



MUSQUEAM



SQUAMISH



TSLEIL-WAUTUTH

January 17, 2024

BC Metis Federation
Keith Henry, CEO
Sent Via Email: K.Henry@BCMets.com

Dear Mr. Henry,

Re: BC Metis Federation Coastal Water Protectors' Conference

It has come to our attention that the BC Metis Federation is planning a Coastal Water Protectors' Conference, scheduled to take place within the ancestral, traditional, and unceded territories of the x̣ẉməθḳẉəỵəm, ṣḳẉx̣ẉú7mesh, and ṣəḷiḷẉətał (the MST Nations) on January 20, 2024.

As our Nations are the exclusive title and rights holders within our shared territories, the premise that the BC Metis Federation has a coastal territory to protect is fundamentally flawed. Furthermore, our Nations take great pride in our individual and collective jurisdictional stewardship authority to our coastal shared territory. By attempting to mimic this work in our territory without seeking our involvement or permission is a serious breach of our cultural protocols.

As a first step in rectifying the actions of the BC Metis Federation, we request that you cancel your planned Coastal Water Protectors' Conference effective immediately. Going forward we request that you reach out to our joint MST Nations technical team to schedule a meeting for us to better understand your proposed activities in our shared territory and clarify any further issues of infringement on MST title and rights.

Sincerely,

Chief Wayne Sparrow
**Musqueam
Indian Band**

Khelsilem, Chairperson
Squamish Nation

Chief Jen
Thomas
**Tsleil-Waututh
Nation**

cc First Nations Leadership Council, (lgeorge-wilson@fns.bc.ca),
(vanessa.west@bcfn.ca), (ubcic@ubcic.bc.ca)

The Honourable Diane LeBouthillier, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the
Canadian Coast Guard (DFO.Minister-Ministre.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)