



# **Metlakatla** **LNG Update Package**



# Letter from our Chief

Dear members,

As you may be aware, there is a high interest in developing an Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) facility in our territory.

Over the past two years our programs (Governing Council, Development Corporation, Stewardship, Treaty) have been approached by government and industry, specifically to discuss LNG proposals.

In our meetings we have informed the proponents (companies) of the process they must follow to ensure they have adequately met our consultation protocol. To date, every proponent we have met with has met our consultation protocol to our satisfaction. The Metlakatla protocol is set up in three phases. During each phase the proponent must meet our needs in-order to proceed to the next level. The phases are as follows;

## **Phase I**

The proponent and government must negotiate a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) that identifies how the Stewardship program will participate in the Environmental Assessment process.

During this process the Stewardship Office participates in the review of reports and oversees specific studies such as Traditional Use, Archeological Impact Assessment etc.

Once the Stewardship Office completes their work they make recommendations (on behalf of the nation) to the British Columbia Environmental Assessment Office; who then makes the decision on whether to approve a proponents application for a pipeline or LNG facility.

This is the most important phase to the nation because it is the Stewardship responsibility to ensure the impacts to the lands, waters and resources are minimal, and that there will be a plan that will monitor the construction of a pipeline or LNG facility.

If a proponents application has been approved by the BC government, construction will start.

## **Phase II**

This phase will require the proponent to meet with the Governing Council and the Development Corporation to negotiate agreements.

The Governing Council will negotiate a Community Benefit Agreement which will identify the communities needs (training, employment and investments in community infrastructure). It is expected that this process will be on-going from the construction phase all through the operations of the facility.

The Development Corporation will negotiate an Impact Benefit Agreement that will identify how the Development Corporation and its business ventures will participate in the construction phase and through the operations of the facility. It is also expected the Stewardship program will participate with the Development Corporation; to identify a monitoring program that will oversee the construction phase and the operations of the facility, for the life of the facility.

## **Phase III**

The Governing Council, Development Corporation and Stewardship offices will monitor the agreements (contracts) to ensure they are being followed.

Currently we are in Phase I (Environmental Assessment).

We want you to know each of our programs are doing their utmost to protect the lands, waters and resources, and if there are any impacts, a mitigation process will be a part of the proponents work. In addition, the agreements will provide a unique opportunity for all Metlakatla members to participate in this industry, not just short-term employment, but long-term careers.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the respective programs that can respond to your concerns.

**Harold Leighton**

**Chief Councillor**

**Metlakatla Governing Council**

# We are **Listening**

The membership has requested more information about **what is happening with LNG in our territory**. Though we have been providing updates about specific projects in our newsletters and at meetings, this package is a more comprehensive overview of how we interact with government regarding LNG, and with companies looking to develop in our territory. **So let's start with the basics....**

## What is **LNG**?

**Liquefied natural gas**, or LNG as it is commonly called, is natural gas that has been converted to liquid state for ease of transport or storage. Gas is transported via pipeline to LNG terminals, where it is cooled to a liquid and then shipped via LNG carriers (large capacity ships).

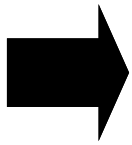
**LNG Terminals**—LNG Terminals receive liquefied natural gas via pipeline and the gas is converted through a cooling process (cooling it to  $-162$  degrees Celsius) in order for it to be transported by pipe onto boats for transport to Asia.

**LNG Pipeline**—Each proposed LNG terminal has a proposed pipeline component to transport the natural gas from Northeastern BC to the facility. Currently, there are 5 proposed pipelines to Prince Rupert and Kitimat that have initiated or completed the Environmental Assessment process—which takes 1-2 years. The lifespan of the pipelines is 40+ years. Most of the proposed pipelines have a completion date scheduled for between 2018 and 2020. Construction and implementation of these pipelines **depends upon their passing environmental assessment**. The pipelines cut through numerous First Nations territories in addition to Metlakatla's. All of these First Nations have the potential to influence how the projects advance. Some of the proposed pipelines have seabed/underwater routes that run through Metlakatla and Lax Kw'alaams territories.



An artist's rendering published in the Vancouver Sun of the Kitimat LNG liquefied natural gas export facility proposed by Apache Corp., EOG Resources Inc. and Encana Corp.

