

October 16, 2018

THE INDIGENOUS RIGHT TO SAY NO

Indigenous Nationhood – Oct 12

The federal government recently announced that it will not appeal the court decision which quashed Canada's approval of the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion. Instead, Canada will engage with the 117 impacted First Nations in a consultation process led by former Supreme Court of Canada Justice Frank Iacobucci. If ever there was a sign that the government was going to force this pipeline expansion through the review process, this is it. After all, federal elections are just around the corner and Liberal Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has become the face of the Trans Mountain pipeline dispute and all the broken promises that it entails. Being criticized from all sides — the provinces, industry, Canadians and Indigenous peoples, and now the Federal Court of Appeal — Trudeau decided to bring out the big guns: Iacobucci. There is little doubt that he was engaged to lead this process to ensure that the technical aspects of consultations are met, thus insulating the government from an appeal of its decision. Even the most trusting person would be hard pressed to believe that the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) would hear an appeal about Iacobucci's consultation process let alone consider it in a truly neutral fashion.

<https://indigenounationhood.blogspot.com/2018/10/the-indigenous-right-to-say-no.html?m=1>

FEDERAL TRANSPORT MINISTER CALLS PROPOSED \$100B NORTHERN CORRIDOR 'AN APPEALING CONCEPT'

CBC News – Oct 13

The lead researcher for a proposed Northern Corridor across Canada says the project is "building momentum." Dr. Jennifer Winter, a researcher with the University of Calgary's School of Public Policy, said she and her colleagues are pitching a national right-of-way that could be used for road, rail, pipeline, electrical transmission and communication infrastructure. The route would run through Canada's north and near north and would interconnect with the country's existing transportation network. The idea is to increase the nation's capacity to transport resources to tidewater and access to global markets.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/canada-northern-corridor-infrastructure-1.4861272>

AFN MANITOBA REGIONAL CHIEF HART SAYS SUPREME COURT DECISION WILL NOT STOP FIRST NATIONS FROM DEFENDING AND ASSERTING THEIR RIGHTS

Cision – Oct 14

Assembly of First Nations (AFN) Manitoba Regional Chief Kevin Hart said today that the Supreme Court of Canada decision in the Mikisew Cree First Nation case does not mean Canada can ignore or deny First Nations rights or the duty to consult. "The Supreme Court may have ruled that the federal government does not have a duty to consult before tabling legislation, but it does not mean First Nations will stop asserting and defending their rights, their peoples and their traditional territories," said Regional Chief Hart. "The Crown still has a duty to consult on any activities that affect our lands, our waters or our rights and the Crown will be held to account. We are serving notice that we fully expect the Honour of the Crown to be upheld and that we will challenge any attempts to override our rights." Regional Chief Hart stated: "This decision is regrettable and a missed opportunity to rightfully engage with First Nations as partners in the legislative process. I commend the efforts of the Mikisew Cree First Nation in taking a stand for all First Nations and for First Nations Treaty rights."

<https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/afn-manitoba-regional-chief-hart-says-supreme-court-decision-will-not-stop-first-nations-from-defending-and-asserting-their-rights-697522401.html>

'YOU AINT SEEN NOTHING YET' – NORTHERN ONTARIO FORECASTED TO BE MINING TECHNOLOGY CAPITAL OF THE WORLD

CBC – Oct 15

Experts predict there will still be mining and mill towns across northern Ontario in 2058, but a lot of the traditional jobs, including underground, will be done by robots. The CBC's Erik White look at where northerners will be drawing their paycheques from 40 years from now.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/sudbury/next-40-northern-ontario-economy-future-1.4858748>

CCAB LAUNCH ABORIGINAL PROCUREMENT MARKETPLACE

Mining Shared Value Twitter – Oct 15

Launched to connect buyers with Aboriginal-owned businesses and supply portals: <https://info.tealbook.com/ccab>

INVESTORS FRUSTRATED AS DIAMOND MINE TALKS BETWEEN PROVINCE, FIRST NATION STALL

Saskatoon Phoenix – Oct 15

That is likely because a fresh round of talks with James Smith Cree Nation, launched last winter and originally expected to last six months, appear to have reached an impasse over various concerns, including access to land and natural resource royalties. "There will be no mine until our interests are satisfied. The way things stand, everyone else gets wealthy while we get the consequences," said Winston McLean, a James Smith band member and consultant working on the talks. Star Diamond's environmental impact statement is "hopelessly flawed," and the First Nation has had little success negotiating an impact benefit agreement with the company to address issues such as jobs, training, environmental impacts and land access, McLean said.

<https://thestarphoenix.com/news/local-news/there-will-be-no-mine-until-our-interests-are-satisfied-investors-frustrated-as-diamond-mine-talks-between-province-first-nation-stall>