

News Release

Northeast BC Resource Municipalities Coalition meets with Premier Clark

April 21, 2016

For Immediate Release

Fort St. John, BC – Yesterday Premier Christy Clark was in Fort St. John to attend a pro LNG rally. After an inspiring speech to the crowd of over 400, Premier Clark met with the Northeast BC Resource Municipalities Coalition (Coalition).

"Our meeting with Premier Clark today in Fort St. John was pivotal," stated Fort St. John Mayor Lori Ackerman. "She expressed appreciation for all of the grassroots actions and pressure being generated by citizens in the Northeastern BC for LNG approval and she congratulated the Coalition for meeting with Ministers and senior officials in Ottawa earlier in the week to demand immediate approval of the Petronas LNG project."

During the meeting with the Coalition, Premier Clark outlined the Province's vigorous campaign to get BC LNG into the world market and she outlined the continual pressure and actions that her government is applying for a quick decision on the Petronas project and other LNG proposals.

Mayor Bill Streeper added, "We are fortunate to have a Premier who fully appreciates that our citizens and business are facing the brunt of the economic downturn. It is our citizens who are out of jobs and our business that are shutting down. Our communities' very existence is on the line and Premier Clark advised she fully understands the gravity of our situation. She confirmed her government is carrying out a full court press to obtain federal approval of the Petronas project and access to Asian markets for our vast natural gas resource."

All 10 member organizations of the Coalition attended the meeting with the Premier including representatives from Energy Services BC, Northern Truckers Association, the Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Fort Nelson and Chetwynd Chambers of Commerce. The Mayors of Fort St. John, Taylor and the Northern Rockies and Honorary member Senator Neufeld also were in attendance. The Coalition was also joined at the meeting by Mayor Elect Lorraine Michetti of Pouce Coupe.

The Coalition was also able to update the Premier on status of Coalition work with the Ministry of Finance and the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) on the issues of local hire and ensuring BC business have a level playing field for competing for available contracts and jobs.

District of Taylor Mayor Rob Fraser stated, "Our business members and Chambers did an excellent job in briefing the Premier on all facets of the challenges they face and updating her on the collaborative work and excellent progress being completed with the Ministry of Finance officials."

Premier Clark congratulated the Coalition for all of their support and actions and advised that her government is fully supportive of measures to ensure BC business and workers are given priority and a fair playing field in the future. Premier Clark also encouraged the Coalition and citizens to continue their campaigns for immediate approval of Petronas and all LNG projects.

The Northeast BC Resource Municipalities Coalition mission is to protect and enhance existing resource municipalities and rural communities of Northeastern BC. The Coalition supports the important role that



the resource municipalities and rural communities play in supporting existing and future resource development.

Members of the Northeast BC Resource Municipalities Coalition include the City of Fort St. John, District of Taylor, Northern Rockies Regional Municipality, Chamber of Commerce in Dawson Creek, Fort St. John, Fort Nelson and Chetwynd, the Northern BC Truckers Association and Energy Services BC. Senator Richard Neufeld is also an honorary member.

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