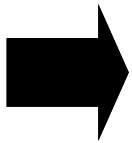


**7**

**Number of LNG terminals proposed for Metlakatla territory (each terminal will have a corresponding pipeline)**

**1**

**Projects with Environmental Approval (Kitimat LNG and its corresponding Pacific Trails Pipeline)**

**0**

**Projects with Final Investment Decisions—ie) Commitment and funding to build**



# When can Members Give Input?

**Contact  
us any  
time!**

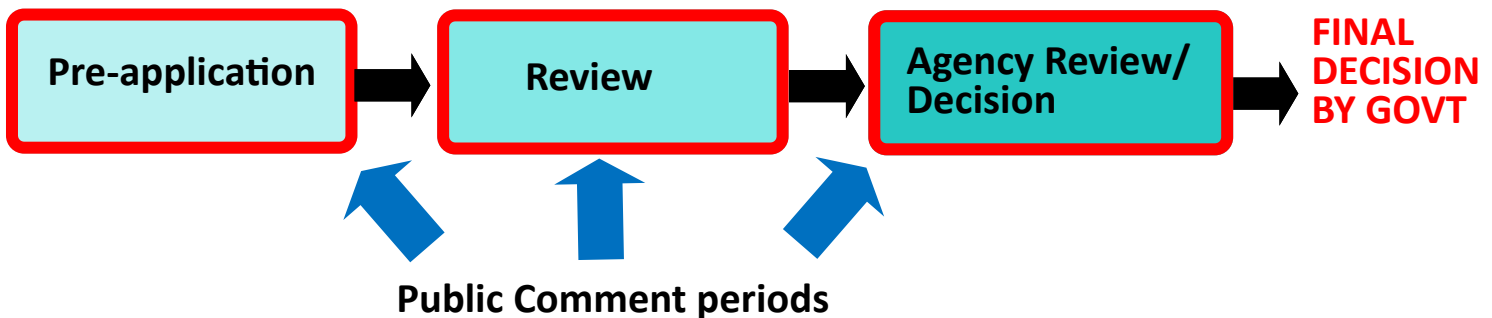


You can contact Environmental Assessments staff to let them know your concerns or questions regarding LNG development. Call **(250) 628 3315** or email Anna Usborne, Environmental Assessments Coordinator at **ausborne@metlakatla.ca**. We would love to hear from you! The information you provide and concerns you raise help to inform our comments on project proposals.

