

First Nations Climate Initiative

From marginalized federal and provincial policy takers to global policy leaders.

Pacific Resolutions



Overview

The First Nations Climate Initiative (FNCCI) Nations (the Haisla Nation, Lax Kw'alaams Band, Nisga'a Nation and Metlakatla First Nation) are located on the Northwest coast of British Columbia (BC). These unlikely allies have come together in pursuit of a common vision.

Our territories aren't in a bubble...

We need to have real solutions for the global impacts of GHGs.

That's what we are working together to provide so that what we live off of, which has sustained us from time immemorial in our traditional territories, has a chance to survive.

- **Crystal Smith**, Chief Councillor of the Haisla First Nation

Challenges

Climate change is the single greatest threat humanity faces. The problem is global in scale but locally experienced, especially by Indigenous peoples who rely on the land and water to support their way of life.

The FNCCI vision is four-fold – alleviate First Nations poverty; fight climate change; restore ecosystems; reconcile with non-Indigenous peoples.

The FNCCI Nations believe that coordinated policy development and public and private sector investment are needed now to build electrical generation and transmission infrastructure in northern BC; to restore damaged ecosystems to be carbon sinks; and to support net-zero natural gas export projects on the North Coast. These investments

will help the Canadian economy recover from the impact of the COVID-19 crisis in the near term, while setting the stage for long-term low carbon developments including LNG-derived hydrogen fuel. With First Nations leadership and partnerships, these policy changes and investments will also help BC and Canada meet their commitments to reconciliation and ensure First Nations' economies are the cornerstones of a low carbon future.

Pacific Resolutions was chosen by the FNCI Nations to support the initiative through facilitation, communication, project management and fundraising. The FNCI is leading change that will transform the relationship Indigenous peoples have with Canada to set the path to a low carbon economy in British Columbia.

Approach

After six months of engagement with experts from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the International Energy Agency (IEA), major project developers, policy analysts, think tanks and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), the FNCI collaborative process developed the Draft Policy Framework. The Draft Policy Framework demonstrates how to make the production and export of natural gas into a decisive and economically robust transition step in the creation of a globally competitive low carbon economy while making a meaningful contribution to the implementation of international strategies that achieve the goal of the Paris Agreement – to limit global warming to 1.5 to 2 degrees Celsius.

With the comprehensive approach outlined in the Draft Policy Framework, further development of B.C.'s natural gas sector can be the single largest contribution from Canada to reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions globally. Additionally, British Columbia can produce LNG that has a net-zero or even positive impact on B.C. and Canadian climate objectives. This net-zero LNG can be exported to places like China, South Korea, and Japan where it can displace more GHG intensive fuels including thermal coal—one of the greatest contributors to global warming. This cleaner form of energy will result in reductions in GHG emissions worldwide that dwarf our domestic targets while lowering local air pollution.

And perhaps more importantly, the infrastructure developed for LNG production can be adapted to produce hydrogen fuel and other products as part the global low carbon economy that needs to be achieved by 2050.

Pivotal issues we can help you address

1. What does Indigenous leadership look like in a constitutional democracy like Canada, or the U.N.?
2. How do Indigenous and non-Indigenous people with differing views on critical issues, like climate change, work together constructively to achieve a common vision?
3. How do you define and leverage the interface between development interests and resolution of challenges like climate change?

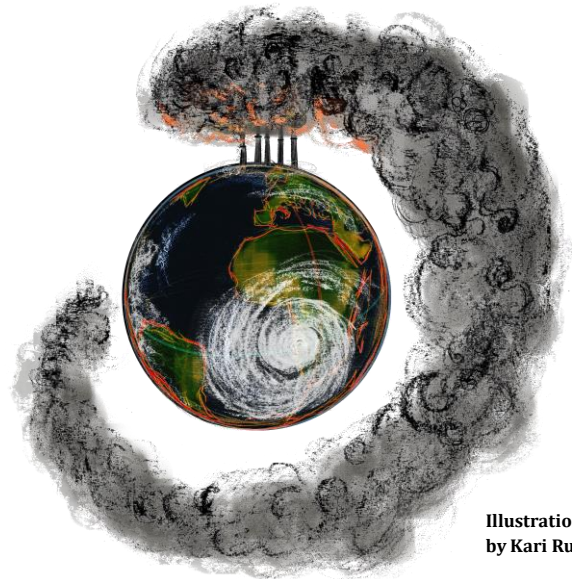


Illustration
by Kari Rust.

Results

There is an ever-growing constituency of support, including a new collaboration with 60 other First Nations, who are joining in pursuit of the FNCI vision. The FNCI and its partner Nations are leading Canada towards a future where Indigenous Peoples are principal equity stakeholders and drivers in the Canadian economy, and most importantly, in the design and realization of the low carbon energy future. Pacific Resolutions is privileged to support these efforts. The complexity of the challenge is only matched by the significance of the outcome that is possible. Alongside FNCI leaders and technicians, we are working hard to help them achieve what may seem to others to be insurmountable.

Learn more

Are you interested in learning more about complex issues like this and how to manage them? Pacific Resolutions can help by providing conflict resolution and communication training, as well as consulting services and strategic advice.

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[Training](#)

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