

October 7, 2016

## **INVITATION - SAVE THE DATE**

**To: All British Columbia First Nations and Tribal Councils**

**Re: Canadian Environmental Assessment Act Strategy Workshop  
Thursday October 27, 2016  
Songhees Wellness Centre, 1100 Admirals Rd Victoria, BC**

---

The First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC), as mandated, has undertaken to be involved in the environmental assessment review announced by the federal government. To date, FNEMC has developed an overall proposal for multi-year engagement, provided comments to Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) regarding the Terms of Reference of the Panel, and submitted an application for participant funding.

The federal CEAA panel was appointed in August by Minister McKenna, and participant funding submissions were received until September 9. On September 22, FNEMC was notified that their funding application was approved. In follow-up, FNEMC contacted and received agreement from BCAFN to hold the day following their Annual General Assembly, scheduled for October 24-26 in Victoria in Songhees Nation territory.

We invite all First Nations to attend, and hope that delegates attending the BCAFN Annual Assembly can stay over one additional night to attend this strategy session. The objective is to develop a list of options that First Nations can refer to in their presentations to the five regional EA review panel sessions scheduled for November and December 2016.

FNEMC has undertaken the responsibility to develop a background document on the history of EA in Canada, changes made in the 2012 CEAA Act, and feedback from the FNEMC CEAA Workshop held in March 2016. We will post these on our website in the coming week. Please review in preparation for discussion on October 27.

The travel budget is limited and in consideration of this, FNEMC will only be able to provide for a subsidy of \$150.00 for accommodations and per diems for breakfast and dinner for one day.

Attached is a Registration Form and if you would please submit to Joanna Prince as soon as is possible, in order to finalize logistics.

Please refer to the FNEMC Website ([www.fnemc.ca](http://www.fnemc.ca)) for Workshop Information and should you have any questions or comments, please contact Joanna Prince at 604-838-5542.

Sincerely,

**FIRST NATIONS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

On behalf of the **FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT**

  
Grand Chief Edward John

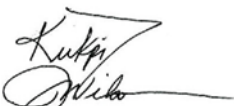
  
Robert Phillips

  
Cheryl Casimer

On behalf of the **UNION OF BC INDIAN CHIEFS**

  
Grand Chief Stewart Phillip


  
Chief Bob Chamberlin

  
Kukpi7 Judy Wilson

On behalf of the **BC ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS**

  
Regional Chief Shane Gottfriedson

**First Nations Energy and Mining Council**

  
Dave Porter, CEO