**Or...**

**Contact Government directly**

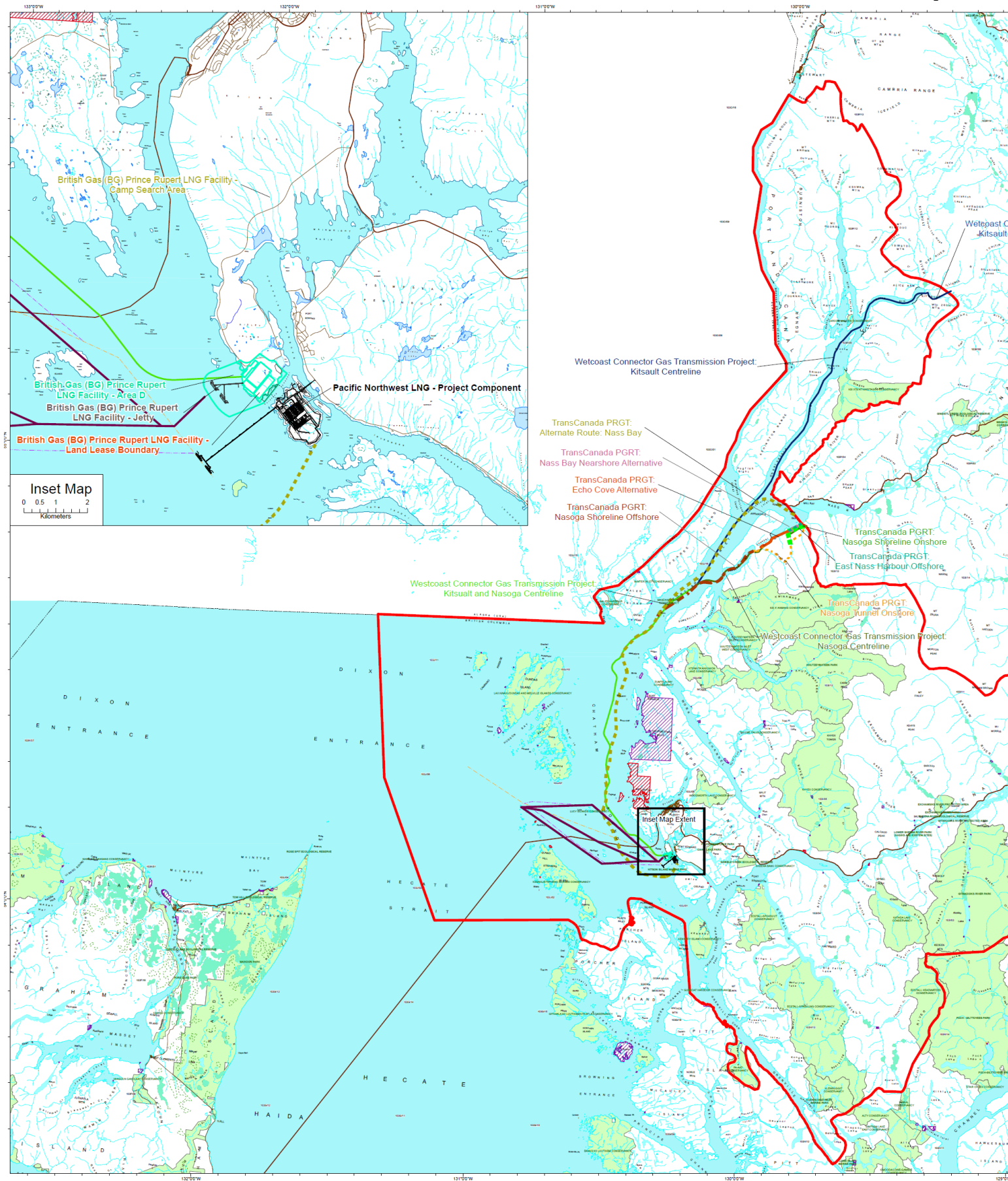
## Timeline of Project Applications



Metlakatla members can also comment to government during the **public comment periods** that occur while project applications are submitted and reviewed. You can do so by contacting the Provincial BCEAO or Federal CEAA offices at:

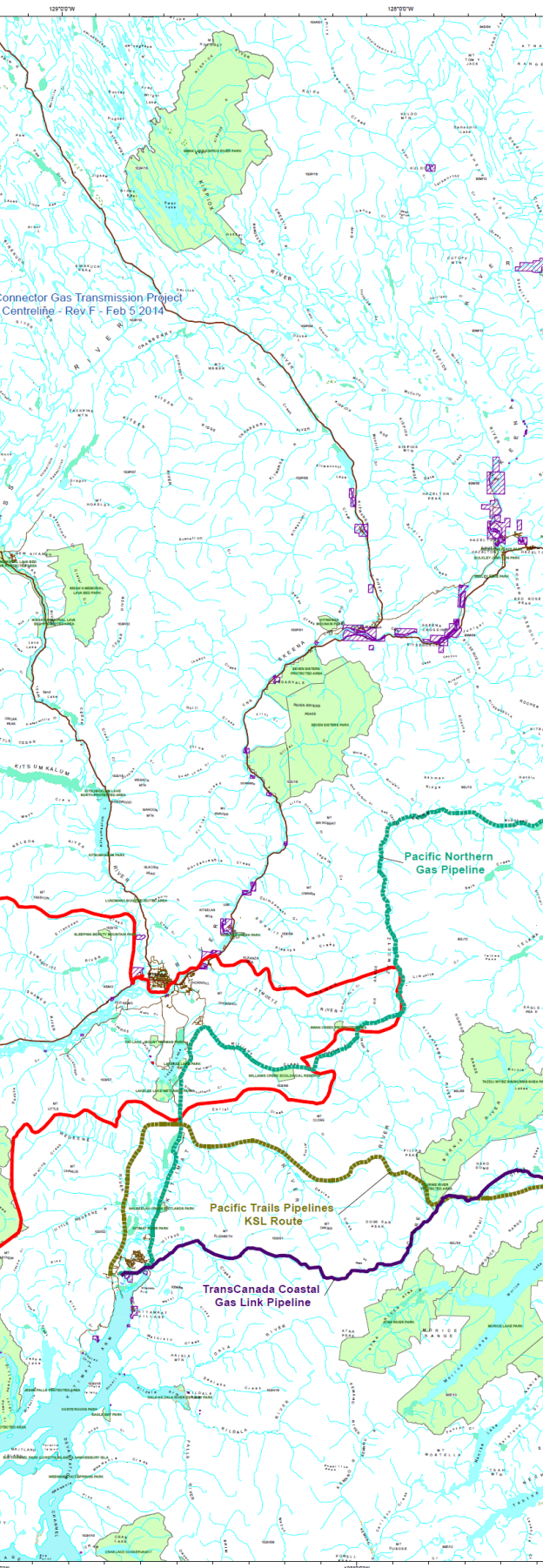
BC Environmental Assessment Office  
2nd Floor 836 Yates St  
PO Box 9426 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria BC V8W 9V1  
Tel: 250 356-1763  
eaoinfo@gov.bc.ca

Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency  
22nd Floor, Place Bell  
160 Elgin Street  
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3  
Tel.: 613-957-0700  
Fax: 613-957-0862  
info@ceaa-acee.gc.ca






# Map of Proposed Pipeline Projects











# Map Features

-  Metlakatla Traditional Territory
-  Metlakatla Indian Reserves
-  Other Indian Reserves


## TransCanada Coastal Gas Link

-  TransCanada Coastal Gas Link Pipeline


## TransCanada PRGT

-  Echo Cove Alternative
-  East Nass Harbour Offshore
-  Nasoga Gulf Offshore
-  Nasoga Shoreline Offshore
-  Nasoga Shoreline Onshore
-  Nasoga Tunnel Onshore
-  Nass Bay Nearshore Alternative

