



Tkemlups te Secwépeḿc

(Kamloops Indian Band)

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

Statement on Trans Mountain Protestors – Oct. 16, 2020

On behalf of Chief and Council, I just wanted to provide a statement on the protest activity around the Trans Mountain Pipeline project. TteS Elders and membership were not part of yesterday's incident, nor do they endorse the protesters.

I am the spokesperson for TteS, on behalf of our membership. I am the elected Kukpi7 under our own custom election code and the Ex Officio for all TteS portfolios. The area that Trans Mountain is working in is our area of responsibility. **No one else has the right to speak on our behalf.**

We respect that individuals have the right to peaceful and lawful expressions of opinion, but no one should have to tolerate violence. Thank you to the RCMP for maintaining peace and order.

Trans Mountain continues to work in our campfire area. Both TteS and SSN (TteS and Skeetchestn) have a signed MBA with Trans Mountain. We work cooperatively with the company on the project. We all want our family members who have meaningful contracting and employment with the project, to work in a safe environment knowing that they can provide for their families.

As per my oath that I swore to my community that I would continue to create an environment of integrity built on the foundation of fairness, respect, and trust for a healthy, safe and prosperous community while capitalizing and upholding our responsibilities to ensure our resources are sustainable for future generations.

TteS has not sold or ceded or given anything away. We have upheld our jurisdictional rights. We have participated in the decision-making matters that affected our rights and as previously stated, we are VERY proud to have made an impact and changes to the environmental process.

Part of the right to Self Determination includes economic benefits as a result of our territory. We have secured employment, contracting, and have a say on how our lands



will be managed while ensuring the protection of the said lands. That is what exercising Title is about. *To Be* involved in the planning and decision making over our lands, waters, and resources.

With respect,

Kukpi7 Rosanne Casimir
On behalf of Tk'emlúps Chief and Council