



## Canadians for the Great Bear

### This is no place for oil tankers

The Great Bear region of British Columbia’s north coast is one of the world’s largest remaining intact coastal temperate rainforests. The Great Bear contains some of the Earth’s most pristine wild salmon rivers which flow to seas teeming with life. It is one of the **richest and most spectacular ecosystems** on our planet.

The Great Bear is a global ecological treasure, and **its future is in our hands**.

The proposed Northern Gateway pipeline would bring millions of barrels of toxic crude oil and hundreds of massive oil tankers each year to this special place. Oil tankers and a pipeline present the unacceptable risk of oil spills that would threaten the ecosystems, jobs, cultures and communities of this region.

In 2006, **Canadian governments forged an historic agreement** with First Nations, industry, and other groups to pursue a new vision for The Great Bear. Together, they set out a global model of sustainability designed to create jobs, attract investment, and strengthen communities while protecting ecosystems.

**This is the future we choose for Canada’s Great Bear.** We choose a future that protects the region’s rare Spirit bears, and salmon, whales and wolves. We choose a future that respects First Nations rights and title. A future for the tens of thousands of long-term, Canadian jobs that rely on these healthy ocean and forest ecosystems.

**This is also the future we choose for Canada.** There are better, more sustainable options for Canada’s economy and future energy security than accelerating our crude oil exports. Canada needs a thoughtful energy strategy that protects our natural heritage, respects deep Canadian values of fairness and inclusiveness, protects Canadian jobs, and safeguards the interests of all Canadians -- now and in the future.

Canadians have the opportunity to be good stewards of this global treasure, and good stewards of our country’s future.

We are **Canadians for the Great Bear**. Join us.

**Scott Niedermayer**

**Robyn Allan**

**Grand Chief Edward John**

**Peter Ladner**

**Anne K. Salomon**

**Hon. Tom Siddon**

**Eric B. Taylor**



## Canadians for the Great Bear

### Scott Niedermayer



Known as ‘Captain Canada’ for his leadership role as captain of the Canadian Olympic men’s hockey team, **Scott Niedermayer** is one of Canada’s hockey heroes. Over the course of his career, Scott has earned every North American and international hockey championship, including four Stanley cups and two Olympic gold medals. Scott was born in Edmonton and raised in Cranbrook, B.C. He grew up enjoying the lakes, rivers and mountains of interior B.C., where he gained a deep appreciation for Canada’s natural beauty and wildlife. He now puts this passion for nature to work as WWF’s Freshwater Ambassador. Scott and his wife Lisa continue to explore B.C.’s great outdoors with their four sons.

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### Robyn Allan



Named by the *Financial Post* as one of Canada’s top 200 CEOs, economist **Robyn Allan** has held key leadership positions in British Columbia’s public and private sector. They include: president and CEO of the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia; executive director of the Vancity Community Foundation; and senior economist for the B.C. Central Credit Union. As a consulting economist, Robyn has provided strategic business management and public policy advice to senior private sector and government personnel on investment, corporate restructuring, international trade and business development. She was a commissioner on the Barrett Commission of Inquiry into the Quality of Condominium Construction in British Columbia, and its economic and financial adviser. Robyn recently wrote the report “An Economic Assessment of Northern Gateway,” submitted as evidence to the National Energy Board. Her book *Quest for Prosperity: the Dance of Success* was published in 1996.



# Canadians for the Great Bear

## Grand Chief Edward John



**Grand Chief Edward John** is a Hereditary Chief of Tl'azt'en Nation located on the banks of the Nak'al Bun (Stuart Lake) in northern B.C. Combining his background in law with his commitment to social and economic justice for Canada's Indigenous people, Chief John has served in many leadership roles at the local, provincial, national and international levels. He is currently serving his ninth consecutive term on the First Nations Summit Task Group (political executive). The group is mandated to carry out specific tasks related to Aboriginal Title and Rights negotiations with B.C. and Canada, and other issues of common concern to First Nations in British Columbia. He is a former co-chair of the North American Indigenous Peoples' Caucus and participated in the development of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2007. Chief John also currently serves as North American representative to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