## Pacific Trails Pipelines

-  Pacific Trails Pipelines KSL Route





## Pacific Northern Gas

-  Pacific Northern Gas Pipeline




## Westcoast Connector Gas Transmission Project

-  Kitsault Centreline
-  Nasoga Centreline
-  Kitsault and Nasoga Centreline
-  Project Component
-  Turning Basin
-  Primary Project Shipping Route
-  Alternate Project Shipping Route





## Pacific Northwest LNG

-  Project Component
-  Turning Basin
-  Primary Project Shipping Route
-  Alternate Project Shipping Route

## British Gas (BG) Prince Rupert LNG

-  LNG Facility - Jetty
-  LNG Facility - Shipping Route
-  LNG Facility - Area D

## Base Map Features

-  Highways
-  Paved Roads
-  Marsh
-  Parks

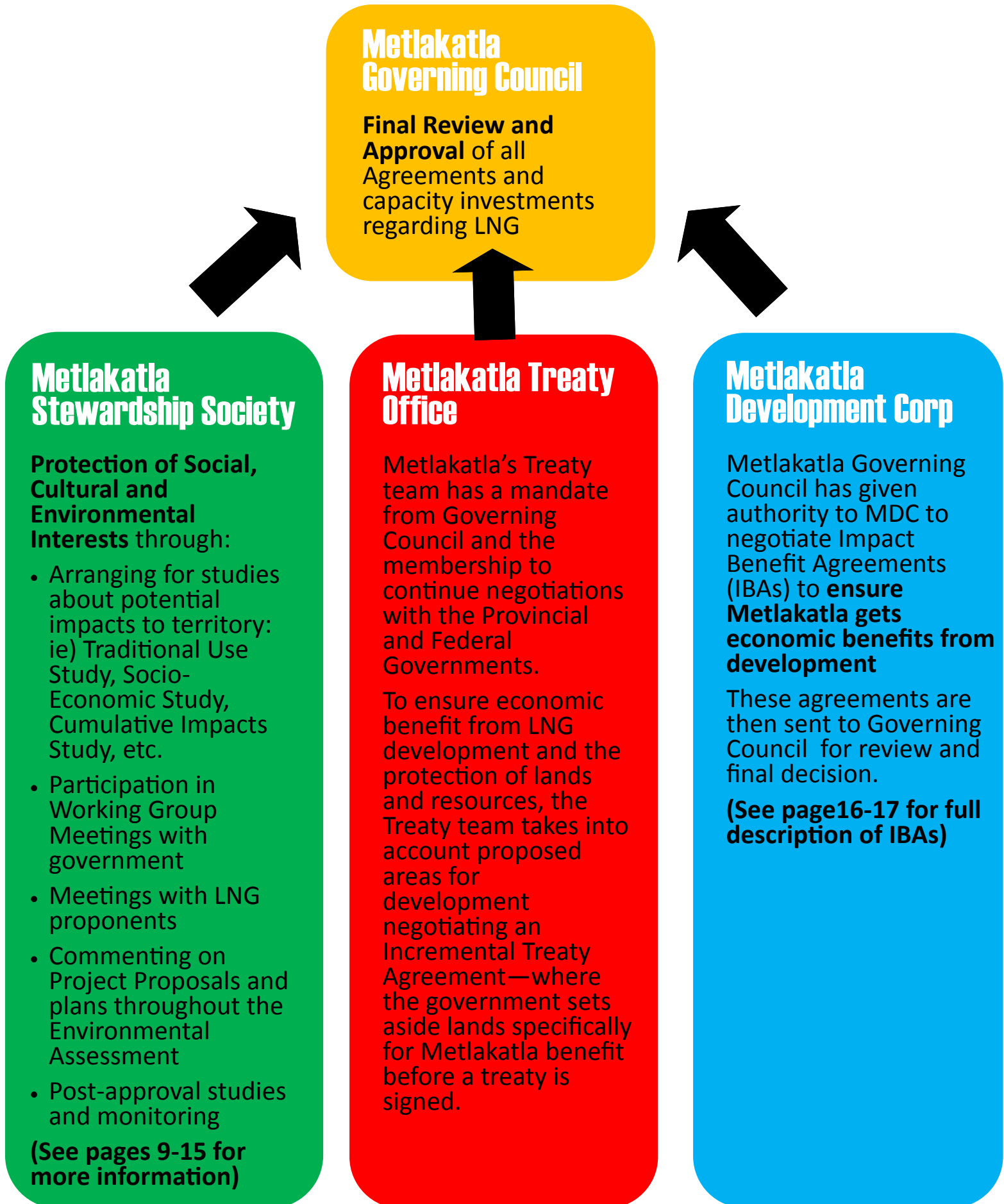
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Map by:



# How is **Metlakatla** Involved?





# What is Environmental Assessment?

To ensure that Metlakatla has input into these developments, Metlakatla's Stewardship Office participates in Environmental Assessments (EAs). **EAs look at potential impacts of these developments** on the surrounding environment—such as: air and water quality, impacts on wildlife, and social and cultural impacts—and to work to try to lessen the impacts that will be felt by Metlakatla members.

