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December 7, 2020

Re: CN Rail Concerns – Advocacy and Engagement Plan

Dear Members,

Over the years, we have heard many Squamish Nation members share concerns around the impacts of CN Rail train activity through and/or next to our reserves in North Vancouver and the Squamish Valley.

Specifically, we have heard your concerns around shunting, idling, noise pollution, and air pollution from CN Rail. We recently had one informative meeting with the City of North Vancouver and CN Rail to highlight these concerns and will soon re-establish a working group comprised of the Nation's representatives, CN Rail, and other levels of government to discuss our respective communities' concerns.

We are taking these concerns very seriously and are in the process of implementing a number of action steps to hold CN accountable, including:

- Quarterly meetings with the working group to discuss best practices to mitigate the ill-effects caused by the railroad.
- Launching a community survey to gather detailed information on the effects on our Membership.
- Sending a letter, in conjunction with the City of North Vancouver, to CN's Vice-President of Western Canada Operations highlighting our concerns and action steps we are taking. In that letter, we will be CC'ing our Provincial MLA, Federal MP, and the Federal Minister of Transportation.
- Sending a formalized letter of complaint direct from Squamish Nation Council to CN Rail highlighting the results of our survey.

We have both short-term and long-term goals with these action steps. The short-term goal is to reduce or mitigate these concerns through the implementation of new best practices. The long-term goal is to work with all levels of government, CN Rail, and the Port to find alternative and long-term solutions to reduce rail traffic through our communities.

We encourage all affected households to please complete the survey at www.squamish.net/cnsurvey, or over the phone by calling 604-982-0510. The online survey will be open until Sunday, January 3. Members can also complete the survey by telephone until December 18 at 4:30 pm.

The purpose of the survey is to collect detailed reports from affected members. These reports will help us to:

1. Understand and articulate the exact nature of members' concerns, including details of how the train activity is negatively impacting members' lives;
2. Develop a set of recommendations for consideration by CN Rail and responsible government bodies, with the aim of mitigating these concerns as much as possible; and
3. Advocate on behalf of impacted members to CN Rail and various other levels of government.

We thank you for your patience, understanding, and input on this serious matter. If you have any further questions, please e-mail consultation_rightsandtitle@squamish.net.

Chen kw'enmantúmi (I thank you),

Peter Baker, Director, Rights & Title