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## Peter Ladner



Former politician, business owner and author, **Peter Ladner** is the co-founder of the Business in Vancouver Media Group, which includes the award-winning *Business in Vancouver* weekly newspaper. Peter is currently a weekly columnist on Vancouver business and civic issues, and a Fellow at the Simon Fraser University Centre for Dialogue. He was first elected to Vancouver City Council in 2002 and re-elected in 2005. He ran for mayor in 2008, and remains active on a range of regional economic development and community issues. Peter has more than 35 years of journalistic experience in print, radio and television and is a frequent speaker on business, community and food issues. His first book, *The Urban Food Revolution: Changing the Way we Feed Cities*, was published in 2011.



## Canadians for the Great Bear

### Anne K. Salomon



Author, marine ecologist and conservation biologist, **Anne K. Salomon** is a professor of applied ecology at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia. Her research is motivated by a deep interest in understanding how human activities alter the biodiversity, productivity and resilience of coastal food webs to inform ecosystem approaches to marine conservation. These interests have taken Anne to the surf swept coasts of Alaska, New Zealand and, most recently, to California as a Smith Fellow in Conservation Science. In 2009, Anne launched a research program with Parks Canada, Haida Fisheries, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Simon Fraser University to examine the ecological repercussions of the proposed Gwaii Haanas National Marine Conservation Area Reserve on valuable fisheries (rockfish, red sea urchin), species-at-risk (northern abalone) and kelp forest dynamics. In 2010, she began collaborating with the Heiltsuk on B.C.'s Central Coast to advance our understanding of sea otter impacts, marine spatial planning, and Pacific herring fluctuations.

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### Hon. Tom Siddon

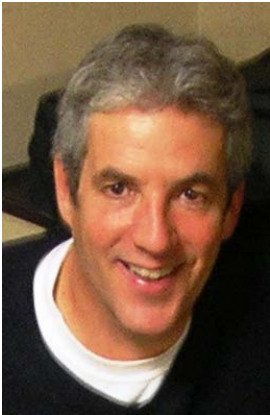


Former federal cabinet minister, the Hon. Tom Siddon has a long career in science, business and politics. Originally from Alberta, Tom taught as a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of British Columbia for ten years. He was first elected to the Parliament of Canada in 1978. He was appointed to the federal Cabinet by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney in 1985 and served for nine years in several portfolios: as Minister of Science and Technology; Fisheries and Oceans; Indian Affairs and Northern Development; and National Defence. During that time he led numerous important initiatives in the areas of fisheries management, environmental protection, science policy and aboriginal treaty settlements. Following his political career, Tom has remained active as a consultant, lecturer, and corporate board member, and he was recently elected to the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen. Tom's leadership and signature accomplishments have been recognized with a number of awards including an honorary Doctorate from the University of British Columbia. Tom and his wife live in Kaleden, B.C.



## Canadians for the Great Bear

### Eric B. Taylor



Awarded the MA Newman prize in 1998 for excellence in aquatic research, **Eric B. Taylor** has been a professor in the Department of Zoology at the University of British Columbia since 1993. He is the associate director of the Biodiversity Research Centre at UB.C. and director of the Fish Collection at the Beaty Biodiversity Museum. With a PhD in zoology (evolutionary ecology of fishes), Eric was a research fellow and visiting scientist at Dalhousie University in Halifax and at the Pacific Biological Station in Nanaimo. His research in evolution and ecology includes an interest in understanding its relevance to conservation of native fish biodiversity. Author of more than 100 scientific publications, Eric co-chairs the Freshwater Fishes Subcommittee of the Committee for the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC).



