



## FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

# NEWS RELEASE

---

*For Immediate Release  
December 22, 2006*

### **First Nations Seek Government-to-Government Input into BC Energy Plan**

**Coast Salish Territory/West Vancouver, BC** – The First Nations Summit is concerned that the British Columbia government will release their proposed Energy Plan without having conducted meaningful consultation with First Nations.

“The Provincial Energy Plan initiative is inconsistent with the New Relationship and the latest Court decisions and we hope the Province is willing to consult and accommodate First Nations rights and title before the plan is finalized”, said Dave Porter, a member of the First Nations Summit political executive.

“This is a prime opportunity for the province and BC Hydro to work with First Nations to ensure energy projects are in keeping with First Nations values. First Nations would rather work in partnership than in conflict”, stated Chief Judith Sayers, also a member of the First Nations Summit political executive.

“We need to work with the province to ensure that First Nations have viable opportunities to be involved in the Energy Sector from the early stages of proposed power projects and onwards. First Nations can and should play a significant role by contributing to this industry in positive ways both as potential partners and proponents as well as contributors to large labour force needed”, added Chief Sayers.

The First Nations Summit is calling upon the provincial government to participate in the upcoming First Nations Energy Summit scheduled for April 2-4, 2007 in Vancouver. The First Nations Summit sees this as a prime opportunity for government of BC to collaborate with First Nations on a government-to-government basis. First Nations remain optimistic that a joint plan can be developed based on discussions with all First Nations communities during the spring Energy Summit. Invitations have been sent to the federal and provincial governments and to all First Nations communities in British Columbia.

-30-

The First Nations Summit speaks on behalf of First Nations involved in treaty negotiations in British Columbia. Further background information on the Summit may be found at [www.fns.bc.ca](http://www.fns.bc.ca).

For Further Information:  
Nicola Lambrechts  
Phone: 604-684-6655 or cell: 604-970-9113