



Coast Salish Tribal Nations stand together in opposing RBT2
press conference held during Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency hearings

WHAT: Canada is committed to securing “free, prior, and informed consent” from Indigenous peoples before undertaking projects that would affect those peoples. Members of Coast Salish Nations on both sides of the Canadian/ U.S. border **will deny such consent** to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) at the hearings for Roberts Bank Terminal 2 (RBT2).

Canadian projects impact Treaty rights, economies, and cultural and spiritual properties of Tribal Nations in the United States. Coast Salish culture, as well as the ecosystems and waters of the Salish Sea, flow as one and do not recognize the border.

If the consultation is to be anything more than a continuation of the colonizing process, and if the Crown is committed to authentic reconciliation, it should heed the call for an Indigenously-framed, comprehensive, cumulative impact assessment of marine vessel traffic, associated development, and other Salish Sea stressors.

Further, the Crown should put all Salish Sea industrial proposals on hold at least until such an assessment is conducted, and until a baseline for Salish Sea health, as measured in salmon levels and qwe lhol mechen (killer whale) survival, is established.

WHEN: Saturday, May 25, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM PST

WHERE: Beach Grove Golf Club Dining Room, 5946 12th Ave., Delta, BC V4L 1C7

WHY: Roberts Bank Terminal 2 is deemed “necessary to meet trade goals.” It is not a matter of life or death. In contrast, the health of the Salish Sea is a matter of life and death to any number of species, including the herring, the salmon, and the killer whales that hold inestimable economic, cultural, and spiritual significance to Coast Salish peoples.

VISUALS: Press conference will open with traditional drums/song/prayer.

INTERVIEW AVAILABILITY:

- Rueben George, Tsleil-Waututh Nation
- Robert Nahane, Squamish Nation
- Hereditary Chief Tsilixw (Bill James), Lummi Nation
- Teri Gobin, Chairwoman, Tulalip Tribes
- Glen Gobin, Vice Chair, Tulalip Tribes
- Leonard Forsman, Chairman, Suquamish Tribe

- Lawrence Solomon, Secretary, Lummi Nation
- Raynell Morris, Lummi Nation

###

Contact: Kurt Russo (Lummi Nation) 360-312-2292 (desk) 360-961-4554 (mobile) kurtr@lummi-nsn.gov

Live Stream of press conference at the [SacredSea.org](https://www.facebook.com/OurSacredSea/) Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/OurSacredSea/>, and at www.SacredSea.org

Call in number for reporters who wish to listen and/or participate by teleconference:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/994914964>

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,994914964# US (New York)

+16699006833,,994914964# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 647 558 0588 Canada

Meeting ID: 994 914 964

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/abguYkHFzT>

The CEAA hearings are open to the public and to press. CEAA will be livestreaming the entire process at <https://freeman.streamme.ca/ceaa2019>.

Itinerary for May 25, 2019

- 9am: hearings for Tulalip Tribes and Swinomish Tribe
- (11am press conference in room next to hearings)
- 1pm-5pm: hearings for Suquamish Tribe and Lummi Nation