## **Q: What gets assessed in and Environmental Assessment?**

**A: All potential environmental, health, social, cultural heritage, and economic impacts of the project.** In order to do an EA, the proponent must carry out numerous studies on important issues such as marine mammals, atmospheric pollution, and marine traffic. Some of the proposed LNG projects in Metlakatla Territory have been doing field studies with the participation of our Guardian Watchmen and other Metlakatla technicians.

## **Q: How does Metlakatla voice their concerns?**

**A:** Metlakatla meets regularly with proponents, government, and sits on a 'Working Group' for all proposed LNG projects within the Territory. **Metlakatla has the opportunity to review the application, add comments, and insist on restrictions** for the proponent to follow during construction and operation of the project, if it is approved.

## **Q: How can I voice my concerns?**

**A:** After the Working Group has reviewed the project application and voiced their concerns, **the application is posted online and in local libraries for 30 days** so that members of the public can review the document as well. As Metlakatla members, **you can also express concerns or ask questions to the Metlakatla Stewardship Office** staff during community meetings or contact Anna Usborne at the **office**, by phone (250) 628 3315, or by email at [ausborne@metlakatla.ca](mailto:ausborne@metlakatla.ca)

## **Q: Who makes the final decision?**

**A:** After the proponent has made the necessary changes to the project application based on First Nation and public comments, the EA agency submits it to the **provincial or federal Minister of Environment who makes the final decision**. They can either (a) approve the project (b) reject the project, or (c) ask for further assessment.

## **Q: What happens if the LNG project application is approved?**

**A:** If the project is approved, the proponent **must follow specific conditions** about how the project must be designed and constructed, along with all of the commitments the proponent has made to First Nations during the EA process. These conditions are legally binding. Once an EA has been approved, the company also still needs to make a Final Investment Decision.

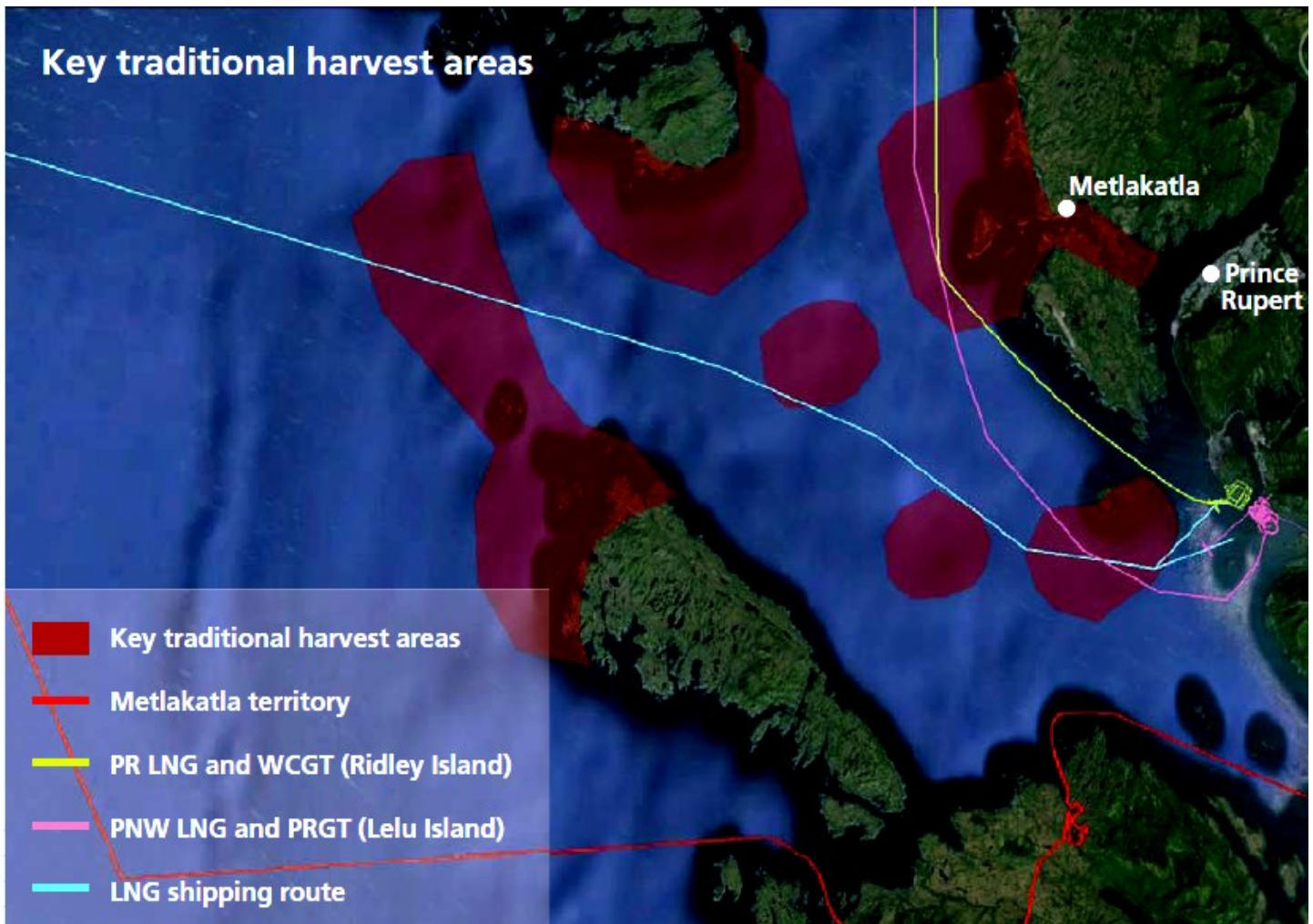
# What do Environmental Assessment Staff **look at?**

