

November 29, 2017

Northwest British Columbia  
Resource Benefits Alliance  
300 – 4545 Lazelle Avenue  
Terrace, BC V8G 4E1

Attention: Bill Miller, Chair

Dear Mr. Miller,

Re: Support of the Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce I am writing this letter to express our support for the Northwest BC Resource Benefit Alliance and a revenue sharing arrangement for Northwest BC.

The unique collaboration of 21 local governments from Masset to Vanderhoof to establish The Northwest BC Resource Benefit Alliance (RBA) group speaks to the resolve and strength of Northern communities' ability to work in partnership for the benefit of our entire region. A revenue sharing agreement with the provincial government would further strengthen the economic ties in the North and provide funding for much needed infrastructure upgrading and improvements.

Northwest BC has a long history of resource development that has generated significant wealth for the entire province. Nevertheless, for decades, little of that wealth has made its way back to the North. A prime example of the need for revenue sharing is the failing infrastructure that is the only route out of Kitimat. Highway 37 South, a 58 km stretch of highway is in desperate need of proper resurfacing, rather than the patchwork of repairs and increased number of "reduce speed" signs to deal with the problems.

Many major projects in the Northwest create jobs mostly for itinerant workers and revenues for the provincial government, while putting pressure on local infrastructure and local government services. Revenue sharing would provide the required funding resources to reduce the pressures on local infrastructure and government services. It would also enable local businesses to grow, supply more goods and services to these projects and employ more local residents.

Sincerely,



Trish Parsons  
Executive Director

RECEIVED  
R'  
DEC - 1 2017

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF  
KITIMAT-STIKINE