



NEWS RELEASE

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Hupacasath Releases “Canada-China FIPA 101- What First Nations Need to Know”

(Hupacasath Territory – August 11, 2014) The Hupacasath First Nation v. The Minister of Foreign Affairs Canada and the Attorney General of Canada, regarding the pending ratification of the *Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the People’s Republic of China for the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments* (CC-FIPA) is still before the Court of Appeal.

In its on-going awareness campaign to shed light on the implications CC-FIPA would have upon First Nations and Canadian Constitutional Rights, Hupacasath First Nation today released “*Canada-China FIPA 101- What First Nations Need to Know*”

The companion to this document is “*How Would the Canada-China FIPA Affect Enbridge’s Northern Gateway?*” This document illustrates how CC-FIPA would impact Enbridge’s Northern Gateway if ratified; a deal vehemently opposed by so many B.C. First Nations and Canadians. The document provides critical information to those who oppose the pipeline development.

Brenda Sayers, a representative of the Hupacasath Nation stated “Hupacasath First Nation is acting proactively in an environmentally and socially responsible manner to challenge this trade deal before it is ratified. There are virtually no protections for Aboriginal title, rights and Treaty rights if the 38 Cabinet Ministers ratify the Canada China FIPA. It is imperative that First Nations across Canada become aware of its existence. The underlying implications CC-FIPA would have upon all people of Canada are far-reaching.”

Hupacasath Chief Councillor, Steven Tatoosh, said, “The linkage between CC-FIPA and Enbridge Northern Gateway is undeniable and the companion document provides a clear illustration. It is important that First Nations and Canadians understand how the federal government would succeed in the development of the pipeline if CC-FIPA is ratified.”

“The Union of BC Indian Chiefs is gravely concerned about the impact the Canada-China FIPA would have on our Aboriginal Title, Rights and Treaty Rights. The legal

landscape has dramatically changed with the recent Supreme Court of Canada Tsilhqot'in decision. First Nations in BC have successfully proven Title to our lands and the Federal government must now consult and seek consent of First Nations prior to any impact to their territories. This is particularly crucial given the impacts Enbridge's Northern Gateway Project would have in a number of First Nation's territories. Continuing to run roughshod over our Title and Rights is in direct contravention to our court recognized and constitutionally protected Aboriginal Title and Rights and we will not stand idly by if this continues to occur," stated Grand Chief Stewart Phillip, President of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs.

"The Hupacasath have long been leading the way in sounding the alarm over the risks posed by the proposed FIPA with China," said Maude Barlow, national chairperson of the Council of Canadians, one of the organizations which has been supporting the First Nation in its court challenge. "Everyone working on stopping the Northern Gateway pipeline and those concerned about defending Aboriginal title and treaty rights should heed their warning about the far-ranging impacts FIPA would have on these critical fights."

The "We Stand Together" team prepared these documents in order to raise public awareness about the negative effects international trade agreements have upon First Nations and Canadian constitutional rights and sovereignty.

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