## 10 Things You Should Know about the Great Bear

- 1** The Great Bear is an ecological treasure. The Great Bear Sea borders the coastline of The Great Bear Rainforest on B.C.'s north coast. It's the second largest intact coastal temperate rainforest left on Earth. And one of the richest and most spectacular ecosystems on the planet. In 2006, this rainforest was protected through an historic agreement to ensure eco-friendly logging practices, support sustainable economies and strengthen First Nations decisions about their traditional lands.
- 2** Many bears call it home. The Great Bear takes its name from the many bears found here – including the grizzly, black bear, iconic Haida black bear and white Spirit bear, which is rarer than the panda.
- 3** The Great Bear is traditional First Nations territory. B.C.'s North and Central Coast, and Haida Gwaii, are the traditional territory of 12 coastal First Nations whose rights to this land have never been ceded or relinquished. The First Nations' goal is to restore responsible resource management in their territory through ecologically, socially and economically sustainable practices.
- 4** Endangered species live here. The Great Bear Sea is home to at least 17 types of marine mammals – and has critical habitat for threatened or endangered blue, fin, right, sei and killer whales.
- 5** First Nations and coastal communities depend on the sea. Coastal First Nations' traditional territories and coastal communities depend economically on The Great Bear Sea. Marine-dependent activities in these territories represent significant economic value. A report on the economic contribution of B.C. seafood and tidal recreational fishing shows that the industry generates \$2.5 billion per year – and supports more than 30,000 jobs.
- 6** A Global Treasure. The Great Bear region is an ecological treasure that also supports thousands of jobs in tourism. Marine tourism generates \$104.3 million in revenues and provides 2,200 long term jobs.
- 7** Not the place for oil tankers. Canada does not have the ability or technology to adequately deal with a major oil spill in this region – a situation made worse by federal budget cuts earlier this year. The communities that depend on the Great Bear Sea have consistently and adamantly opposed major expansion of oil tanker traffic for decades. It's a risk not worth taking.
- 8** Treacherous Waters. Environment Canada says Hecate Strait in the Great Bear Sea is known as one of the four most treacherous bodies of water in the world. In the winter months, waves can reach up to eight metres, here and in the Queen Charlotte Basin. Waves over 30 metres high have been recorded. Yet under the proposed pipeline plan for this region, oil tankers – as long as the Empire State Building is high – are expected to navigate these waters and transport toxic crude oil across the Pacific Ocean.
- 9** Rivers feed the sea. The Great Bear Sea is fed by some of B.C.'s largest wild and free-flowing rivers, including the Skeena and the Nass.
- 10** Everything here is connected. Salmon reflect the interconnectedness of the sea, wild rivers and land in The Great Bear Sea. Countless streams feed rich estuaries and are lifelines for all five species of Pacific salmon. Bears, wolves, birds and trees are all nourished by the salmon.



## THE RISK: B.C. JOBS AND ECONOMIC VALUES

The Great Bear region currently sustains many thousands of long-term, Canadian jobs in commercial fishing, aquaculture, tourism, and other sectors that depend on the health and productivity of coastal ecosystems. The proposed Northern Gateway pipeline puts these jobs, and the future of B.C.'s coastal economy, at risk.

- Commercial and recreational fisheries in the Skeena watershed alone have been valued at more than \$100-million per year.
- A report commissioned by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the economic contribution of B.C. seafood and tidal recreational fishing shows industry generates \$2.5 billion per year – and supports more than 30,000 jobs in B.C.
- Each year, marine tourism in the Great Bear region generates \$104.3-million in revenues and provides 2,200 long term jobs.
- First Nations and other coastal communities have invested over \$400-million and a decade of effort laying the foundation for a diverse regional economy that includes forestry, fishing, aquaculture, tourism, renewable energy, and the transport and export of liquefied natural gas. All of these sectors are threatened by the proposed oil pipeline development.
- The total annual benefits of existing marine dependent activities in the region that could be affected by an oil spill are estimated at close to \$30 billion (2012 Canadian dollars). The economic value of these marine-dependent activities is expected to increase significantly over the next decade as the region continues developing a healthy sustainable economy.
- The presence of hundreds of huge oil tankers each year in the narrow passages in and around Douglas Channel could severely restrict cruise ships, commercial fishing vessels, and local boat traffic. Ship exhaust and other on-going industrial would affect air and water quality in local communities. Even relatively small oil spills could threaten fisheries, tourism, and natural capital throughout the region – all of which put local communities and jobs at risk.
- The Great Bear Agreement of 2006 between Coastal First Nations, B.C. government, forest companies, and environmental organizations formally acknowledged the region as a world-leading model of sustainability; one that demonstrates it is possible to create jobs, attract investment, and strengthen communities while protecting ecosystems and growing natural capital. The Agreement did not contemplate oil tankers or oil pipelines in the region.

