

**Prince Rupert** Gas Transmission Project

# PRGT Project Activity Update #33

April–June 2016



# **About the Project**

The proposed Prince Rupert Gas Transmission (PRGT) Project is an approximately 900 kilometre natural gas pipeline to be routed from north of Hudson's Hope B.C. to the proposed Pacific NorthWest LNG export facility on Lelu Island within the District of Port Edward. Upon receiving all approvals, PRGT will be constructed and operated with safety and environmental stewardship as top priorities.

Once it's operating, the project will generate an estimated \$25 million each year in property taxes. This revenue will help support school and hospital districts, emergency services, recreation services, recycling programs and other local programs vital to sustaining strong communities.

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# **Project Updates**

## Schedule

In February, a public comment period related to Pacific NorthWest LNG's (PNW LNG) Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) application kicked off, which concluded on March 11. In that time, over 8,000 comments were submitted with many Canadians and British Columbians voicing support for the project.

#### click here to read more

Once CEAA has received all the required information from PNW LNG, a report will be prepared for review by federal cabinet ministers, who will make a final decision on the permit for PNW. The federal government has committed to making a decision on the permit within 90 days of receiving all required information from PNW LNG.

In the meantime, PRGT continues to engage with communities and First Nations, is pursuing all required construction-related permits, and is refining costs and schedules to be ready to begin construction. Once PNW LNG receives a positive decision from the federal government under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act and has confirmed its decision to proceed with the project, PRGT will begin construction activities. The project will begin site preparation at camp locations (required to house construction staff) and right-of-way clearing, with commencement of pipeline construction activities shortly thereafter.

#### Visit our new website!

PRGT is pleased to launch our new and improved website. Here you'll find the latest news and information about the project, facts about natural gas and LNG, our Vendor Registration form, maps, articles, previous project activity updates, and much more. We encourage you to head to www.princerupertgas.com for more information about PRGT!



## Building strong, long-term relationships with Indigenous peoples

In April, PRGT announced two more project agreements with B.C. First Nations bringing the total number of project agreements signed on PRGT to 11. Agreements with the Takla Lake First Nation and McLeod Lake Indian Band (MLIB) outline benefits and commitments, including business opportunities, employment for community members that will be provided during construction as well as financial benefits now and for as long as the project is in service. TransCanada continues to build on more than 30 years of engaging with Indigenous communities. We advanced our commitment to building and maintaining long-term relationships with Indigenous communities based on respect, trust, open communication, and recognition that many of our activities occur on traditional lands. Respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples, while acknowledging and learning from Indigenous peoples' distinct relationship to the land remains integral to our work.

## In The Community

#### September 9: Mackenzie Free Swim

Join us for a back-to-school free swim at the Mackenzie Rec Centre on September 9 from 6am to 9pm. TransCanada staff will be set up in the lobby from 4pm to 8pm with snacks for all attendees.



# **Investing in Skills Training and Education**

Over the past 2 years, TransCanada's Pathway to Pipeline Readiness Program has been delivering training and capacity development initiatives to northern B.C. residents and First Nations with a focus on preparing the local workforce for opportunities in the pipeline construction field, as well as providing transferable skills that can be used in a variety of industrial areas.

Since 2014, we have created over 550 course seats and bursaries available to individuals across B.C. through our partners including northern colleges and Aboriginal training organizations. To date, 372 students have enrolled in one of the Pathway to Pipeline Readiness initiatives and 313 of these students have successfully graduated for an average graduation rate of 84% overall.

Please visit our Project Benefits website page to learn about specific training opportunities currently available in your region: <u>http://www.princerupertgas.com/benefits/</u>

#### TRICORP

The 3rd group of TransCanada-sponsored TRICORP students graduated from the industry safety and essential skills training program on June 24, 2016. Over the past 10 weeks, 15 students from the Prince Rupert area have been working to upgrade their math and English skills and earn certificates required for positions related to pipeline construction and other fields. Since 2015, through TransCanada's partnership with TRICORP, a total of 42 students from First Nations communities across western B.C. have been able to access training to prepare them for the workforce and build their skills sets. Congratulations to all the students!



TransCanada's BC projects were a proud sponsor of the 2016 NCLGA AGM and Conference.

# **Investing in the Community**

## Spark Women's Leadership Conference

For the third year in a row, TransCanada was proud to be a sponsor of the Spark Women's Leadership Conference, hosted by the North Peace Economic Development Commission. This year's theme was Step Boldly, encouraging the women in attendance to step outside their comfort zones and go for their goals. The conference featured a variety of engaging speakers who presented on topics such as effective public speaking, recognizing our greatness, and staying grounded when facing adversity. Team members from TransCanada's North Montney Mainline Project were honored to attend and support this fantastic event.

## NCLGA

PRGT was pleased to participate in this year's North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) AGM and Conference in Dawson Creek. Leaders from municipalities, First Nations, and industries across Northern BC converged on the Encana Events Centre to network, discuss policies, and debate resolutions specific to regional issues affecting residents of the north. Resolutions at this year's AGM addressed topics ranging from fossil protection, to wildfire management, to industry community consultation.

Thank you to the City of Dawson Creek for a wonderful conference!

Patricia Zuzcek, North Montney Mainline Project Manager, introduces speaker Sarah McVanel, who presented on living and leveraging our greatness.

## **BC Chamber of Commerce AGM**

It was clear BC businesses are ready for the opportunities LNG will bring during this year's BC Chamber of Commerce AGM and Conference, held in Kelowna. Over 200 delegates participated in the annual conference, which sees local Chambers throughout BC develop, debate, and vote on policy that helps shape their advocacy work in the province. TransCanada was excited to sponsor the Monday breakfast, which featured a presentation from Jesse Hirsh of Metaviews Media Management, discussing what the economy of the future looks like.



Niels Petersen of Denmark works on his carving during the 2016 Chetwynd International Chainsaw Carving Championship.

## Chetwynd International Chainsaw Carving Championship

The Chetwynd International Chainsaw Carving Championship is a world-class competition that draws some of the most skilled carvers from countries around the world. Started in 2005, this year's annual event ran from June 9-12 and featured 12 carvers from all over Canada, the US, Denmark, and the UK. TransCanada was proud to be a sponsor of the 2016 competition and team members from PRGT were on hand to take in some of the exciting events.

Congratulations to the Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce for yet another successful year!



This incredible carving by Chad Danczyk took first place at this year's competition.