When reviewing project applications, staff look at “All potential environmental, cultural, and economic impacts of the project” — **So what does this really mean?**

The next pages look some our most vital considerations...

## **Traditional Harvest**

Our members have identified **our ability to harvest traditional foods** as integral to maintaining our culture and well-being. Staff undertake studies to identify **key harvest sites**, and point out conflicts between development plans and maintain Metlakatla’s right to harvest to project proponents looking to develop within our territory.



*Key traditional harvest areas were identified through a combination of interviews with traditional harvesters and data from the Metlakatla traditional use study conducted by DM Cultural Services.*



## Commercial Fishing



*This figure shows that LNG pipelines and shipping will occur in key salmon and crab fishing grounds. We were unable to get information on key herring fishing grounds by the time of study completion. Geoduck are harvested in shallow waters away from LNG pipeline and shipping routes.*

It has become harder and harder to make a living from commercial fishing along the North Coast, and Metlakatla fishermen and women are no exception to this trend. When engaging with proponents and the different levels of government, our Environmental Assessment staff often refer to areas that are not only important to traditional harvest, but **commercial harvest as well**.





## Environmental and Cultural Protection

Metlakatla engages in studying and monitoring our natural environment, to ensure it is protected. We have partnered with Triton Environmental Consultants Ltd — to get Metlakatla members trained to provide the opportunity to participate in local monitoring of the environment. This monitoring, by both Khtada Environmental Services (The Metlakatla-Triton partnership) staff and our Guardian program, involves **going out on our territories and taking note of the resources**: different important species, bodies of water, forests, and more. This reporting is then shared with companies looking to develop in our territory. Our people out on the ground help feed into the work that our office staff do to advocate for protecting certain areas from development, or ensuring that precautions are taken when working in the area.

Archaeological or Cultural Heritage resources, like the Culturally Modified Tree (pictured right), help entrench Metlakatla's claim to the land over time. These are markers from the past, that tell us about how we traditionally used the lands and waters going back thousands of years. These too, are under the protection of our Stewardship Office, and are brought to the attention of companies looking to develop on our territory.



For instance, for the proposed Pacific Northwest LNG facility on Lelu Island, an important component of the Environmental Assessment Process requires the company (PNWLNG) to conduct a thorough Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposed project site. An Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) is required where potential impacts to archaeological resources have been previously identified. This requires qualified archaeologists to go out to count and record all archaeological resources in the area. The archaeologists then identify and assess all potential impacts on the identified archaeological resources which might result from the proposed project, and recommend ways to manage any unavoidable negative impacts. PNWLNG hired archaeologists to conduct an AIA, to be accompanied by Kleanza Consulting, an archaeology firm that the Metlakatla Stewardship Office hired to represent Metlakatla in the field. Metlakatla members also accompanied archaeological crews.

The AIA, which was partially completed in August 2012 and finished up in August 2013, identified 410 culturally modified trees (CMTs) on Lelu Island. These CMTs exhibited a number of features that helped the archaeologists determine if they had been aboriginally logged, bark striped, or otherwise modified sometime between the 1830s and the present day. All archaeological evidence found was in the form of CMTs; no other archaeological site types were identified. Nevertheless, the vast number of CMTs found on Lelu is considered significant due to their number and density. Keeping the trees intact and examining them, has the potential to show trends in aboriginal use of the island over time and aspects how the forest was traditionally managed and what practices were used.

The Metlakatla consider all CMTs to be significant regardless of type or age. At the present time, the archaeologists determined that 218 of the 410 CMTs are in direct conflict with the location of the proposed PNW LNG facility, and would be cut down to build the project.

Now that we know what is there, much work has to be done to address the potential impacts of the project with the company.



# Cumulative Impacts

Metlakatla's Environmental Assessment Staff make every effort to address the fact that there are **multiple projects proposed for within the territory**. Due to the potential cumulative (or collective) impacts, it is important for the impacts of projects to be considered together, rather than just separately.

For example, if there is one LNG terminal built in Prince Rupert, it may mean 3 LNG tankers travel through the harbour each week, but if there are 3 terminals built, that would increase the tanker traffic to 9 vessels a week.