B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell, 2006: “This Gift to the Earth recognizes the many people who worked so hard to achieve success, as well as all British Columbians who view the central and north coast regions as a gift to the Earth with immense value within our province and far beyond our borders.”



## THE RISK: CANADIAN JOBS AND ECONOMY

The risks associated with the proposed Northern Gateway pipeline are not limited to regional impacts on B.C. jobs and the coastal economy. The proposal also represents a threat to Canada's long-term economic well-being.

- Enbridge's business case depends on claiming a surcharge on every barrel of oil produced in Canada every year for 30 years. This will mean rising prices for gas and consumer products in Canada, at the expense of taxpayers, households, and non-oil producing businesses. The consequences of oil price shocks to the Canadian economy are negative and lead to a permanent decline in GDP, employment and government revenues.
- Inflationary pressure will be made worse by Enbridge's business plan, which assumes that 23 per cent of existing Canadian supply will be redirected to China. According to Enbridge's business plan, there will be a 14 per cent supply restriction to existing U.S. customers as crude is re-directed to China. This will result in supply-challenged Canadian and U.S. refineries bidding up the price of oil as they seek new sources.
- In short, Enbridge's business case is based on Canadians paying more at the pump, at the store, and in our homes.
- The export of crude oil represents a loss of economic wealth because value is not added to raw crude in Canada. The crude oil will be upgraded and refined in other countries. As well, shipping crude oil offshore means lost jobs and labour income, and lower environmental standards for upgrading and refining. Far more jobs could be created by keeping Canadian oil in Canada, for the benefit of Canadians workers and businesses.
- Enbridge estimates at most a few thousand temporary jobs in pipeline construction. Even these might not be jobs for Canadians, as – according to Enbridge – PetroChina (the Chinese government's national oil company) has expressed interest in bidding on the pipeline construction.
- Jim Prentice (former Minister of the Environment in the Harper government) June 20, 2010: "We don't want to see carbon leakage, we don't want to see a loss of Canadian jobs."
- The oil pipeline proposal is designed to serve the energy interests of other countries without meeting the needs of eastern Canada. Without a secure, domestic supply of energy, Canada faces significant risks to our country's long-term economic growth. The proposal does not address the cost to Canada of ignoring an important domestic energy market.





## THE RISK: CANADA'S ENERGY SECURITY

Canada's oil reserves represent an important strategic resource whose value can be expected to grow over time. Rather than rushing to export as much as possible in the near future, and relinquishing our authority to determine the pace, scale, and Canadian benefits of development, Canada should be conserving and developing this resource thoughtfully. The Northern Gateway pipeline proposal threatens Canada's energy security.

- The ownership structure of the Northern Gateway Project represents greater foreign control over Canada's oil resources. Three of China's largest, nationally owned oil companies are directly involved in crude oil production and two have the right to ownership interests in Northern Gateway and the proposed Kitimat marine terminal. PetroChina has expressed an interest in building the pipeline.
- Canada currently imports almost half of its crude oil needs from volatile and uncertain foreign markets including the Middle East. If we were to meet our energy needs first, in a planned and sustainable manner, before rushing to build pipelines to serve the needs of other countries, we would have a more stable economy and less upward pressure on exchange rates.
- Canada currently imports almost half of its domestic refinery demand. Rather than keeping Canadian oil at home, we will be shipping raw products away to benefit other countries while simultaneously increasing our dependence on foreign oil imports. Not only does this increase the risk of an oil spill on both our coasts, it lowers our energy return on investment and undermines our energy independence.

