



Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance: Key Facts

The Northwest BC Resource Benefits Alliance (RBA) is comprised of all 21 local governments, consisting of the three Regional Districts and all 18 municipalities, from Vanderhoof to Masset. All are fully committed to a regional solution.

NW BC taxpayers subsidize resource development

- \$13B in development has taken place in our region over the past 5 years. From this, over \$500M was generated in provincial revenue through income and sales tax. None of that has come back to our communities.
- In the next 10 years, there will be about \$30 billion of non-LNG development; if three LNG plants go through, that number would more than double.
- With increased development comes increased costs to local taxpayers: pre-development planning and permitting, service demand increases in areas like parks and recreation, police, other first responders, social programs, transportation, environmental protection, economic development, post-development costs.
- Local governments receive very little of the additional revenue generated from these projects because many are outside of municipal boundaries. However, development of these projects rely on local communities for infrastructure and services, placing pressure on local residents and businesses to subsidize the provincial government, creating a significant competitive disadvantage for the region

The Northwest is a have-not region with a \$600 million infrastructure deficit

- We lack infrastructure, facilities and services that most other regions of BC take for granted like well maintained roads, updated sewer and water systems, and programs and facilities for arts, culture and sports.
- Revenue sharing is needed to cover the costs of both services and infrastructure –especially to allow for participation in cost shared federal and provincial programs that we can't afford to participate because of the inability to come up with our portion.
- Cost are increasing as the Province downloads costs such as emergency preparedness, and new fire services and water sustainability legislation, while provincial social programs in the region are underfunded and understaffed.
- The Northwest has contributed enormous wealth to the rest of the province and is worse off as a result, both historically and recently.
- The Northwest deserves a legacy that leaves us better off, not treated like second class citizens.

Other Regions Already Have Revenue Sharing Deals - but not the Northwest

- The Northeast and Columbia Basin regions have received a share of resource revenue for decades – it is fundamentally unjust that the Northwest has not.
- The Northwest was promised revenue sharing in the last election but no progress has been made, although the province has made deals with others.
- The new NDP government has made a commitment to negotiating a revenue sharing arrangement - so now is the time to keep the pressure on and awareness high.