The figure below illustrates how the **combined effects of fishing, urban development, and shipping development can negatively affect marine resources**. It's also possible to have positive cumulative effects, such as when LNG and other development all provide skills training and employment opportunities.

## Cumulative impacts



Illustration of the **cumulative impacts of fishing, urban development, and shipping**.\*

\* Diagram adapted from: UNEP (2011): Taking Steps toward Marine and Coastal Ecosystem-Based Management - An Introductory Guide

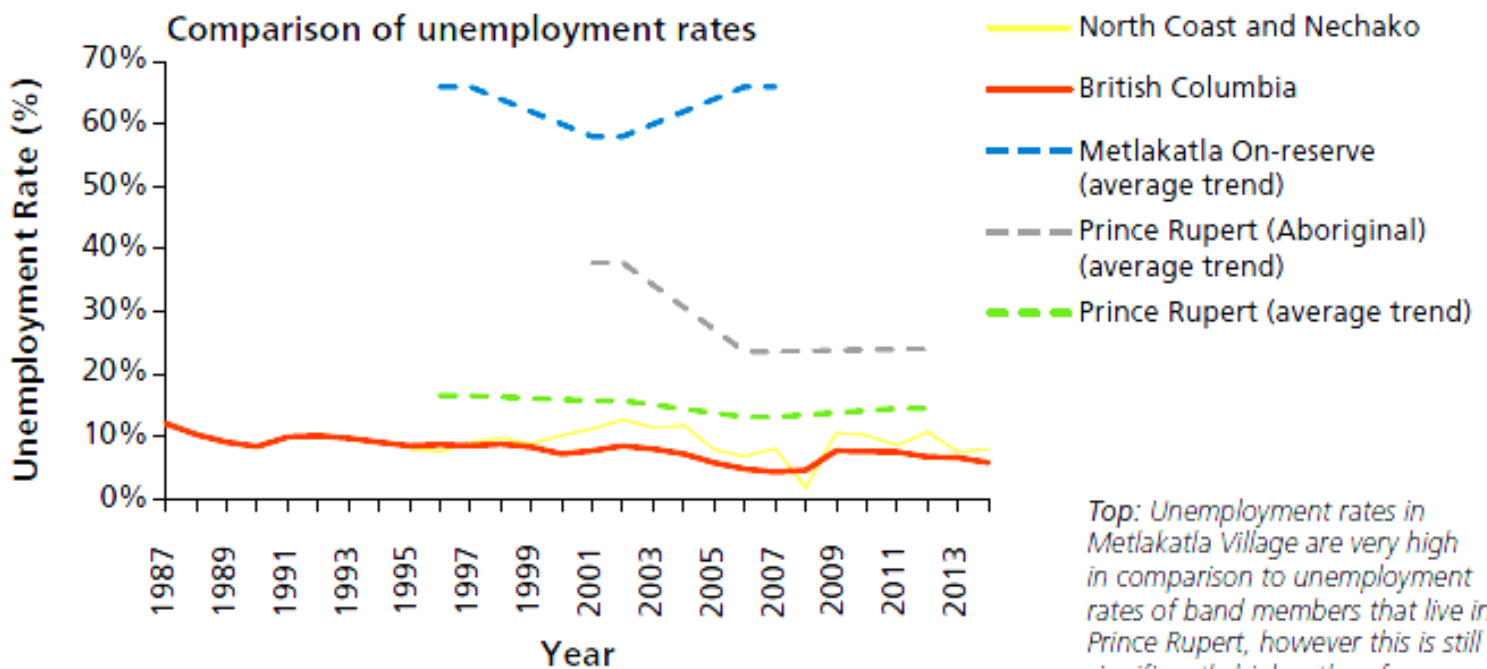
# Employment Impacts

Unemployment rates in Metlakatla have been falling, but averages are still high among our membership. When Metlakatla engages with proponents and government, a main aim is to ensure that if development occurs, our people are getting **sustainable and meaningful employment**.

Our Coastal Training Centre (formerly the First Nations Training and Development Centre) has been providing training for years to ensure members can access the education and skills development they need for employment. **We work with industry to find out what skills are needed, and what will be needed in future**, and provide training in these fields so that our members are prepared for future opportunities.

Environmental Assessment Staff also consider that higher paying jobs related to these projects may be taking capacity away from Metlakatla's existing businesses and organizations. They bring this concern to the attention of proponents and government to develop strategies to mitigate these anticipated losses.

