

FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Statement

February 24, 2022

First Nations Leadership Council Statement on Violence in Wet'suwet'en Territory

(X̣ẉṃə̣θ̣ḳẉə̣ỵəm (Musqueam), Sḳẉx̣ẉụ́7̣mesh (Squamish) and sə̣ḷiḷẉə̣ṭə̣ł̣
(Tseil-Waututh)/Vancouver, B.C.)

The First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) is concerned with recent reports of violence and acts of vandalism in Wet'suwet'en territory at the Coastal GasLink pipeline project.

Our first and foremost concern is for the safety and well-being of the Wet'suwet'en people who, like all First Nations in BC, actively exercise their rights and traditional practices, such as trapping, year-round within their traditional territory. The Wet'suwet'en should not have to fear for their safety or well being while undertaking their traditional practices and should not have any on-going investigations negatively impact their ability to carry out their traditional practices or limit access to their territories.

We stand with the Wet'suwet'en people in complete opposition to any acts of violence or any acts of vandalism within their territory.

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The First Nations Leadership Council is comprised of the political executives of the BC Assembly of First Nations (BCAFN), First Nations Summit (FNS), and the Union of BC Indian Chiefs (UBCIC).

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