The economic and public interest benefit case Enbridge has prepared is fundamentally flawed and misleading:

- Enbridge has developed a business case that estimates only a positive impact on the oil industry without including economic, social and environmental costs—it has provided a benefits case, not a cost-benefit analysis. No board of directors would accept such an approach—particularly when results are forecast for 30 years.
- An Input Output (IO) model is used to further exaggerate the project's impact. The application of an IO model is inappropriate and misleading. IO models are incapable of providing an assessment of the macroeconomic consequences of rapid oil expansion and export; they give only a partial picture of overall benefits and costs. (As an example, an IO model would conclude that an oil spill or a plane crash is a positive economic generator).
- Empirical evidence shows that the value of the Canadian dollar increases with expanded crude oil exports and rising oil prices. Contrary to this evidence, Enbridge's business case assumes that the Canadian dollar will fall to 85 cents US by 2016 and stay at that level for 30 years, while oil prices rise significantly. This unrealistic scenario results in overstated benefits and an exaggerated supply forecast. This inflated supply forecast is used to predict the need for new pipeline capacity.
- With this pipeline proposal Canada is promising energy jobs, and energy security, to other countries – at the expense of our own.



## THE RISK: ECOLOGICAL VALUES

The Northern Gateway pipeline and oil tanker proposal represents a significant risk to one of the richest and most spectacular ecosystems in the world.

- This is one of the world's last (and North America's largest) intact coastal temperate rainforest ecosystems. It is one of the only places left in the world where coastal temperate rainforest, healthy and productive seas, and wild salmon rivers come together in an interconnected, living system.
- The region includes eelgrass meadows and estuaries that are crucial habitat for commercially important fish and seafood species. It provides habitat for deep-sea and cold-water corals and sponges, including nine thousand year old ancient glass sponge reefs.
- The Great Bear region includes many important ecological "contact zones" between animals and plants of coastal and interior origin. Such zones are associated with heightened genetic and ecological diversity, and are of tremendous scientific value.
- The region sustains more than 400 species of freshwater and marine fish, including three of B.C.'s five major herring stocks, all five species of Pacific salmon, and B.C.'s highly-prized steelhead trout.
- Its watersheds provide critical spawning habitat for almost 60 per cent of B.C.'s wild salmon stocks. The proposed pipeline would carry toxic diluted bitumen across hundreds of salmon rivers and streams.
- The region is home to rare and iconic animals including the white Spirit Bear (B.C.'s provincial mammal), killer whales, and unique Pacific Coastal wolves.
- The Great Bear Sea is home to at least 17 types of marine mammals, including sea otters, sea lions, whales, dolphins and porpoises. The region has critical habitat for at-risk populations of grey, fin, sei, and killer whales.
- The Great Bear's quiet underwater environment and nutrient-rich seas makes it crucial feeding and rearing grounds for B.C.'s recovering humpback whale populations. Researchers estimate that more than 10 per cent of B.C.'s humpback population has been observed in Caamano Sound. The surrounding area – directly in the path of proposed oil tankers and their shipping noise – is one of the only places on Earth where humpback whales have been recorded singing outside of their breeding grounds.
- There is no existing technology that can effectively clean up a diluted bitumen spill at sea. Once spilled, diluted bitumen separates into a toxic gas (which can linger in the area for days, delaying the start of a cleanup effort) and bitumen particles. These particles can spread through the water column from the surface to the ocean floor, and could disperse long distances from the site of the spill.
- The area encompassing coastal ecosystems that have not yet recovered from Alaska's Exxon Valdez spill - over 20 years ago - is roughly equivalent to the area of the B.C. coast, from Vancouver to Haida Gwaii.

John Baird - former Minister of Environment in the Harper government, January 2007: "This is an area of extraordinary ecological significance ... In fact, it is one of the 14 high priority conservation areas identified by the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation."