



Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

(Kamloops Indian Band)

Chief and Council Update on the Transmountain Project – September 21, 2020

Weyt-kp xwexwéytec, Kukwstép-kucw. On behalf of TteS Chief and Council, I would like to address some misinformation that has been circulating in the media and on social media. There have been statements about the potential destruction of 67 archeological sites within the direct ancestral lands of Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc of Secwépemcúl'ecw due to the construction of the TMX pipeline. Those concerns were expressed through social media, and I thank Councillor Jeanette Jules for her response from a Rights and Title perspective.

Note that the statements on the 67 archaeological sites came from an archeologist's perspective, who does not work for TteS.

YOUR TteS leadership will continue to declare and assert our jurisdictional rights. We continue to hold the crown, any level of government and/or any proponent to account for the obligations of consultation and a duty to accommodate.

TteS are signatories of an MBA, 2015. The MBA negotiated our moderns indenture amending agreement with ISC within Tk'emlúpssemc. We are also signatories, along with Skeetchestn, to another MBA 2019 (SSN) with TMX on our TteS direct ancestral lands within Secwépemcúl'ecw. This is public and is noted on various websites.

Information on the detailed TteS MBA has been shared with membership and is still open for our Registered TteS Band Members to come and review at TteS, by appointment. Please note there will be no reproduction, photos, or notes taken on the agreement, and you can take all the time needed for review to confirm the entirety of our membership's collective interests.

Facts that I want to share:

- We at TteS do not take our signed MBA lightly. We do stand behind mitigatable and unmitigable environmental, nor our cultural heritage treasures, concerns and uphold our rights and title. We have not given our delegated authority to any one or any group to speak or sign off on behalf of TteS.



- Our TteS membership can continue to expect and respect that we are community driven and that we have oaths to office that we uphold.

Our relationship with Trans Mountain has been strengthened through their continual support involving environmental protection and cultural resource management through every step of the construction of this project within Tk'emlúpsemc.

Our expectation is that Trans Mountain will continue to do extensive work on environmental protection with the mandatory consultation with us at TteS within our direct ancestral lands, and furthermore that the protection of our culturally significant sites will not be impacted. TMX has expressed to us that minimizing direct impacts in our community remains their focus and commitment to us. Please note that we continue to nurture our relationship and like any relationship requires attention and respect as we move forward.

For our members who are vehemently against the pipeline, note that we do carry your concerns and include them in our negotiations. We all want change.

Protecting and upholding our connection to the land is more than a responsibility, it is our mandate to protect for future generations.

We know as your leaders, we feel the pressures, challenges, and the stress of the pipeline that travels through our IRs and ancestral lands. We will continue to provide updates and we are open to conversations on any area within TteS that you may have or have concerns and would like further discussions and clarifications.

Stay healthy and safe,

Kukwstetsemc,

Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc

Chief Rosanne Casimir

On behalf of Chief and Council