation leadership's recent community meetings about the TMX held this past fall. Since these meetings BC Métis Federation has also continued engagement with the Government of Canada, through Natural Resources Canada and other Federal Government agencies under the reconsideration phase.

BC Métis Federation President Keith Henry stated, "This was an excellent meeting where Métis members asked questions about TMX issues such as safety policies, environmental response planning, and other key priorities such as Métis opportunities for employment or Métis business contracting. The TMX Forum was constructive and positive and members understand and want to ensure fair opportunities should TMX get final approval in June."

BC Métis Federation President Henry added, "I want to say a special thank you to the TMX contractors along the spreads such as Ledcor – Sicim, Suereus Murphy, Cord, Kiewit, and others as their attendance and sharing of information about how to secure employment or contract opportunities was incredibly important."

BC Metis Federation President Henry concluded, "The BC Métis Federation leaders and our operational team will be preparing a report with next steps based on feedback and updating strategies to bring opportunities to our members and Métis businesses. Thank you to our team and partners for supporting such a successful event."

For more information about the BC Métis Federation go to www.bcmmetis.com.

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*You can now follow BC Métis Federation President Keith Henry on twitter @keithhenryMetis
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