**\*Please note—unemployment rates for on-reserve Metlakatla members are out-dated and do not represent current rates of unemployment**



*Top: Unemployment rates in Metlakatla Village are very high in comparison to unemployment rates of band members that live in Prince Rupert, however this is still significantly higher than for non-Aboriginal people in Prince Rupert. Dotted lines represent trends, not full data sets.*

## High school completion rates in Prince Rupert, 2006

**Aboriginal population**

**47%**

**Non-Aboriginal population**

**67%**

*Left: Aboriginal unemployment rates are due to several underlying barriers that make it difficult for the Metlakatla to secure employment, one of which is the reduced rate of high school completion.*

# Studies Metlakatla is Involved in...

## Traditional Use Study

The Traditional Use Study documents how members historically and presently use the lands and waters, which:

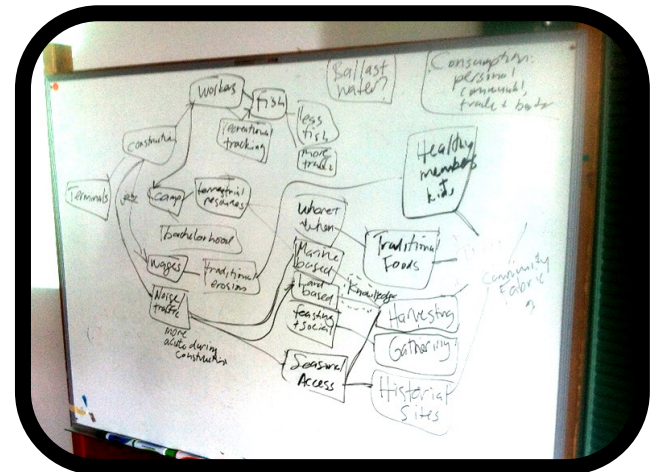
- Involves mapping important TUS sites including hunting, fishing, seafood harvesting, trapping, plant gathering and berry-picking areas, spiritual sites, cabins, campsites, gravesites, trails, and places that hold Ts'msyen names and meanings
- Involves interviewing Elders and knowledgeable MFN members about their history in the territory



## Socio-Economic Study

The Socio-Economic Study asked Metlakatla members to identify what they most value, from traditional harvesting to commercial fishing to raising healthy children. The researchers then collect data on how those values are currently doing—for instance, how busy are Health Care providers, what are current crime rates in Prince Rupert and the surrounding area, how much seafood do members currently have access to.

The study then determines how each project will impact those values, and whether or not that level of impact is acceptable to the Metlakatla membership. Using the results, we will work with the community, Metlakatla leadership, and project proponents to reduce negative impacts and enhance the positive ones.





# Impact Benefit Agreements

The Metlakatla Development Corporation (MDC) is responsible for negotiating Impact Benefit Agreements (IBAs) with companies seeking to develop within Metlakatla territory. As MDC moves forward in its partnerships with industry, it is with the understanding that membership must benefit from these agreements. After Metlakatla determines whether projects have met the social and environmental requirements to do business in Metlakatla, MDC, with input from other Metlakatla organizations, negotiate with proponents to **ensure that the membership sees the benefit of incoming economic growth.**

Agreements typically include such items as royalty or through put fee, contracting opportunities, cost recovery for negotiation costs, employment and education opportunities, and measures for local cultural and environmental protection. Funds may also be used for social benefits such as cultural activities and facility development. Generally, **Impact Benefit Agreements do not allow the direct granting of cash payments to band members,** and must instead be used to enhance overall community well-being.

These agreements are legally-binding, and are private contracts voluntarily initiated by industry. The agreements operate in addition to regulatory rules and Revenue Sharing Agreements with Government.





# Metlakatla's Impact Benefit Agreements

Metlakatla has been engaged in Impact Benefit Agreements — with some initial funds going towards community improvements.

These **signings do not signal Metlakatla's support of LNG development**, but provide an avenue for members to benefit if the projects go through. The final decision regarding LNG development rests with the Federal and Provincial governments.

## Project Completed: Health Centre

Metlakatla's new Health Centre will service residents for generations to come. The Centre is fully equipped with a kitchen, an on-staff nurse, and all of the modern amenities.



## Project Initiated: Sports Field

Metlakatla Recreation Department and our contractor partners have now completed a new skate park and sports field in Metlakatla Village. Construction on the skate park and field was completed in August, and we are currently working towards completing a covered recreation area for community events.



## Project Completed: Emergency Response Vessel

Metlakatla has recently purchased an emergency boat to transport community members into neighbouring Prince Rupert for emergency medical care. The "Metlakatla Guardian" is a full-time dedicated transport vessel that will be moored at the new dock in Metlakatla with dock space reserved in Prince Rupert. The new boat will significantly minimize risks to residents by providing safe and accessible transport during an emergency.



# Learn More!

## Metlakatla Stewardship Society

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Joycelynn Mitchell  
Assistant Treaty Negotiator  
(250) 628 3315  
jmittchell@metlakatla.ca

## Contact our Offices

### What would you like to know?

Do you have questions about LNG development and Metlakatla's involvement that we haven't answered here? Let us know! Please contact our Communications Program at (250) 628 3234 (ext. 28) or email [vstewart@metlakatla.ca](mailto:vstewart@metlakatla.ca). We will do our best to address your questions, and provide information to address frequently asked questions in future communications like the newsletter and website.

