



**FOUR DIRECTIONS**  
MANAGEMENT SERVICES LTD.

# Environmental Stewardship Initiative: Report on ESI Workshops Findings

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FINAL

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## Acknowledgements

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## Disclaimer

The team at FDMS has made best efforts to ensure a wide range of views and comments have been incorporated into this report; any omissions, changes, deletions, or alterations have been made for sake of creating an accessible and relevant snapshot of the discussions held. The engagement undertaking through the workshops should not be construed as legally required Crown consultation with First Nations for any specific natural gas project, or BC government legislation or policy reform. The LNG ESI workshops were intended as an initial good faith measure to understand the interests from First Nations, industry and federal government representatives in the LNG ESI concept. This is not a public report and is intended for further discussion and analysis. FDMS is not liable for any decisions made as a result of recommendations or actions taken as a result of this report.

# Executive Summary

The Liquid Natural Gas Environmental Stewardship Initiative (LNG ESI) was born out of various discussions the BC government had been having with First Nations over the last year. From these, BC representatives noted common themes being raised by First Nations related to the natural gas projects being proposed in the north; these themes included:

- 1) Concern for the impacts to the environment (and First Nations abilities to practice their rights and traditions) – short term and long term, as well as cumulative impacts to the full value chain of natural gas development: upstream (i.e. gas extraction), mid-stream (i.e. pipelines) and down-stream (i.e. terminals on the coast for export, including tanker traffic);
- 2) Greater role and responsibility of First Nations in land management and environmental stewardship;
- 3) Need for changes and or enhancements to processes and legislation governing major project reviews.

Four Directions Management Services (FDMS) was hired in July 2014 to provide neutral and independent facilitation and advisory services to MARR to determine how First Nations, industry and other government representatives viewed the LNG ESI concept in light of their respective needs. Several workshops were facilitated by FDMS that brought together First Nations, industry and federal representatives. This report is intended to summarize what was said during the workshops.

The purpose of this report is to provide:

- A. A reflection and record of what was said during the workshops, and in discussions with interested parties regarding the LNG ESI concept;
- B. Recommendations on a path forward, based on feedback from the workshops and discussions.

The workshops involved 26 First Nations from across the north that are impacted in some way from LNG development (see Appendix for a complete list). In addition the workshops included representatives from MARR, BC Oil and Gas Commission, FLNRO, MARR and Environment Canada. Industry representatives included those from the following companies: Apache Canada, LNG Canada, Nexen, Shell Canada, Spectra Energy, TransCanada Pipelines, and Woodside Holdings.

Generally, the FDMS team found that there is a broad support for the LNG ESI concept from First Nations, energy companies, and representatives from Environment Canada. We also found that there are some key common areas that can be used to secure partners, commitments and collaboration. Our recommendations are grounded in pursuing the 'art of the possible' for furthering the LNG ESI concept into an incremental, measureable and practical process for meaningful collaboration.

- Recommendation 1) Establish ESI strategic and structural framework
- Recommendation 2) Re-brand LNG ESI to ESI
- Recommendation 3) BC to host an update meeting with the partners.
- Recommendation 4) Demonstrate commitment for ongoing engagement
- Recommendation 5) Demonstrate commitments for flagship projects
  - a. Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment (RSEA)
  - b. Fisheries related monitoring and restoration (mid-stream and down-stream)
  - c. Data creation and access (for LNG projects)

## LNG ESI Background

The Liquid Natural Gas Environmental Stewardship Initiative (LNG ESI) was born out of various discussions the BC government had been having with First Nations over the last year. From these, BC representatives noted common themes being raised by First Nations related to the natural gas projects being proposed in the north; these themes included:

- 1) Concern for the impacts to the environment (and First Nations abilities to practice their rights and traditions) – short term and long term, as well as cumulative impacts to the full value chain of natural gas development: upstream (i.e. gas extraction), mid-stream (i.e. pipelines) and down-stream (i.e. terminals on the coast for export, including tanker traffic);
- 2) Greater role and responsibility of First Nations in land management and environmental stewardship;
- 3) Need for changes and or enhancements to processes and legislation governing major project reviews.

On May 6, 2014, the BC government released a document entitled, *Concept Paper: Environmental Stewardship Initiative Proposal* (see Appendix), as a without prejudice for discussion purposes document to several First Nations, industry and federal government representatives. This concept paper was tabled as a part of, but separate from, ongoing government-to-government negotiations occurring between First Nations impacted by natural gas pipelines, and the BC government (through the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation – MARR).

The development of the Concept Paper occurred among various key natural resource agencies within the BC government that included the Oil and Gas Commission (OGC), Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resources (FLNRO), Ministry of Environment (MoE), Ministry of Natural Gas Development (MNGD), and MARR. The BC provincial LNG Task Force is aware of the LNG ESI concept development, and also provides strategic support. The mandate and ongoing development of the LNG ESI is being led by MARR, with representation from various natural resource agencies, including MNGD.

During the *Second Annual International LNG in BC Conference*, hosted by the Province of BC in Vancouver on May 23, 2014, the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation issued a news release introducing the LNG ESI. The LNG ESI is being seen as a way to create a “platform for First Nations, the Province and the private sector to work together to enhance environmental values over the long term. LNG ESI is intended to build a focal point for collaboration between natural gas proponents, First Nations and government.”<sup>1</sup> The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP) also provided support, as well as several First Nations leaders were quoted in the press release as supporting the LNG ESI concept including Chief Karen Ogen (Wet’suwet’en First Nation) and Chief Wilf Adam (Lake Babine Nation).

Four Directions Management Services (FDMS) was hired in July 2014 to provide neutral and independent facilitation and advisory services to MARR to determine how First Nations, industry and other government representatives viewed the LNG ESI concept in light of their respective needs. Several workshops were facilitated by FDMS that brought together First Nations, industry and federal representatives. This report is intended to summarize what was said during the workshops.

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<sup>1</sup>[http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news\\_releases\\_2013-2017/2014ARR0011-000701.htm](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2013-2017/2014ARR0011-000701.htm)

The purpose of this report is to provide:

- A. A reflection and record of what was said during the workshops, and in discussions with interested parties regarding the LNG ESI concept;
- B. Recommendations on a path forward, based on feedback from the workshops and discussions.

The development and future of the LNG ESI is hinged on the support for it from First Nations, industry and the federal government. FDMS understands that BC is prepared to further invest into the LNG ESI, so long as there is support. The development process is shown below in Figure 1. This report is part of Phase 2, where BC is seeking to understand the interests (if any) in the concept. An initial engagement process has been completed through the workshops, which we'll describe in more detail in this document.



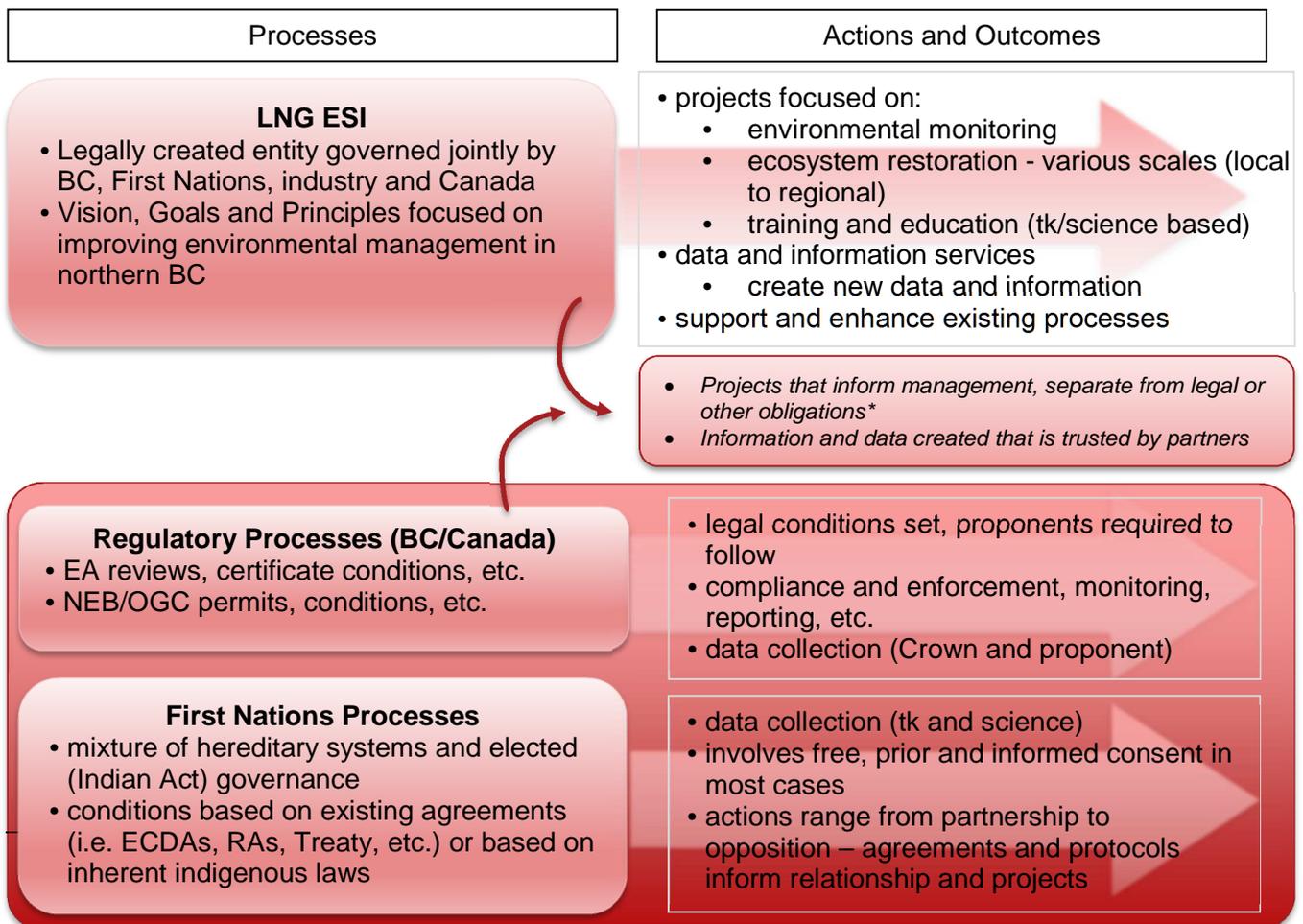
Figure 1 – Phases and Timelines of LNG ESI Development Process

# What is the LNG ESI?

The LNG ESI is a concept in its early stages that is seeking partners in First Nations, industry and the federal government, to improve environmental management in northern BC. The initial focus of the concept is on environmental management of land based impacts resulting from natural gas development (full value chain: up-stream, mid-stream, down-stream). The concept also contemplates that the LNG ESI would be developed and managed collaboratively between BC, First Nations, Industry and Canada.

## CONCEPTUAL DIAGRAM OF THE LNG ESI

Based on the Concept Paper and further discussions with the BC government representatives, FDMS has prepared the following diagram to illustrate conceptually what the LNG ESI is being proposed as (not as it could be based on input from possible partners), and its possible relationship with existing regulatory processes and First Nations processes.<sup>2</sup>



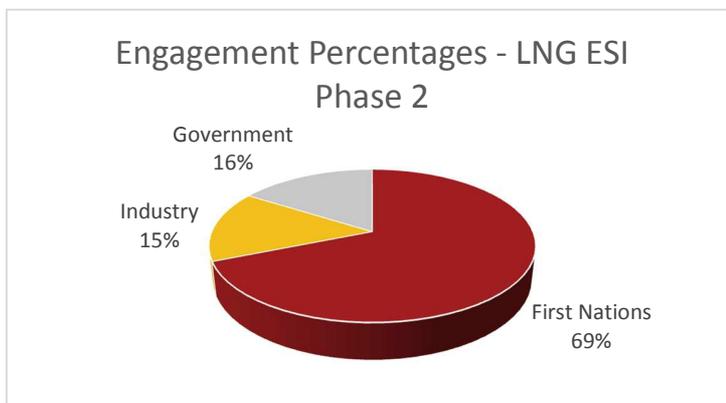
<sup>2</sup> Note: there is no hierarchal significance to the placement of the processes illustrated.

\*Consider the term 'additionality' used in greenhouse gas emissions trading (and economics) when contemplating the actions and outcomes from the LNG ESI in relation to existing processes; additionality in this case being the LNG ESI doing something that would not be done through other existing processes (i.e. EA Certificate conditions, or Government-to-government agreement conditions, etc.) or other legal obligations that create net benefits for the environment.

## PART 1: Workshop Findings

FDMS facilitated four (4) workshops in August and September. Details of responses and feedback can be found in the Appendix. The August 27th workshop was designed to engage key First Nations only to discuss the LNG ESI proposal, as well as to test the workshop materials and process. From the feedback received the FDMS team (including the MARR representatives) adjusted the subsequent workshops held in September, which also included other BC agencies, industry and federal government representatives.

In addition to the workshops, FDMS engaged with key First Nations leaders to discuss their initial high-level thoughts regarding the LNG ESI. These included individuals at the Union of BC Indian Chiefs, BC First Nations Summit, and BC Assembly of First Nations. The BC First Nations Fisheries Council, and other technical First Nations representatives also provided some feedback to the FDMS team.



The workshops involved 26 First Nations from across the north that are impacted in some way from LNG development (see Appendix for a complete list). In addition the workshops included representatives from MARR, BC Oil and Gas Commission, FLNRO, MARR and Environment Canada. Industry representatives included those from the following companies: Apache Canada, LNG Canada, Nexen, Shell Canada, Spectra Energy, TransCanada Pipelines, and Woodside Holdings.

### Workshop Methodology and Agenda

The workshops were designed to provide participants with an introduction of the role of the FDMS team, an introduction of the LNG ESI concept and time to discuss (in caucus and as a group) the LNG ESI. After the initial introductions, two break out groups were formed: First Nations and government/industry. This provided everyone with a safe space and opportunity to openly discuss the LNG ESI, as for many, it was the first time they had heard of the concept. Both groups were brought back together to report to the larger group the nature of their discussions.

The First Nations representatives underwent a more structured process of reviewing key questions (details can be found in the Appendix):

- 1) What are key messages that First Nations need to convey to BC regarding the LNG ESI concept?
- 2) What do we want/need? What have we heard from our members/citizens?
- 3) What needs to change/be put in place to achieve what we want?
- 4) What should the role of industry be in this process?
- 5) What should the role of government be?
- 6) What needs to be done right now?

The FDMS team compiled these responses and found common themes that are important to consider as the concept evolves. We also examined the LNG ESI Concept Paper (found in the Appendix) and identified key themes/concepts that will be used to analyze how the concept was received during the workshops.

**Findings: Workshop Feedback**

Generally, there are some overarching messages that were unanimous from the workshops and discussions with key individuals. These messages have been prioritized by FDMS based on the frequency of their occurrence:

- 1) **Communications and Further Engagement** – The LNG ESI concept is seen as an interesting and worthwhile proposition, and more communication and engagement is needed to ensure that the partners (i.e. First Nations, industry and federal government representatives) can review, internally discuss and contribute to the conceptual evolution.
- 2) **Relationship and Trust between First Nations and BC/Crown requires enhancement** – There was consistent concern raised that such initiatives have been raised in the past, with much fanfare and few beneficial results.
- 3) **Demonstrate Commitment to LNG ESI** – Of importance to note is that no one opposed the concept, however there was a keen interest in seeing that BC, and other partners, demonstrate some real commitments through immediate projects, and resources (i.e. funding) to show that the concept can evolve to meet the partner’s needs.

The FDMS team identified key commonly occurring themes that arose from the workshops and discussions with key individuals. We’ve compared these with the themes/concepts outlined in the Concept Paper. We elaborate further our recommendations on framing these commonalities into the next steps of the concept development. The following table illustrates these comparisons:

Key Themes / Principles	ESI Concept Paper May 6 2014. What the Concept Paper says...	What we heard...
Collaboration for improving ecosystem health	A collaborative approach to maintain environmental stewardship during construction of natural gas pipelines could enable First Nations, the Province and the private sector to work together to improve the health of the ecosystems which are a cornerstone of Aboriginal cultures and essential to all communities.	First Nations are stewards of their lands and territories; there is an opportunity for First Nations to lead.  Willingness to work together to create/improve the concept, for the sake of current and future generations.
Complimenting regulatory process - not replacing or changing	The ESI will not form part of the statutory decision-making process related to pipelines or any resource authorizations in the future. ... In part, the ESI is designed to ensure First Nations participation in delivering ongoing monitoring, restoration and other requirements that will flow from the regulatory process.	More clarification needed on how the LNG ESI relates to Crown statutory decision-making processes (not just for pipelines).  Varying perspectives on whether LNG ESI should or should not be linked to regulatory process.
Long-term commitment	The ESI is intended to address long-term environmental issues that may be identified as potential risks to specific ecosystem values as well as have an ongoing role in the stewardship of the environment well after development occurs	Long-term commitment is needed, but if LNG industry does not result in revenues required for LNG ESI success, then resources need to be found from other sources. Concept can’t be hinged on LNG alone.

Key Themes / Principles	ESI Concept Paper May 6 2014. What the Concept Paper says...	What we heard...
Principle: trust and respect	It is intended to build a platform for collaboration between proponents, First Nations, and government agencies that would increase the collective trust around the management of natural resources.	Further discussions and engagement required for all partners to learn more about each other; trust is built and earned.
First Nations values	The ESI will support the monitoring of specific values that are priorities of First Nations, and help support management responses to those values.	First Nations values and knowledge must be meaningfully included and considered in natural resource management and decision-making.
Joint governance of LNG ESI	A collaborative body that is managed by First Nations, Industry and the Province could play a key role...	An independent entity that incorporates and expands the capacities of the partners involved. Consider regional committees that focus on the needs of a region (i.e. upstream, mid-stream, down-stream), or some other structure (i.e. Society, etc.).
Projects	...in identifying and monitoring the risks to environmental values, collaborating on research and data that supports ongoing analysis of risks, and providing a mechanism to respond to these risks with actual restoration projects.	Monitoring, restoration and projects related to cumulative effects. Some First Nations have specific projects they would like to see supported.
Focus Area: Ecosystem monitoring and assessment – <i>cumulative effects focus</i>	There may be opportunities to create a collaborative platform on which to further develop approaches to monitoring potential cumulative effects across the North. Beyond the immediate needs of natural gas development, the monitoring and assessment of potential cumulative effects will continue to be a central feature...	Common agreement for the need for cumulative effects monitoring, based on regions that meaningfully include First Nations values, approaches and decision making structures and processes
Focus Area: Ecosystem restoration and enhancement	The ESI may provide a collaborative opportunity ... to implement targeted stewardship projects that restore or enhance environmental features that are identified through monitoring or assessment.	Enhancement and restoration projects require proper baseline data (i.e. pre-industrial) in order to ensure results are relevant and appropriate.
Focus Area: Ecosystem research and knowledge exchange	The ESI may enable First Nations to engage in collaborative research projects so as to not generate competing perspectives between First Nations and the Province.	Many examples of good research methods, projects, etc., the interpretation of results is what needs to be collaborative to inform management decisions.
Focus Area: Stewardship education and training	A focused, field-based education and training program that brings together scientific understanding with traditional ecological knowledge could expand the pool of human resources that are available to make a positive ecosystem legacy from immediate natural gas development opportunities.	First Nations have extensive capacity and knowledge. A sharing of knowledge amongst the partners is needed. General agreement that financial resources are required for this to work.

Key Themes / Principles	ESI Concept Paper May 6 2014. What the Concept Paper says...	What we heard...
Governance	The governance model need also consider that the ESI is intended to be a benefit, that would not otherwise be possible were it not for the immediate needs of the natural gas sector. In this case, First Nations access to the benefits of the ESI should be contingent on First Nation support for the natural gas development goals of the Province.	Support for LNG ESI should not be contingent on First Nations support for natural gas development. Nor should the LNG ESI be developed solely from the opportunity from natural gas; existing environmental impacts from historical development resulted from other sectors, and will continue to cumulate the impacts over time.
Governance	If the ESI were established, careful consideration of its design that avoided duplication of existing provincial programs would be necessary.	Need to understand what is out there (i.e. programs, initiatives, etc.) in order to not 'recreate the wheel' and support existing efforts.

Generally there are common areas that workshop participants found could be workable for ongoing discussions. We also found some key issues were brought up that warrant note, however they fall out of scope for addressing the LNG ESI concept specifically. These issues include:

- A. **Tsilhqot'in Nation Decision: Aboriginal Title Reality.** After the Supreme Court of Canada made its decision in this watershed case, the BC Cabinet and First Nations leaders met on September 11 (in the midst of the workshops) for an historic meeting to discuss a new path for recognition and reconciliation. In a statement issued by First Nations leaders they considered the basis of the path to include:
1. Acknowledgement that all our relationships are based on recognition and implementation of the existence of indigenous peoples' inherent title and rights, and pre-confederation, historic and modern treaties, throughout British Columbia.
  2. Acknowledgement that Indigenous systems of governance and laws are essential to the regulation of lands and resources throughout British Columbia.
  3. Acknowledgment of the mutual responsibility that all of our government systems shall shift to relationships, negotiations and agreements based on recognition.
  4. We immediately must move to consent based decision-making and title based fiscal relations, including revenue sharing, in our relationships, negotiations and agreements.

The BC government issued a similar statement after the meeting, noting the leadership's four foundations to guide the path, and committed to working with BC First Nations through the establishment of an annual gathering and through ongoing, government-to-government engagement.

Many participants were eager to hear if BC was going to use the LNG ESI concept to begin a new acknowledgement process that First Nations are seeking with respect to their laws, governance systems, fiscal relationship and decision-making authorities. We find that the LNG ESI could be a 'technical' process and venue for resetting the relationship between BC and First Nations. Trusting the information to make decisions is an important element. This will require creating new standards and approaches to gathering, storing and disseminating research and data. However, we also believe that the LNG ESI process cannot be the only reconciliatory effort coordinated by the BC government; there are risks to this process if it is a standalone one, without other processes that seek higher level government-to-government agreements, etc.

- B. **Pace and urgency of natural gas development.** The global, market driven interest in natural gas has been growing exponentially for various reasons that have been outside of the control of northern communities, particularly for First Nations. The environmental assessment process is also overwhelming First Nations, and the provincial system; there are concern being raised by First Nations and local communities that the LNG rush will be detrimental for the environment (e.g. fish on the coast and inland, air quality, GHG emissions, etc.). There is also a noted lack of cohesive 'land-based' plan for the natural gas pipelines and LNG facilities on the coast.
- C. **Righting historical wrongs.** It has been widely acknowledged that the historical policies towards First Nations in Canada were much darker than they are today. From the Apology Canada issued for the Indian Residential School system to modern day treaty and self-government agreements being forged with First Nations, there are efforts underway to right these historical wrongs. While there is much yet to do for healing and reconciling the relationship between governments and cultures, the LNG ESI effort is part of a wider solution.

While the FDMS believe these are related to the LNG ESI efforts, they are not directly related to the specific requirements of identifying whether or not the initiative has merit for provincial support. We believe that the LNG ESI should be well nested into a broader LNG strategy that specifically deals with First Nations/Crown relations and agreements. It is beyond the scope of this report to venture into those discussions and or advise.

## Part 2: Recommendations and Next Steps

Generally, the FDMS team found that there is a broad support for the LNG ESI concept from First Nations, energy companies, and representatives from Environment Canada. We also found that there are some key common areas that can be used to secure partners, commitments and collaboration. Our recommendations are grounded in pursuing the 'art of the possible' for furthering the LNG ESI concept into an incremental, measureable and practical process for meaningful collaboration.

At the workshop sessions a Shared Vision and Guiding Principles began to emerge, including:

### ***Vision:***

Establish world class centres of excellence in northern BC for environmental management;

Support the design of collaborative processes and knowledge systems for natural resource management in northern BC;

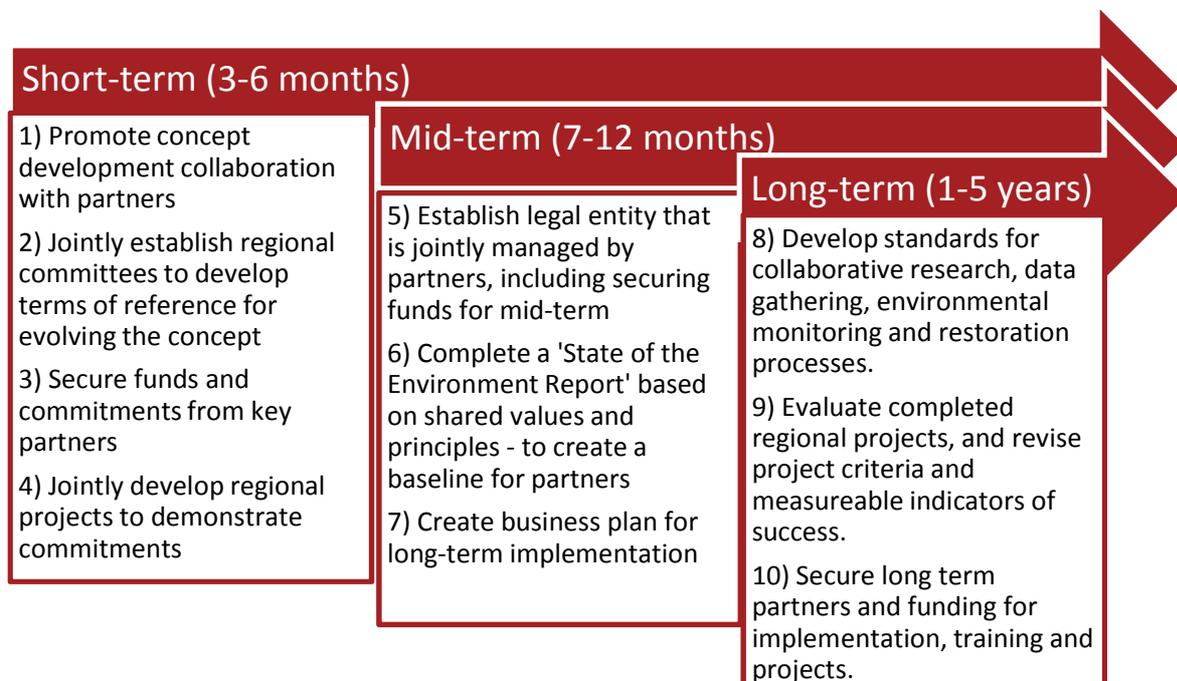
Create reliable and respected information systems for improving environmental management in northern BC;

Develop collaborative natural resource management knowledge systems in northern BC.

### ***Principles:***

- a. **Respect and Reconciliation** – Respect for differing worldviews and knowledge systems. Respect for the reconciliation processes required for healing and restitution from historical impacts to people and the land.
- b. **Collaboration and Cooperation** – Cooperation is fundamental for collaborative systems to strive and evolve.
- c. **Quality and Excellence** – Strive to promote excellence in research, processes and outcomes that exceed quality guidelines for natural resource management.
- d. **Trust and Accountability** – These are cornerstones of good governance and relationship building. Without these the efforts achieving workable solutions become more challenging.
- e. **Effective and Efficient** – Focus on solutions to natural resource management opportunities that are effective and efficient.

In furtherance of the above we propose the following process diagram as a means for illustrating a work plan that is related to short-(3-6 months), mid-(7-12 months) and long-term goals (1-5 years).



### **Recommendation 1) Establish ESI strategic and structural framework**

In combination with the other recommendations found below, we recommend that the parties continue the dialogue and determine what strategic and structural framework is acceptable to advance the concepts and ideas raised at the sessions. This necessarily would include seeking agreement regarding overarching strategy (vision, values, mission, goals, measurable action plan objectives) and associated governance structure. This work should be done collaboratively and in earnest.

### **Recommendation 2) Re-brand LNG ESI to ESI**

The use of and focus on the concept is based on LNG; hence the LNG ESI. However we heard consistently that the initiative should be broader than LNG. FDMS recommends that the initiative be re-branded, and that LNG is a short and long term component (i.e. one of several goals) within the broader vision of the ESI. Expectations can be managed via the short and mid-term commitments that are directly associated with LNG development, but that such commitments are not contingent on First Nations absolute support for LNG.

### **Recommendation 3) BC to host an update meeting with the partners.**

During some of the workshops the idea surfaced to have a 'follow-up' meeting with the participants to continue the dialogue. Such a meeting should be held in the north, with the intent of sharing this report including a revised version of the concept paper. Key First Nations

leaders and technicians from each region can be engaged before such a meeting to assist with the re-drafting. A draft Terms of Reference should be developed to ensure that all parties involved are clear on their roles, responsibilities and mandates. Representatives from industry and the federal government should also be invited to participate.

#### **Recommendation 4) Demonstrate commitment for ongoing engagement**

Commitment for the ESI should come in two parts: political commitments, and financial commitments. The political commitments have been recently demonstrated in BC government press releases and in the Premiers speech during the September 11 meeting with the Chiefs and Cabinet. Further political support signals should be included in new press releases, and at government-to-government tables between BC and First Nations negotiating LNG related settlements.

Financial commitments should include funding for First Nations to participate in the development and implementation process over the short-, mid- and long-term. Consider also supporting regional First Nations representatives to sit on an interim-committee to develop the strategic and structural framework (short-term). First Nations should also be provided funds to hold their own caucus meetings for them to develop their internal relationships related to the ESI; the risk is high to ESI opposition from an uncoordinated, uninformed First Nations contingent.

Funding commitments should also be sought from industry partners and the federal government, for both the development of the strategic and structural framework, and for specific projects. During the workshops there was some indication from industry and federal representatives that there might be willingness to commit to the ESI upon further confirmation that key partners agree to its intentions, purpose, etc.

#### **Recommendation 5) Demonstrate commitments for flagship projects**

The ESI concept considers that projects would be supported in the areas of environmental monitoring (i.e. training, actual monitoring, etc.), ecosystem restoration (e.g. riparian areas, etc.), knowledge systems/information management (e.g. access to existing data, new data collection related to monitoring, etc.), and multi-benefits related to environmental management (i.e. cumulative effects, etc.). During the workshops several project ideas were brought forward by First Nations including:

- a. Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment (RSEA)** – This initiative was noted by representatives from the Treaty 8 region and something that they have been proposing to BC periodically. Some form of a cumulative effects regional assessment could be possible in the Treaty 8 region that incorporates the pilot project being undertaken by FLNRO; elements of the Treaty 8 RSEA proposal should also be considered as a measure to demonstrate commitments. Such a project can be used as a test for a cumulative effects framework that can then be used in the mid and down-stream regions; these regions have also requested improved and enhanced cumulative effects assessment related to LNG project impacts.
- b. Fisheries related monitoring and restoration (mid-stream and down-stream)** – Several workshop participants noted their concerns for impacts to fisheries from LNG development,

particularly in the mid and down-stream regions. We suggest that monitoring and restoration projects be supported by the ESI. These can take the form of supporting and enhancing existing initiatives (i.e. Guardian Watchmen Program, stream-keepers, etc.); some of these initiatives also incorporate training efforts in environmental monitoring.

Also note that there have been extensive efforts in the last several years, supported by BC and Canada, in enhancing First Nations environmental monitoring capacity (i.e. PTP ASEP, etc.). The challenge has been for some of these First Nations to have meaningful employment after their training programs. It is therefore advisable that any ESI training be conducted within a strategic training plan that incorporates employment for the trainees in northern BC.

- c. Data creation and access (for LNG projects)** – Good data is critical for informed decision making. First Nations raised the issue that key data and information is unavailable for proper review, analysis and dissemination. Some of this information is being collected (and subsequently owned) by natural gas companies (pipeline companies in particular). The BC government also collects and houses data related to natural resource management, some of which is already available through GeoBC and other agencies. A mid- and long-term ESI project could be related to improving communications regarding existing data access housed by the BC government, as well as support the creation of a First Nations specific warehouse of data, information and or reports, studies, etc., that add value to the goals of the ESI. There are already First Nations initiatives such as the First Nations in BC Portal ([www.fnbc.info](http://www.fnbc.info)) that is managed by the First Nations Technology Council, supported by the New Relationship Trust, which could be an existing venue to communicate enhanced data access and general information about the ESI efforts.

## **Conclusion**

The ESI is an important step for First Nations, BC and industry to develop a collaborative framework for enhancing the relationship. With the initial focus on LNG, the ESI can evolve into something very powerful for all the partners to celebrate strategic, effective and meaningful projects that benefit the environment and communities. We hope that this report adds value to such conversations, and we are prepared to continue supporting the ESI development in the coming months, and years.

# Appendix A – List of Workshop Participants

<b>Wed. Aug. 27, 2014. Vancouver, River Rock Resort.</b>		
	<b>Name</b>	<b>FN/Company/Agency</b>
1	Tribal Chief Terry Teegee	Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
2	Robert Denis	Wet'suwet'en First Nation
3	Mike Demarchi	Wet'suwet'en First Nation
4	David Dewit	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
5	Jo-Anne Ross	Haisla Nation
6	Candice Wilson	Haisla Nation
7	Tracey Ross	Haisla Nation
8	Kevin Koch	Gitanyow
9	Kelly Logue	MARR
10	Cathy Scott	MARR - Consultant
11	Justin Calof	MARR

<b>Mon. Sept. 8, 2014. Fort St. John, Pomroy Hotel.</b>		
	<b>Name</b>	<b>FN/Company/Agency</b>
1	Chief Derrick Orr	Mcleod Lake Indian Band
2	Chief Lynette Tsakoza	Prophet River First Nation
3	Larissa Tsakoza, Lands	Prophet River First Nation
4	Jim Webb	West Moberly First Nation
5	Cec Heron	West Moberly First Nation
6	Lisa McArthur	West Moberly First Nation
7	Jane Calvert	Doig River First Nation
8	Destiny Bear	MLIB
9	Chief Roland Willson	West Moberly First Nation
10	Diana Abel	Treaty 8 Tribal Association
11	Geoff Morrison	CAPP
12	Jaret Cardinal	Shell Canada
13	Ken Brink, our Manager of Aboriginal Affair & Surface Land Negotiations	Apache Canada
14	Paul Wyke, Senior Advisor, Communications & Media Relations	Apache Canada
15	Colleen Davis	MARR
16	Laureen Tang	Environment Canada
17	Emmy Humber	MNGD
18	Sean Curry	OGC
19	Alex Grzybowski	MARR
20	Kristy Ciruna	FLNRO
21	Sandra Lang	MARR
22	Katie Scott	MARR
23	Linda Robertson	MARR
24	Chris Lee	Environment Canada
25	Justin Calof	MARR
26	Matt Austin	MNGD
27	Roger Graham	MARR
28	Greg VanDolah	FLNRO

<b>Tues. Sept. 9, 2014. Prince George, Coast Inn of the North.</b>		
	<b>Name</b>	<b>FN/Company/Agency</b>
1	Darren Haskell	Tl'azt'en Nation
2	Olivia Roberts	Tl'azt'en Nation
3	Jackie Thomas	Saik'uz
4	Wayne Sam	Nak'azdli Band
5	Ross Wilson	Metlakatla Stewardship Society
6	Janice Nooski	Wet'suwet'en First Nation
7	Shannon Haizimsque	Wet'suwet'en First Nation
8	Nick Erickson	Wet'suwet'en First Nation
89	Ben Alexis	Saik'uz
10	David Thomas	Saik'uz
11	Gilbert George	Tsil Kaz Koh
12	Cindy Solonas	Nadleh Whut'en
13	Denis Patrick	Stellat'en
14	Colleen Davis	MARR
15	Emmy Humber	MNGD
16	Chris Lee	Environment Canada
17	Justin Calof	MARR
18	Kristy Ciruna	FLNRO
19	Sean Curry	OGC
20	Karen Etherington, Director, Environmental and Regulatory	TransCanada
21	Debbie Deschamps, Manager, Aboriginal Relations	TransCanada

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<b>Mon. Sept. 15, 2014. Prince Rupert, Crest Hotel.</b>		
	<b>Name</b>	<b>FN/Company/Agency</b>
1	Rhonda MacPherson, Community Liaison Officer	Kitselas First Nations
2	Patricia Squires	Kitselas First Nations
3	John Balogh	Kitselas First Nations
4	Mark Biagi	Kitsumkalum
5	Bruce Watkinson	Gitxaala
6	James Witzke	Gitxaala
7	Harry Nyce Sr	Nisgaa Lisim
8	Anna Usborne	Metlakatla Stewardship Society
9	Whitney Lukuku	Haisla Nation
10	Marion Shepherd	Unistoten
11	Laura Abboh	Woodside Energy Holdings Pty Ltd
12	Michael Eddy, Senior Aboriginal Relations Advisor	LNG Canada
13	Amy Dopson	LNG Canada
14	Peter Levey	Nexen
15	Graham Genge	Spectra Energy
16	Colleen Davis	MARR
17	Emmy Humber	MNGD
18	Chris Lee	Environment Canada
19	Justin Calof	MARR
20	Laureen Tang	Environment Canada

<b>Tues. Sept. 16, 2014. Smithers, Hudson Bay Lodge.</b>		
	<b>Name</b>	<b>FN/Company/Agency</b>
1	Ron Winser	Tl'azt'en Nation
2	CHIEF WILA'AT (SUE ALFRED)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
3	CHIEF WH TAH K'EGHT (HENRY ALFRED)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
4	CHIEF T'SEK'TO (RON AUSTIN)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
5	CHIEF MADEEK (JEFF BROWN)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
6	CHIEF WOOS (DARLENE GLAIM)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
7	CHIEF HAGWILNEGHT (RON MITCHELL)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
8	CHIEF SAMOOH (HERB NAZIEL)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
9	CHIEF MUTT (BILL NAZIEL)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
10	CHIEF NA'MOKS (JOHN RIDSDALE)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
11	CHIEF WIHALI'YTE (THERESA TAIT DAY)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
12	CHIEF MALI (FRED TOM)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
13	CHIEF SIMKE-YAKS (BARB WILSON)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
14	CHIEF LAY'OH (JAMES NAMOX)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
15	LAYNE BOUCHER FOR SMOGELGEM	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
16	CHIEF KLOUM KUN (ALPHONSE GAGNON) MORICETOWN	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
17	CHIEF KNEDEBEAS (WARNER WILLIAM)	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
18	DEBBIE PIERRE	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
19	DAVID DEWIT	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
20	MIKE RIDSDALE	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
21	JUDY WALTON	Office of the Wet'suwet'en
22	Vanessa Joseph	Yekooche First Nation
23	Allen Joseph	Yekooche First Nation
24	Art Erickson	Yekooche First Nation
25	Mary Jean Thomas	Yekooche First Nation
26	Kevin Kock	Gitanyow Chiefs
27	Mitchell Joseph	Yekooche First Nation
28	Elsee Telyoe (?)	
29	Gwass Hlaam	
30	Angela Tait	Gitanmaax
31	Andrew Davis	Gitanmaax
32	Allen Cummings	OW
33	Michael Eddy, Senior Aboriginal Relations Advisor	LNG Canada
34	Peter Levey	Nexen
35	An Mihn Vu	Transcanada PRGT
36	Chastity Davis	Transcanada PRGT
37	Colleen Davis	MARR
38	Emmy Humber	MNGD

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<b>Tues. Sept. 16, 2014. Smithers, Hudson Bay Lodge.</b>		
	<b>Name</b>	<b>FN/Company/Agency</b>
39	Chris Lee	Environment Canada
40	Justin Calof	MARR
41	Laureen Tang	Environment Canada
42	Alex Grzybowski	MARR
43	Kristy Ciruna	FLNRO
44	Sandra Lang	MARR
45	Katie Scott	MARR
46	Linda Robertson	MARR

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# Appendix B – ESI Proposal Concept Paper. May 6, 2014

**WITHOUT PREJUDICE - FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES**

**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP INITIATIVE PROPOSAL  
CONCEPT PAPER**

**Introduction**

All First Nations with whom provincial representatives have discussed natural gas development have expressed a deeply-held responsibility to care for their traditional territories. Many of the First Nations affected by the natural gas development have stated that they are not prepared to compromise environmental stewardship for a share in the economic benefits from the projects. This same discussion has occurred through consultations over forestry and other resource development proposals over the past number of years. Given the pace of resource development, the Province recognizes a need for new tools that will create a positive legacy for First Nations and the environment.

A collaborative approach to maintain environmental stewardship during construction of natural gas pipelines could enable First Nations, the Province and the private sector to work together to improve the health of the ecosystems which are a cornerstone of Aboriginal cultures and essential to all communities. The Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI) would create a platform for this collaboration.

**Context**

The regulatory process for natural gas pipeline proposals is independent and separate from the proposed ESI. The ESI will not form part of the statutory decision-making process related to pipelines or any resource authorizations in the future. This coordinated regulatory process will evaluate anticipated environmental impacts for each project and ensure unacceptable impacts are mitigated as well as meet the Province's constitutional obligations to consult with First Nations. In part, the ESI is designed to ensure First Nations participation in delivering ongoing monitoring, restoration and other requirements that will flow from the regulatory process.

The priority of First Nations to have a comprehensive and inclusive approach to environmental stewardship that monitors potential impacts from multiple projects, including pipelines, is acknowledged by the Province. To this end, the Province is proposing a new mechanism called the ESI and is seeking to develop it collaboratively with First Nations and the resource industry. The ESI is intended to address long-term environmental issues that may be identified as potential risks to specific ecosystem values as well as have an ongoing role in the stewardship of the environment well after development occurs. The diagram below, illustrates the relationship between the ESI and the regulatory process.

The proposed ESI is beyond the requirements of the regulatory processes associated with individual pipeline projects or other resource authorizations. It would focus on a long-term linkage to ongoing provincial stewardship programs. It is intended to build a platform for collaboration between proponents, First Nations, and government agencies that would increase the collective trust around the management of natural resources.

### **Potential Linkages to Explore**

The Province recognizes that First Nations have concerns over certain environmental values that have been the subject of consultation discussions with First Nations along the proposed pipeline routes. These concerns include the potential cumulative effects of natural gas development, including pipelines as incremental to other resource development impacts on the environment like roads and forest harvesting. The ESI will support the monitoring of specific values that are priorities of First Nations, and help support management responses to those values. The ESI may be initiated through pipeline development, but could expand to include other resource sectors over time.

A collaborative body that is managed by First Nations, Industry and the Province could play a key role in identifying and monitoring the risks to environmental values, collaborating on research and data that supports ongoing analysis of risks, and providing a mechanism to respond to these risks with actual restoration projects. The ESI is proposing to provide new tools to First Nations by creating an independent entity that can work in parallel and in a manner complementary to provincial resource agencies on these topics. The ESI is intended to increase the level of trust in environmental management through collaboration. The ESI is not intended to create an additional decision making process, rather support existing processes with common and trusted information.

### **Proposed ESI Program Focus**

Preliminary dialogue between First Nations and the Province has identified four potential elements of the ESI that require further exploration with First Nations. The summary below is intended to further discussion and assist in the development of the initiative.

**1. Ecosystem monitoring and assessment:** Monitoring and the assessment of potential cumulative effects on specific values is a priority for the Province and First Nations. There may be opportunities to create a collaborative platform on which to further develop approaches to monitoring potential cumulative effects across the North. Beyond the immediate needs of natural gas development, the monitoring and assessment of potential cumulative effects will continue to be a central feature in the consultative relationship between the Province and First Nations. The ESI may be positioned to serve this long-term need through a collaborative and sustainable forum. Further, the results of monitoring and assessments of potential cumulative effects will assist in identifying risks to ecological values across the land base and may be used to target restoration and enhancement projects.

**2. Ecosystem restoration and enhancement:** The ESI may provide a collaborative opportunity for First Nations, the Province and the resource industry to implement targeted stewardship

projects that restore or enhance environmental features that are identified through monitoring or assessment. On a land base that supports multiple resource development and resource use activities (be they industrial, recreational, or traditional), sustaining or enhancing some environmental values may require longer-term monitoring to ensure the effectiveness of mitigation. If additional risks are identified over time, the ESI may support First Nations in responding to those risks with targeted projects. First Nations may also have specific environmental restoration or habitat enhancement proposals in the areas affected by resource development, including that from natural gas, which could be subject to additional projects supported under this ESI.

**3. Ecosystem research and knowledge exchange:** Where the status of key environmental values change (for example, wildlife population concerns or degradation of fish habitat), it is sometimes challenging to identify, or to reach consensus on, the likely cause of that change. The ESI may assist both the Province and First Nations in addressing these issues through targeted research projects. A shared objective of addressing key knowledge gaps and providing improved guidance for resource development has always been a priority of First Nations and the Province, and the ESI may bridge traditional disagreements on the information on which these resource decisions are made. The ESI may enable First Nations to engage in collaborative research projects so as to not generate competing perspectives between First Nations and the Province.

**4. Stewardship education and Training:** There is significant potential to increase collaboration and First Nations participation in delivering stewardship services whether it is monitoring, restoration or research. A focused, field-based education and training program that brings together scientific understanding with traditional ecological knowledge could expand the pool of human resources that are available to make a positive ecosystem legacy from immediate natural gas development opportunities.

#### **Potential Governance Design**

The ESI could be governed through a trust-like arrangement that sets strategic direction and priorities for the initiative. A governance model will be developed.

Since there are multiple First Nations that have traditional territories along the proposed pipeline corridor, a governance model that provides for inclusivity, but is also efficient, will be necessary. The governance model need also consider that the ESI is intended to be a benefit, that would not otherwise be possible were it not for the immediate needs of the natural gas sector. In this case, First Nations access to the benefits of the ESI should be contingent on First Nation support for the natural gas development goals of the Province.

The ESI will, by necessity, have a number of linkages to ongoing government programs that will need to be considered. The natural resource sector agencies have an ongoing responsibility for the environmental stewardship of the land base. If the ESI were established, careful consideration of its design that avoided duplication of existing provincial programs would be necessary. The suggested program focus here also has distinct linkages to the information that

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supports consultation on natural resource development. An information management and decision support protocol would need to be clear and transparent so these linkages were managed. The ESI suggests an initial focus on natural gas, which could be broadened to other resource sectors over time.

**Collaborative Design and Next Steps**

Each of the four elements outlined above will be further developed in the coming months through discussions with First Nations representatives, provincial government program leads and the natural gas industry. The goal of these discussions is to develop an ESI model collaboratively.

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## Appendix C – LNG ESI Summary of Feedback Received. Sept. 2, 2014

**Without Prejudice and For Discussion Purposes Only**

Sept. 2, 2014

**LNG Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI) - Summary of Feedback Received**

**Purpose**

The proposed LNG Environmental Stewardship Initiative (ESI) has been discussed with First Nations, the LNG Industry and the Federal Government since the proposal was announced in May of 2014. This document provides a summary of feedback received to date from First Nations and is intended to support transparent and collaborative development of the ESI. None of the content in this document represents a position of the Province, First Nations Governments, First Nations Associations or any other parties involved in ESI development. It is provided to facilitate ongoing dialogue about the development of the ESI proposal.

**Source of Feedback on ESI**

The content of this document is based on: discussions between some of the First Nations' and/or their representatives involved in natural gas related negotiations with the Province and the Provincial team responsible for ESI development or MARR negotiators; discussions with contractual expertise, and individual First Nations' and/or their representatives involved in natural gas related negotiations with the Province; as well as input on the ESI proposal from natural gas pipeline proponents.

**ESI Vision – Summary of Feedback**

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- A. In ESI discussions to date, First Nations' and/or their representatives have expressed the need for an independent entity that can undertake collaborative projects that generate information on key environmental values;
- B. There is a shared view that new tools are needed that will create a positive legacy, noting that existing tools need to continue to be relied upon and that the ESI should not 'reinvent the wheel';
- C. First Nations' and/or their representatives generally agree that the ESI initiative could assist all parties in identifying and monitoring the risks to environmental values, collaborating on research and data development that supports ongoing analysis of risks, and providing a mechanism to respond to these risks with restoration projects or other management responses;
- D. An opportunity for a greater role for First Nations in ongoing monitoring, restoration, research and other projects has been identified; these could complement the implementation of regulatory processes for natural gas projects. There is also an interest from First Nations in utilizing the ESI to restore historic values and conditions within their respective traditional territories;
- E. There is broad support for improving collaboration between proponents, First Nations, and government agencies that would improve land management. First Nations and/or their representatives emphasize that it will take significant effort on the part of all parties to build the relationships required to manage those values that are of mutual interest to the parties.

## **ESI Structure – Summary of Feedback**

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- F. First Nations and/or their representatives have acknowledged the proposed elements presented in the May 6<sup>th</sup> Concept Paper produced by the Province of BC as generally share the perspective that they are key priorities (monitoring, research, restoration and stewardship skills). More work is need to refine those elements, how they will function and identify specific projects within each element;
- G. First Nations’ and/or their representatives express the need for the ESI to be a consistent and ongoing initiative with stable long-term funding that supports the capacity of First Nations to undertake projects.
- H. First Nations’ and/or their representatives have expressed desires for immediate financial and political commitments on the ESI as an essential initiative to be done simultaneously with the current negotiations for benefit agreements with the Province;
- I. First Nations’ and/or their representatives have drawn linkages between the recent Supreme Court of Canada ruling on *Tsilhqot’in Nation v. British Columbia 2014* and the ESI. First Nations’ and/or their representatives have expressed a desire to have ESI outputs influence land management in some manner;
- J. First Nations require a greater degree of clarity on the structure of any linkages between the ESI and the regulatory process and other Provincial stewardship programs.
- K. First Nations’ and/or their representatives have expressed a desire for the ESI to be implemented through visible, outcome-based projects that create substantive results that positively affect First Nations communities. Suggestions for these types of projects include the following:
- i. *Territory specific projects* - These types of projects focus on restoring historic land that remain as priorities of First Nations;
  - ii. *Regional projects focused on cumulative effects in the upstream* – While the Province has a number of cumulative effects initiatives in the upstream, First Nations express ongoing concern about risks to key First Nations values Northeast. Interests have arisen to gain more understanding of existing initiatives that assess these types of effects, and to become more involved in a collaborative approach to risk assessment and appropriate management responses;
  - iii. *Baseline data development* – Improving baseline data required to assess and monitor key values in the North and developing new means of sharing data among First Nations, Industry and various levels of government. A ESI project to develop and share such data in key areas of the Province could be a foundational component of the ESI;

## **Summary of Outstanding Questions on the ESI Proposal**

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1. First Nations’ and/or their representatives express concern over Provincial capacity to develop and implement an ESI initiative. First Nations’ and/or their representatives express the need to have a more solid political commitment to the ESI that clarifies its

funding level and structure. *Question: Once the ESI is more defined, what are the short/long-term commitments from the parties?*

2. While First Nations' and/or their representatives acknowledge the collaborative efforts by the Province to develop the ESI incrementally, beginning with the concept to more detailed development, more work on engaging all parties is needed for development and implementation. *Question: In addition to regional workshops and targeted interviews, how else should the parties be engaged?*
3. The linkage between the financing of the ESI and the success of various pipeline or natural gas developments has been raised as a concern. *Question: How will the level of investment into the ESI be reconciled with existing uncertainty over which and how many natural gas projects may eventually be developed.*

## Appendix D – Presentations: FDMS and BC Government

# Appendix E – Participant Responses to Workshop Questions

Wed. Aug. 27, 2014. Vancouver, River Rock Resort.	
Q.1 What is the one obstacle that may hold the ESI back from achieving its stated vision and goals?	
Group 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The diversity of a large number of First Nations frustrates the chances of reaching a united position/consensus. Differences between the elected model and hereditary</li> <li>- Who owns the land and resources?</li> </ul>
Group 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a huge diversity of First Nations and this makes it difficult to get full participation and buy-in. There is great uncertainty right now in terms of who has final say in what happens on the land.</li> </ul>
Group 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Need to move beyond a concept</li> </ul>

Q.2 How may we overcome the noted obstacle?	
Group 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Educate – get to know the people and the issues. Communicate – communications plan. Choice of scale – agreements to work together on large issues and to respect the interests that only cover a smaller area</li> <li>- Communicate – Find common interests, collaborate and cooperates. ESI as a means of coming together to educate ourselves and others situations.</li> </ul>
Group 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Educate yourself. Government learn about what First Nations want. First Nations learn what the projects and processes actually are.</li> <li>- Tailor the ESI to the right scale.</li> <li>- Find common interests and ensure everyone’s interests are accounted for.</li> </ul>
Group 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop clarity. Political pressure. Government commitment/project stability and longevity. Information and data. Funding.</li> </ul>

Q.3 What should the roles and responsibilities be for the following:			
	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Industry	Funds (cash and in-kind). Information collection and sharing. Adopt practices arising from adaptive management	Fund it both in-kind and financially. Agree to adaptive management.	Funding. Recognize Aboriginal rights and title. Avoid impacts to rights and title first, then mitigate. Best practices and innovation.
Provincial Gov't	Funds. Input form agency experts, use existing materials and info. Legislative role. Duty to consult and respect FNs constraints and timelines,	Coordinate and facilitate the process. Share existing information. Legislative role. Respect FN consultation processes. Make	Set data collection and management standards. Recognize rights and title. Monitoring and compliance. Transparency – access

	internal needs, prior to making statutory decisions. Coordinate and run the ESI.	decisions based on adequate info rather than best available. Work collaboratively with feds.	to information and funding.
Federal Gov't	Funds. Input from agency experts. Legislative role. Duty to consult, prior to making statutory decisions. Get together with BC to adopt an ecosystem view with less emphasis on jurisdictions.	Work collaboratively with BC. Contribute expertise. Ensure FNs are consulted on issues that affect salmon or any migratory species, regardless of whether the impact is on their territory or not.	Recognize rights and title. Funding. Access to information and funding.
First Nations	Be the stewards, monitory, watchdogs on the ground. On the front line. Live up to the standards set. Ensure accountability. Provide trained workforce. Lead in setting of env'tal priorities and mgmt. TK – sharing.	Active stewards/watchdogs. Ensure accountability between industry and government. Clearly articulate concerns and ideas to gov't and industry.	Share information and analysis and uphold the responsibility to care for the land, rehabilitation. Collaborate with other FNs and share tools. Decision-makers. Hold province and feds accountable. Compliance and enforcement.

Q.4 SWOT Table Exercise. Task 1) Identify the ESI's strengths and weaknesses. Task 2) Identify external opportunities and threats that could impact the ESI over the next 1 to 3 years.	
Internal Focused	External Focused
<p><i>Strengths:</i></p> <p>G1 – Making a serious attempt to address FN concerns as envisioned by FNs. Give FNs an opportunity to drive the bus. Group has much internal capacity – head start.</p> <p>G2 – Making a serious attempt to address FNs concerns. Huge internal capacity, including within FNs. Opportunity for First Nations to lead.</p> <p>G3 – Trying to create collaboration between governments.</p>	<p><i>Opportunities:</i></p> <p>G1 – Natural gas industry booms then ESI should benefit the land base in perpetuity. Lots of projects out there need to be done, so lots of opportunity to improve conditions. Integrate with other initiatives (i.e. cumulative effects management). Bring disparate groups together.</p> <p>G2 – Positive investment decisions by the natural gas industry could result in large investments towards ESI.</p> <p>G3 – Recognized differences</p>
<p><i>Weaknesses:</i></p> <p>G1 – Elephants in the room. FNs input and participation: how complete? Depends on a successful natural gas industry. Mandate, backing legislation is lacking.</p> <p>G2 – Minimal FN input and presence to date. Depends on a successful natural gas industry. Elephants in the room are a weakness.</p> <p>G3 – Unclear products and outcomes. Broad FNs support [NTD: lack of].</p>	<p><i>Threats:</i></p> <p>G1 – Market forces (commodity prices). Loss of technical capacity. Dissention by a minority. Loss of momentum to complete the development of the ESI.</p> <p>G2 – If natural gas prices tank then it's all for not. Individual groups could thwart the efforts of the collective who are pursuing something positive in good faith. Loss of technical capacity.</p> <p>G3 – Balance of authority. Industry participation [NTD: lack of]</p>

Q.5 Fill in the table.	
Sensibility? Does the ESI concept as presented make sense?	Gaps? What are we missing?
<p>G1 – Yes, we wouldn't be here if it didn't, but that doesn't mean it's perfect. We're willing to work together to create it/ improve it.</p> <p>G2 – Yes, we wouldn't be here if it didn't, though it's not perfect.</p> <p>G3 – In theory</p>	<p>G1 – funds and a model for implementation</p> <p>G2 – Not currently funded.</p> <p>G3 – Clarity from BC</p>
Challenges? What are the key challenges the ESI needs to overcome to be successful?	Early Wins? Where might the ESI focus its initial energies?
<p>G1 – Need to impress and convince the people on the river's edge that ESI can deliver as promised. Change our mindset – finds ways to make it work. Avoid the pitfalls.</p> <p>G2 – First Nations buy-in. Make me a believer. Needs to change our mindset to look for solutions rather than reasons to fail.</p> <p>G3 – Trust and commitment from all 3 levels of government.</p>	<p>G1 – Showcase projects that will convince local citizens. Small scale projects that can be applied to a wider area using lessons learned. Information gathering and cataloging in anticipation of project work (e.g. access inventory, habitat). Marketing the ESI. Educate the people especially those that may be opposed.</p> <p>G2 – Providing the pavement to thoroughly educate people on what ESI is.</p> <p>G3 – Mandate, structure, and function</p>

Fort St John – Mon. Sept. 8/14. Pomroy Hotel.
<b>Key Messages</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. This needs to be a government-to-government process, not an advisory role</li><li>2. Difficult to trust based on mis-steps by industry and government</li><li>3. Participate under duress</li><li>4. High frustration that this is disingenuous effort</li><li>5. Move away from same old same old – “advisory process” – advice can be ignored</li><li>6. Some parties not here, i.e. BCEAO</li><li>7. Approach is divide and conquer</li><li>8. Approach seems scattered</li><li>9. Relationship of ESI to current strategies/initiatives (i.e. cumulative effects pilot, agreements, etc.)</li><li>10. No capacity to review ESI concept, participate in ongoing process, etc. – trade-offs in time management to deal with other issues (i.e. referrals, EAs, etc.)</li></ol>

Q1. What do we want/need? What have we heard from our members/citizens?
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Look at all the activities going on, sustainability of the region – what is left</li><li>ii. Respect of and adherence to BC Appellate court decisions, Treaty 8, and other agreements, processes</li><li>iii. Need a way to hold Crown accountable</li><li>iv. Water: more protection of fresh water resources – more compliance and enforcement</li><li>v. Regulatory and legislated change – EA process, OGC regulatory process</li><li>vi. Co-planning/Co-management/co-jurisdiction regime – monitoring, regulatory process to set limits on footprint of gas fields; monitoring for:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Avoidance – area based, focused on avoidance, not restoration. To limit development.</li><li>o Restrictions on fresh water and hunting (low numbers)</li><li>o Manage well sites, Minimize access</li><li>o More control into permitting</li><li>o Address cumulative effects</li><li>o Take monitoring and current land use to gauge whether we’re reaching thresholds</li></ul></li></ol>

Q.2. What needs to change/be put in place to achieve what we want?

- i. Be involved in developing the timeline for the ESI process
- ii. Need the capacity – currently limited in capacity. Too many initiatives at play. Staff/leaders overworked, not enough people. Capacity needed that is not tied to supporting development.
- iii. More collaborative approach to compliance and enforcement to monitor on the ground, to protect resources
- iv. Want truly co-planning, co-management approach – that’s related to informed, sustainable development
- v. Need paradigm shift on how Crown views relationship in Treaty 8 – moving towards equal footing, equal capacity, etc.

Q.3. What should the role of industry be in this process?

- i. Funding
- ii. Relationship building – grounded in FPIC
- iii. Involved in implementation
- iv. Transparency – no more lobbying behind closed doors
- v. Pre\early engagement

Q.4. What should the role of government be?

- i. Paradigm shift in honouring relationship with Treaty 8
- ii. Change existing processes, legislations – i.e. EA, OGC processes
- iii. Give ESI teeth – legislated
- iv. Use ESI as basis for more control of permitting for all activities
- v. Provide capacity resources, not related to specific projects or buy-in, or current agreements
- vi. Internally facilitate/coordinate all its internal programs/projects/agencies

Q.5. What needs to be done right now?

- i. ESI team needs to seek and obtain a political mandate to respond to needs/wants
- ii. FNs need resources to seek internal mandates to approve ESI process
- iii. Industry needs mandate to provide the resources to make this work
- iv. Regional Strategic Environmental Assessment (RSEA) needs to be done, now  
...then we can talk about projects...

<b>Prince George – Tues. Sept. 9/14. Coast Inn of the North.</b>
<b>Key Messages</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. For ESI to be successful BC needs to give up obsession with control</li><li>2. Interesting proposal</li><li>3. Linkage to existing agreements</li><li>4. Concerned with sharp dealings</li><li>5. Concentrate on ESI across the board, upstream and downstream</li><li>6. Shouldn't be focused just on LNG</li><li>7. Huge issue of trust with BC</li><li>8. Overselling the ESI concept, too vague right now. Commitments are vague</li><li>9. Pressure to approve LNG deals, ESI as a component</li><li>10. Early signing bonus offer, inducements (link to ESI), even though we don't know what ESI is</li><li>11. Existing environmental monitoring capacity in FNs, what are opportunities for training them, preparing them for opportunities</li><li>12. Will ESI talks replace ongoing talks/initiatives? How will ESI affect these talks/initiatives? Is there hidden agenda, to give proponents a break</li><li>13. What is the guarantee on implementation?</li><li>14. Standards/care for environment from FNs are higher than that of Crown and industry</li><li>15. In upstream area, can the land be restored from impacts from 'fracking', especially water?</li><li>16. ESI influence on decision-making – how can it meaningfully influence?</li><li>17. No confidence in the existing EA process, no meaningful consultation, etc.</li><li>18. Need to know the full ESI package in order to understand if it acceptable – to seek mandates, commitments, etc.</li><li>19. Rights affected over the years from cumulative impacts (on fish, wildlife, etc.)</li><li>20. Overwhelmed with project applications from various industries – cumulative effects. Existing agreements don't cover these all</li><li>21. Cumulative effects must include full impacts (social, economic, etc.) – wider values, wider impacts to be addressed. Can't be just about a single operation/project. Crown not asking the right questions.</li><li>22. Increased access from development, increases impacts</li><li>23. Provincial support for ESI, should not be contingent on FNs broad support for LNG development, including EA support</li><li>24. Mixture of First Nations leadership/governance needs to be understood and respected</li><li>25. Decrease carbon footprint from these projects</li></ol>

Q1. What do we want/need? What have we heard from our members/citizens?

- i. Can't borrow from future generations, they must have same opportunities we have
- ii. Accomplish stewardship role FNs have
- iii. Need full disclosure, to make informed decisions
- iv. What is out there, other processes – to not reinvent the wheel
- v. Need the resources to be involved – need to use our time wisely
- vi. Want a long term commitment from BC
- vii. Want bureaucrats to understand what Tsilhqot'in decision means
- viii. Proper dispute resolution process(es)
- ix. All living things have value, broader protection for these, not just for commercial interests, etc.
- x. To be rooted in the north, in the communities impacted – not in the south
- xi. ESI needs to be a bureaucratic process, not a political one...

Q2. What needs to change/be put in place to achieve what we want?

- i. Use existing capacities that are in FNs communities
- ii. Measures to replace stocks (fish and wildlife), impacts from logging, etc.
- iii. Lessen access to the land base
- iv. Enhance and improve communications about ESI, and development
- v. Improve the understanding of the impacts from the upstream and downstream development (on FNs, land, water, etc.), directly from the FNs impacted

Q3. What should the role of industry be in this process?

- i. Funding
- ii. Information provided freely, and early
- iii. To work together, collaborate – prior to activities and plans
- iv. Respect FNs values, rights, protocols and laws

Q4. What should the role of government be?

- i. More monitoring, compliance and enforcement
- ii. Strengthen policies, legislation to protect environment

Q5. What needs to be done right now?

1. Create toolkits, manuals to learn from existing FNs experiences – some existing ones need to be updated
2. FN lead environmental assessment process

<b>Prince Rupert – Mon. Sept. 15/14. Crest Hotel.</b>
<b>Key Messages</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. This is not consultation</li><li>2. Community health is as important as land health...</li><li>3. Disagree that we're starting on a new page, some decisions made many years ago, decisions have been made. It's a matter of when, not if, some of these projects will happen.</li><li>4. Once land is disturbed, opens up impacts and ability to do other things. Areas being access/developed that shouldn't have been (i.e. development on glaciers, etc.). We never would have allowed that or developed there. Linkages to foreign investment – they don't care about the land</li><li>5. Mine staking done years ago (70s), compensation offered to those and other interests.</li><li>6. We have always been stewards, born and live it</li><li>7. Who's legacy is this for – what does legacy mean</li><li>8. Troubled by the process, first time learning about this. Haven't been part of the process of the concept. Assumption of seeking buy-in. We haven't had time to discuss the concept, process, etc.</li><li>9. Conditional support for LNG develop is a huge issue – many questions and concerns</li><li>10. Can't be part of the process without the information</li><li>11. We've seen this type of effort before. Lumping of First Nations for engagement. Don't make assumptions that First Nations rights and title will be the same, etc. Need to talk to individual First Nations, to gauge interest in process, values, etc. BC needs to step back and re-educate their understanding of First Nations. We've come a long way...</li><li>12. Is BC going to talk with First Nations about their specific stewardship approaches, values, etc.</li><li>13. Actions of BC have been offensive – i.e. hard bargaining offers, etc.</li><li>14. How is sitting here going to be twisted, to meet BC's needs – how will all this be interpreted, etc.</li><li>15. Would like process to be stopped, reversed – permits put on hold. FNs take the lead. We tell you what's important to us, and where you can go, what you can do, etc.</li><li>16. Attempting to listen – a good thing</li><li>17. The approach of this is in, that is out, may not create good info</li><li>18. Access is a concern – needs to be attached to regulatory teeth. Needs to be real.</li><li>19. Has to be shared-decision making on this too</li><li>20. Proponents saying they have limited amount of money to spend on FNs issues</li><li>21. Fear that this is one more piece of the pie – funds put forward will be deducted from agreements</li><li>22. Needs to be funded separately from LNG development</li><li>23. Yet to see high level support – no Ministers, DMs, etc., that are publically behind this (other than Rustad). This is key</li><li>24. Limited resources in our offices. Where do we spend time focusing on this or other things?</li><li>25. What are the government's commitments to the collaboration?</li><li>26. Regulatory process gets really complicated, compartmentalized – hard to get answers</li><li>27. Major issues with jurisdiction – ecosystems don't follow government imposed jurisdictions</li><li>28. Concerned that the onus of dealing with cumulative effects will be passed on the ESI</li><li>29. Concerned that it will be a forum for consultation, default for cumulative effects</li><li>30. EA too far down the road, ESI can't inform them properly, baseline studies can't be improved, etc.</li></ol>

Q1. What do we want/need? What have we heard from our members/citizens?	
i.	Don't want a big bureaucratic process, FNs need to be key part of the management.
ii.	Needs to be community based
iii.	Coast is different – ecosystem, culture, etc., needs to reflect this reality
iv.	Need the marine environment issues proactively included
v.	Needs to be FNs lead – we've been trying co-management (been a battle), etc.
vi.	Need to hear how gov't will commit, at the next meeting – go beyond good faith
vii.	Need cumulative effect, regional assessment – to look at the big picture
viii.	ESI cannot water down the regulations, conditions, standards, etc.
ix.	ESI to influence the regulatory process, improving standards, etc.
x.	The ESI cannot replace regulatory requirements and processes – i.e. EA certificates provide conditions
xi.	Don't want the ESI to be a place for consultation; don't want the ESI to be a default place for consulting
xii.	Regulators need to operate at arm's length of politicians. Environmental consultants report their findings directly to regulators on behalf and independent of proponent agenda
xiii.	Needs to be tied to environmental stewardship, not timelines in EAs, funded not just by LNG – otherwise ESI loses all credibility
xiv.	Baseline studies need to be based on facts not modelling; they're not just points in time, they are trends over time

Q.2. What needs to change/be put in place to achieve what we want?	
i.	Need support from BC, for FNs to lead the stewardship roles, initiatives, etc.
ii.	Mitigation does not negate the cumulative impacts that a project has on the integrity of the ecosystems impacted
iii.	There are other processes, ESI can't create one big short cut for industry or government
iv.	ESI should support the regulatory process – fund the research, include FNs views, etc. – these studies/research can inform if conditions are adequate and need to be changed
v.	The studies/reports need to be independent, regulatory process should not be influenced by the politics

Q.3. What should the role of industry be in this process?	
i.	Don't think industry has a role – can't create short cuts. We can fund from taxes and royalties, to do true stewardship
ii.	Industry to share information with each other, and with FNs – to properly plan and assess
iii.	Should admit they have overlapping plans (i.e. corridors/ROWs) for pipelines

Q.4. What should the role of government be?	
i.	Fund it – from taxes and royalties
ii.	Add capacity to the process, i.e. facilitating the workshops, knowledge in BC gov that can be useful once this gets off the ground

- iii. Commitment to separate the proponents for economic advancement from the regulator; regulators have been compromised – needs to be on the neutral side, for protection efforts
- iv. Ensure the ESI process has teeth, reinforce initiatives that are set forth from the process, ensure proponents follow the initiative
- v. Improve inter-intra communications, for improved integration, collaboration, etc.

Q.5. What needs to be done right now?

1. What about other First Nations, to discuss LNG developments (upstream, midstream, downstream) – to see the whole picture
2. Want answers to the issues and questions brought forward – can't commit until we know this is real. Need high level support (DM, Ministers), and commitments – demonstrate the faith this is real, and worthy of investment of our time, etc.
3. Remove BC timelines from the ESI development process
4. ...we need a response in 30 days..

<b>Smithers – Tues. Sept. 16/14. Hudson Bay Lodge.</b>
<b>Key Messages</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. This is not consultation – consultation is done with the land owners, proper title holders</li><li>2. Legacy of mistrust – history of no trust with the Crown and companies. Internal mis-trust too.</li><li>3. Don't recreate the wheel – current processes already exist</li><li>4. Don't want ESI tied to LNG only</li><li>5. ESI is a reactive model</li><li>6. Need decision-makers in the room</li><li>7. Consider enhancing existing systems/processes</li><li>8. How does the EAO manage the paper and data?</li><li>9. Should be part of meaningful consultation</li><li>10. Tsilhqot'in case – title exists. Rights and titles need to be respected. Beyond S. 35 rights.</li><li>11. EAO/OGC processes not listening to FNs concerns</li><li>12. ESI process provides an opportunity to build a legacy</li><li>13. How are FNs involved in ensuring the conditions (in current reviews/approvals) are implemented and monitored</li><li>14. Improve ecosystem functions for wildlife, etc.</li><li>15. LNG legislation is coming in next couple weeks – need FNs input into this legislation</li><li>16. There can't be strings attached to ESI – esp. purse strings</li><li>17. Need to listen to the proper title holders</li><li>18. Each nation is at different levels – some don't have the capacity for managing consultation, etc.,</li><li>19. Huge amount of info from EA processes, not enough staff to manage – opportunity to enhance the process so we have better understanding</li><li>20. Concerns about current impacts, and what's left. Clear-cutting wiping out information that we need (trails, CMTs, sacred grounds, etc.). How to get compensated?</li><li>21. Gov't doing what it wants to do</li><li>22. Are the companies following the rules set by Crown</li><li>23. There isn't recognition of Unistot'en, no response – coordinated by gov't and companies to ignore. Daily lack of respect of hereditary leaders. Trust needs be built. Affected relationships.</li><li>24. Concerned because of lack of acknowledgement of what brought us here today – no honour of the Crown regarding what is right for FNs. No demonstration that FNs best interests are in mind. Consistent denial of rights.</li><li>25. We have to continually prove ourselves in such venues/initiatives. Why can't there be trust.</li><li>26. We've had opportunity to talk with other FNs to discuss and share challenges, opportunities and impacts – so they can consider these when deciding these development projects. Important to building understanding.</li><li>27. Pipeline contractors causing problems – divide and conquer tactics, causing fires, etc.</li><li>28. Fences being put up (by farmers), impacting access</li><li>29. Won't support agreements tabled without the time to discuss with members</li><li>30. We already have/do stewardship</li><li>31. Has the PCA model demonstrated in PG changed?</li><li>32. Concerned about losing ownership (land) from ROW from pipelines</li></ol>

Q1. What do we want/need? What have we heard from our members/citizens?	
i.	What are our current skills and capacity? Are there certain capacities/tools that we are developing to respond to these projects? Share the tools/capacity
ii.	What resources does the BC gov't have to contribute – there used to be good people working on data management/collection – not the case anymore.
iii.	Create our own panel review for LNG assessment – issue conditions
iv.	Need to restore watersheds, restore habitats, deactivate roads, etc.
v.	Implement FNs own policies, laws based on traditional systems of governance, stewardship
vi.	Need proper baseline information, studies – by trusted companies and experts
vii.	Need capacity building in our communities, enhance existing capacity
viii.	Energy corridor concept needs to be considered
ix.	To be heard, to be known – we don't need court cases. This is our land. Trust and believe.
x.	Need regional assessment process/authority, led by FNs – fully reviewed, data collected is shared, monitoring done on ongoing basis. Approval done together (FNs/Crown)
xi.	Need our own rules, regulations to manage development
xii.	FNs need to work together, share information – same issues, we can solve them together
xiii.	Need the ability to create our own processes that recognizes our policies, laws that respects our authorities, to be proactive – not reactive
xiv.	Need to find balance – need ability to be the change
xv.	Do not reinvent the wheel
xvi.	Need to include and support non-invasive developments as part of the ESI (i.e. tourism)
xvii.	Need to let government know where we are going, where we want to go
xviii.	Need to incorporate information and data from the past to be used in decisions
xix.	Need tools to assess infringements
xx.	Need honesty and cohesive relationships – with companies and Crown. We're not getting this with the government and companies.
xxi.	Concern around invasive species management – plants and animals. Declining moose populations.
xxii.	Concerned about the Mt Polley mine disaster – long term effects
xxiii.	Accelerated MPB cut, free to grow buffers needed
xxiv.	Witnessing dry streams – low snow levels
xxv.	100 m buffers, many MPB killed trees – inadequate protection of water. Increase in water temperatures too
xxvi.	Declining berries in area – relying on food from stores
xxvii.	Aquatic animals, different parasites being seen on them – bears in the spring time
xxviii.	How do we get protection, for all Skeena river nations?
xxix.	Need help in dealing with impacts from climate change – as a result of the LNG development
xxx.	Need commitment that development will be the 'cleanest' in the world – for the full value chain (not just for downstream)

Q.2. What needs to change/be put in place to achieve what we want?

- i. Need capacity resources to continue to be involved in ESI development
- ii. Need a regional sustainability authority – using traditional protocols/laws, etc., for decision-making, monitoring, assessment, issue conditions,
- iii. Building capacity – at all levels
- iv. Develop energy corridor concept
- v. Update the land use plans that exist, support development of FNs land use plans
- vi. Access to baseline info collected by the companies – need to be forced to give the information. They claim its private property.
- vii. Active engagement of our youth, use of technology linkages to traditional knowledge
- viii. Urgent planning on the coast where terminals are being proposed – so terminals are sighted in the right locations

Q.3. What should the role of industry be in this process?

- i. Contribute funding
- ii. Release the information they are collecting. Requirement by law
- iii. Help build capacity within communities
- iv. Provide research done on pipelines from the past, some background research
- v. FN involved early, early planning, provide the capacity
- vi. Need to talk with First Nations first – to determine if project is viable/wanted
- vii. Provide data to each FN

Q.4. What should the role of government be?

- i. Enforce and monitor what we need/want
- ii. Provide funding – to support youth, innovative use of technologies, etc.
- iii. Provide data to each FN – MoF
- iv. Canada – what is their role? What will they contribute?

Q.5. What needs to be done right now?

1. Funds - Provide money to meet independently to organize ourselves, sharing information, to continue being part of this process
2. Data – access to existing data from companies, etc.
3. Capacity building – youth focus, Wilp, House members
4. Share information among FNs

## Appendix F – Press Releases

FINAL for DISTRIBUTION. Oct. 17, 2014

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
2014ARR0011-000701  
May 23, 2014

Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation

**B.C. to engage with First Nations, industry on eco-stewardship**

VANCOUVER – The Province will seek input from First Nations and the natural gas industry on advancing the government’s long-term environmental management approach through collaboration. The proposed LNG Environmental Stewardship Initiative (LNGESI) creates a platform for First Nations, the Province and the private sector to work together to enhance environmental values over the long term. LNGESI is intended to build a focal point for collaboration between natural gas proponents, First Nations and government.

In 2013, BC achieved agreement with 15 First Nations to support the Pacific Trails Pipeline project (PTP), the first proposed gas pipeline to support LNG. Since then, B.C. has been engaging with First Nations whose traditional territory may be affected by pipelines, through a comprehensive and integrated regulatory process. The LNGESI aims to establish long-term legacies that advance our stewardship of the land that will complement our existing world-class environmental standards, legislation and regulatory processes.

The Province is proposing the LNGESI as a mechanism to advance the level of collaboration for key environmental management issues like monitoring and restoration.

The LNGESI is not designed to change or alter the current regulatory process. It is being proposed to complement the regulatory process. For example, certain environmental values may require long-term monitoring to ensure they are sustained well after pipelines are built. The ESI proposes to have First Nations front and centre in that monitoring so they can support ongoing Provincial efforts.

The ESI is intended to build a focal point for collaboration between natural gas proponents, First Nations and government.

**Quotes:**

**Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Minister John Rustad –**

“Aboriginal people have a crucial role in our LNG strategy, and will benefit with jobs, business and community opportunities. However, we recognize that First Nations feel strongly about upholding their important environmental values. We recognize that there’s a need for new tools that will create a positive legacy for First Nations and the environment.”

**Chief Karen Ogen, Wet’suwet’en First Nation –**

“The Wet’suwet’en First Nation welcomes this initiative and looks forward to working with the Province and other First Nations to turn this concept into a reality. The environmental sustainability of the WFN territory and all of British Columbia is critical to the people of the WFN.”

**Chief Wilf Adam, Lake Babine Nation –**

“This initiative is very intriguing and looks very promising. It’s worthwhile looking and developing the outcome.”

**Philippe Reicher, vice-president, external relations, Canadian Energy Pipeline Association –**

“The Canadian Energy Pipeline Association (CEPA) and its members respect and support First Nations commitment to protecting the environment now and for future generations. We look forward to working with

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First Nations and the Province of British Columbia on this new Environmental Stewardship Initiative.”

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[http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news\\_releases\\_2013-2017/2014ARR0011-000701.htm](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2013-2017/2014ARR0011-000701.htm)

## **Work begins on LNG Environmental Stewardship Initiative**

Environment, Government Operations Monday, September 8, 2014 9:40 AM

VICTORIA - Through a series of regional workshops, the B.C. Government is taking the next step in its commitment to work directly with First Nations to create a positive environmental legacy from the development of a safe and sustainable liquefied natural gas industry. The Liquefied Natural Gas Environmental Stewardship Initiative workshops are being held in collaboration with First Nations Sept. 8-16, 2014, in Fort St. John, Prince George, Prince Rupert and Smithers. Representatives from 35 First Nations involved in LNG negotiations, along with cross-government and industry representatives, have been invited to participate.

Announced in May 2014 at the International LNG in B.C. Conference, the Liquefied Natural Gas Environmental Stewardship Initiative was launched as a response to First Nations seeking a government commitment to more collaborative forms of environmental management. These workshops are the next step in designing the stewardship initiative, offering participants the opportunity to identify projects, priorities and management structure of the initiative.

First Nations have indicated an interest in participating in the development of information used to make resource management decisions. The development of the Liquefied Natural Gas Environmental Stewardship Initiative is one instrument the Province and First Nations will be using to incorporate Aboriginal values into resource management decisions.

First Nations have also indicated an interest in working with government to identify specific environmental restoration and habitat enhancement projects in areas affected by resource development, which the stewardship initiative is intended to address.

The Province is also engaging federal agencies to develop a shared vision and action plan for the Liquefied Natural Gas Environmental Stewardship Initiative that meets the priorities of First Nations and the other parties.

The initiative complements the existing regulatory process and advances the collaborative relationship between First Nations, governments and industry on key environmental management topics.

### **Quotes:**

#### **John Rustad, Minister of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation -**

“The LNG Environmental Stewardship Initiative is a significant part of our commitment to use the opportunities presented through LNG to create lasting legacies for First Nations and the environment. These workshops are an important step with First Nations so we can establish environmental legacies with a shared vision.”

#### **Chief Karen Ogen, Wet'suwet'en First Nation -**

“WFN is pleased that the Province has followed up with its commitment at the BC LNG Conference to develop to an LNG Environmental Stewardship Initiative in partnership with First Nations. Land management in the province needs to incorporate and address values of importance to First Nations. This initiative linked to the opportunity of LNG development is an important step in our community’s consideration of support for proposed LNG projects.”

### **Media Contacts:**

Lisa Leslie

Government Communications and Public Engagement

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Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation  
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<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2014/09/work-begins-on-Ing-environmental-stewardship-initiative.html>

***For Immediate Release***  
**September 11, 2014**

<http://www.fns.bc.ca/pdf/2014-09-11%20-FNLC-Statement-re-FN-Forum-with-Premier-and-Cabinet.pdf>

**B.C. Government and First Nations leaders look to future of reconciliation**

VANCOUVER –First Nations leaders from across the province and the B.C. Cabinet convened today for a historic day-long dialogue on transforming First Nations-Crown relations in British Columbia.

Discussion focused on the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in *Tsilhqot'in Nation* as a historic opportunity to work together to build a new path for respect, recognition and reconciliation in the province. The decision also establishes a new reality and legal landscape for our transformed relationship, and that implementation of the decision must be a joint endeavour to achieve success and will require hard work.

First Nations leaders clearly laid out the following foundations that must be the basis for future work:

1. Acknowledgement that all our relationships are based on recognition and implementation of the existence of indigenous peoples' inherent title and rights, and pre-confederation, historic and modern treaties, throughout British Columbia.
2. Acknowledgement that Indigenous systems of governance and laws are essential to the regulation of lands and resources throughout British Columbia.
3. Acknowledgment of the mutual responsibility that all of our government systems shall shift to relationships, negotiations and agreements based on recognition.
4. We immediately must move to consent based decision-making and title based fiscal relations, including revenue sharing, in our relationships, negotiations and agreements.

The First Nations Leadership Council is disappointed that the Province declined to commit today on these key foundations for moving forward, recognizing this is our first political meeting on these fundamental political and legal questions. This work is too important to delay, and the First Nations Leadership Council and First Nations in BC await and look forward to a timely response regarding the foundations of our work together. Regardless, First Nations remain resolute in exercising our respective title and rights, and treaty rights according to these foundations for the benefit of the current and future generations. We will steward our lands and ensure that they are responsibly managed and work toward building strong First Nations governments, communities and economies.

-30-

**For further comment please contact:**

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## **B.C. Government and First Nations leaders look to future of reconciliation**

Government Operations Thursday, September 11, 2014 5:10 PM

<http://www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/2014/09/bc-government-and-first-nations-leaders-look-to-future-of-reconciliation.html>

VANCOUVER - B.C. Cabinet and First Nations leaders from throughout the province convened today for a historic day-long dialogue on transforming Crown-First Nations relations in British Columbia.

The Government of British Columbia and First Nations leaders acknowledged that the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in Tsilhqot'in Nation is a historic opportunity to work together to build a new path for recognition and reconciliation in the province.

The decision also establishes a new reality and legal landscape for our transformed relationship, and that implementation of the decision must be a joint endeavour to achieve success and will require hard work.

The Government of British Columbia also recognizes that Aboriginal title in British Columbia exists - this is without question and dispute. The challenge and opportunity is how to implement title across British Columbia given that a diversity of views exists on how best to achieve this in the most collaborative and timely way.

Today, B.C. First Nations proposed the following four foundations to guide a new path forward:

1. We acknowledge that all our relationships are based on recognition and implementation of the existence of Indigenous peoples' inherent title and rights, and pre-confederation, historic and modern treaties, throughout British Columbia.
2. We acknowledge that Indigenous systems of governance and laws are essential to the regulation of lands and resources throughout British Columbia.
3. We acknowledge the mutual responsibility that all of our government systems shall shift to relationships, negotiations and agreements based on recognition.
4. This means we immediately must move to consent based decision making and title based fiscal relations, including revenue sharing, in our relationships, negotiations and agreements.

The Government of British Columbia is committed to working with B.C. First Nations through the establishment of an annual gathering and through ongoing, government-to-government engagement.

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