

Collaborative Assessments: Melding Indigenous Nation Wants with Project Proponent Needs



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Ts'uubaa-asatx Welcome Song

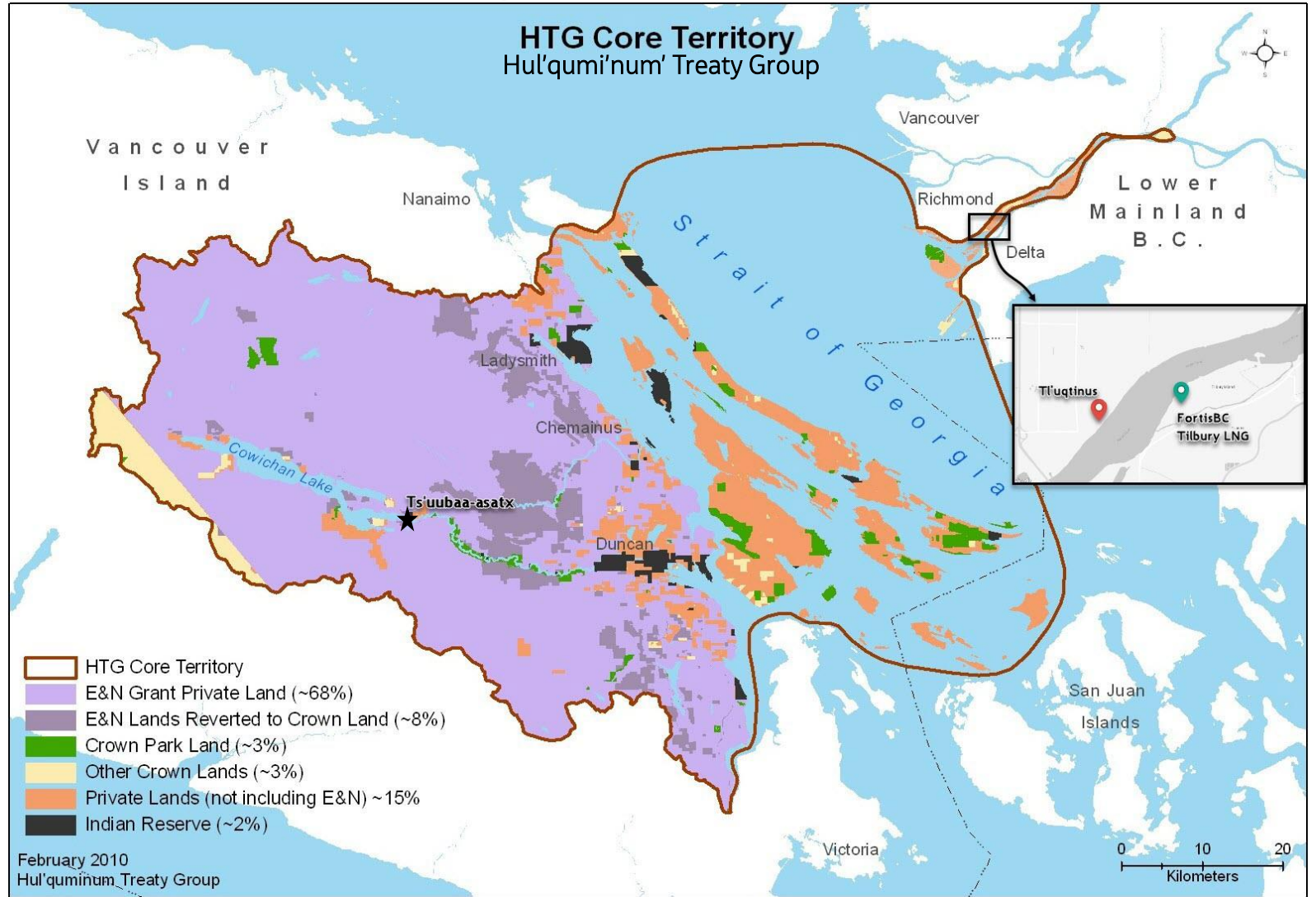




The representatives of **Ts'uubaa-asatx**, **FortisBC** and **Jacobs** are grateful to *learn, live, work* and have access to amazing recreation opportunities in the **Coast Salish** world and other Indigenous territories.

Ts'uubaa-asatx: Introduction to Community

- Ts'uubaa-asatx are the "People of the Lake"
- Have lived around the shores of Cowichan Lake for millennia
- Formerly known as Lake Cowichan First Nation



Regulatory Context: Ts'uubaa-asatx

- Regulatory requirements for major projects being proposed in BC can take *years* to navigate through legislated environmental review processes
 - Either provincial (BC EAO) or federal (IAAC), or both if triggered
 - Labour intensive, complex, highly technical
 - Particularly problematic to small Nations such as Ts'uubaa-asatx
 - Large numbers of major projects being proposed in territory



Ts'uubaa-asatx: Response to Environmental Assessments

- Sourcing out expertise to serve as a liaison between Ts'uubaa-asatx leadership and proponents
- Strategic vision applicable to all major projects on the lower mainland to ensure:
 - Economic benefits
 - Renewal of cultural practices
 - Education of proponents about cultural traditions
- Policies replace project-by-project review and incorporate Ts'uubaa-asatx Indigenous Knowledge (IK)

Regulatory Context: Provincial and Federal

- New provincial and federal legislation harmonizes environmental assessment laws with UNDRIP
 - Proponents' ability to identify and resolve or mitigate Indigenous Interests now a top determinant for regulatory approval
 - The modernized processes are more flexible and use of Indigenous Knowledge is expansive
- FortisBC was able to utilize Ts'uubaa-asatx's three policy documents to develop a collaborative approach for determining effects of the Tilbury Phase 2 LNG Expansion Project

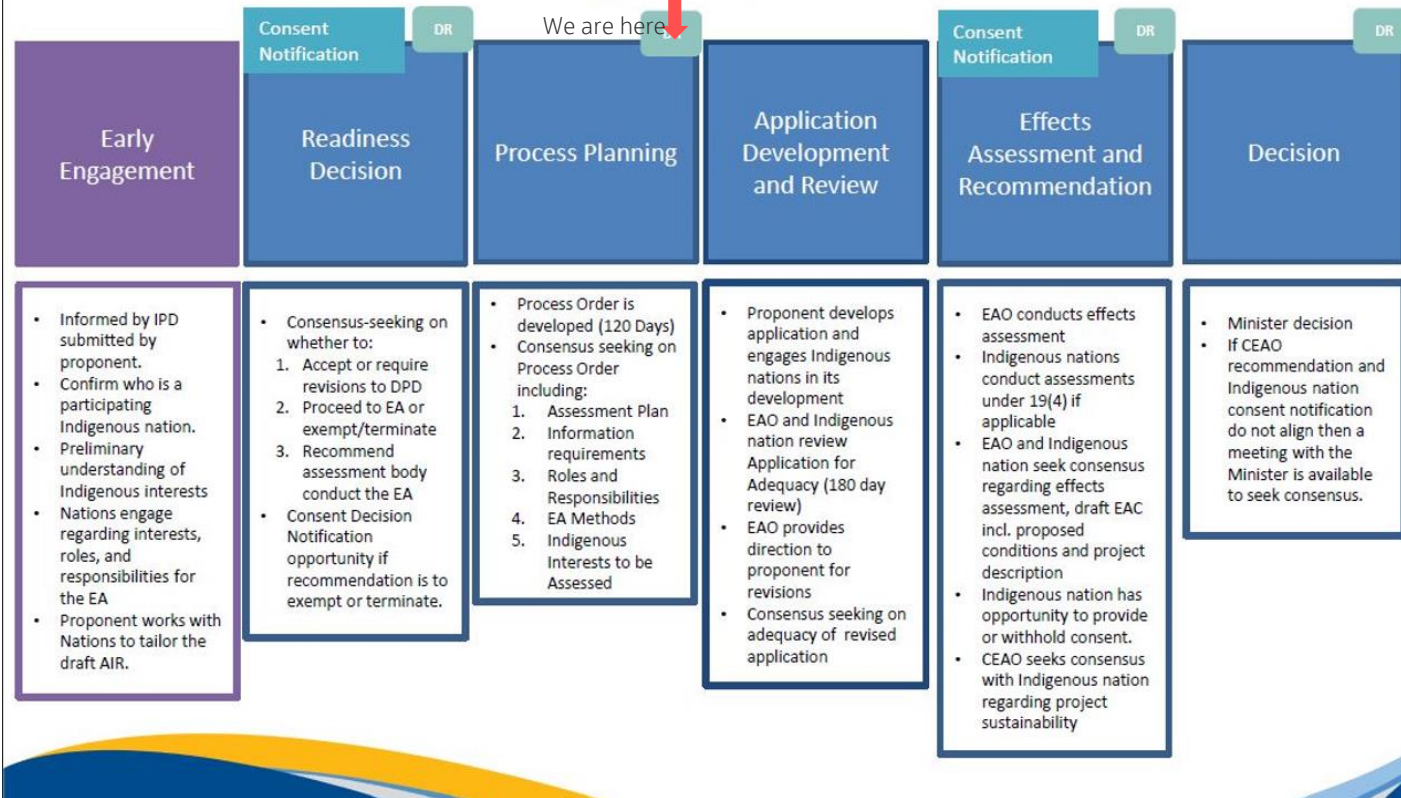
Proposed Tilbury Phase 2 LNG Expansion Project



- FortisBC is one of BC's largest energy providers with over 1.2 million customers
- Serves 58 Indigenous communities in BC with natural gas, renewable energy and electricity
- Operates infrastructure which crosses over 150 Indigenous territories
- Seeks to become BC's Energy Partner of Choice with Indigenous communities
- Proposing to expand its existing LNG storage facility on Tilbury Island

Tilbury Phase 2 Environmental Assessment

Timing in the EA Process



- Subject to provincial (BC EAO) and federal (IAAC) regulatory processes
- Jacobs assisting in the EA
- Tilbury Island of great importance to Indigenous Nations
- FortisBC regularly engages with 15 Participating Indigenous Nations and informs other Nations of milestones
- Ts'uubaa-asatx is a Participating Indigenous Nation

Effects Assessment: Ts'uubaa-asatx's Interests

- Ts'uubaa-asatx initially expressed its Indigenous Interests to EAO/IAAC and requested that FortisBC *conduct engagement differently*
- Jacobs, FortisBC, and Ts'uubaa-astax collaboratively developed a table to identify Ts'uubaa-asatx Interests in relation to the proposed Project
 - Table expanded to determine:
 - How Project Application or regulatory processes would meet Ts'uubaa-asatx Interests
 - Gaps in the policy documents in relation to the Project's Valued Components
 - Identified where Ts'uubaa-asatx:
 - Required internal follow-up
 - Would need to develop or expand policies

Results: The Table!

Sub-Components	Topics to be Captured in the Project Application	Anticipated Linkages to other Valued Components or Sections	Valued Component and Sub-Component Rationale	Ts'uubaa-asatx Policy Linkages	Identified Gaps	Project Potential Effects	Ts'uubaa-asatx Identified Issue / Interest (in all VCs sections)	Interest Tracking Table (Section 11)
Culture								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Governance and stewardship systems -Customs, beliefs, and values -Language and intergenerational knowledge transfer -Community, cultural cohesion and continuity 	Summary of Human and Community Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The proposed Project has the potential to interact with to cultural practices, including subsistence activities and resources, trails and travelways, habitation sites, cultural sites, and cultural and heritage resources -Identifies themes where culture may be impacted as a result of the proposed Project (e.g., governance and stewardship systems, customs, beliefs, and values; language and intergenerational knowledge transfer; community and cultural cohesion) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Reestablishing harvesting and fishing practices over time -The use of Indigenous design to celebrate, acknowledge and educate about the Indigenous history, use and occupancy of the area -The introduction of calming and peaceful environments around hard infrastructure 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Harvest locations including resource camps -Harvesting of fish and seals -Intercommunity relations including the use of traditional trade areas and gathering sites along the South Arm of the Fraser River -Big umbrella socio-ec components(governments) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The Project's impact on the experience of harvesting of wildlife in relation to changes in air quality, acoustics, surface water, groundwater, soil, vegetation, wildlife and wildlife habitat, and fish and fish habitat -The Project's impact on the health and availability of resources Ts'N harvests -The Project's impact to VCs which would in turn impact the health and well-being and Ts'N's traditional ways of life -The Project's impact on intercommunity relations and trade -The Project's impact on gathering, cultural and ceremonial activities and practices, and on the socio-cultural and socio-economic environment

Results: The Table!

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Employment and Economy								
Employment	-Jobs and training -Labour income -Access to economic opportunities/economic equity	-Land and Resources -Summary of Human and Community Well-being	-Represents potential proposed Project interactions with the Local and Regional labour market and local and regional economies. -Creates measurable parameters for economic activity generated by the proposed Project	- Involvement in monitoring programs (including training) -Increase opportunities to pursue economic interests		-Increased business demand, employment, and labour income -Enhancement of workforce and business capacity -Employment and contracting opportunities		-Participation in monitoring and training programs -The Project's impact on Ts'N's ability to improve social and economic conditions in relation to increased jobs and training and economic opportunities -Changes to employment opportunities and Ts'N's businesses
Economy	-Tax revenues -GDP contributions -Business revenue -Land and resource valuations -Cost of living			Engagement of Ts'N as an economic partner in the Lower Mainland		-Increased taxes and royalties -Increased bidding opportunities -Addition to BC's GDP		-The Project's impact on Ts'N's ability to improve social and economic conditions -The Project's impact on Ts'N's future aspirations for sites or area surrounding the proposed Project -Changes to Ts'N's government's revenue

Results: Examples

Example VC	Ts'uubaa-asatx Policy Documents
Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topics to be captured in the EA are closely aligned with Ts'uubaa-asatx policy documents• No identified gaps between the topics to be captured and the policy documents
Employment and Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topics to be captured in the EA are somewhat aligned with Ts'uubaa-asatx policy documents• Identified gaps between the in the topics to be captured and the policy documents for Ts'uubaa-asatx to use to update and expand its policy documents
Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topics to be captured in the EA are not included in the Ts'uubaa-asatx policy documents• Identified topics for Ts'uubaa-asatx to include in its updated and expanded policy documents

Results: Benefits to all Parties

- **Ts'uubaa-asatx:**

- First time their policy documents were used from the beginning of a project
- Showed how policy documents work in an EA
- Identified where policies need to be expanded or developed

- **FortisBC:**

- Assessment of Ts'uubaa-asatx's Interests while building relationship
- Used Ts'uubaa-asatx's preferred approach while meeting regulatory requirements
- Streamlined EA review process

- **Regulators:**

- Ts'uubaa-asatx consensus on assessment approach for each step of EA

Klecko, klecko

Thank you, thank you all

Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments via chat in the IAIA22 platform.



#iaia22

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