

# YINKA DENE ALLIANCE



Nadleh Whut'en



Takla Lake  
FIRST NATION



Wet'suwet'en



Saik'uz



February 7, 2012

## Open letter to the Chinese people from the Yinka Dene Alliance of First Nations in British Columbia, Canada:

### We will protect our rivers and coast from Enbridge oil – we say no to the Enbridge pipeline

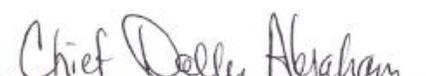
Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper is visiting China this week to talk about his plans to force the Enbridge Northern Gateway Oil Pipeline and Tankers through our lands, territories, and watersheds. Harper plans to violate our indigenous human rights to build this 1200 kilometre oil pipeline from the Alberta oil sands to the Pacific Ocean. We will not allow Harper to force this oil pipeline through our lands. Under United Nations international law, we have the right to say no to this pipeline. We will enforce our legal rights to protect our waters from the risk of an oil spill.

We are the sovereign Indigenous nations of the Fraser River Watershed in British Columbia, Canada. We are many nations, bound together by these waters. Enbridge wants to build pipelines to pump massive amounts of tar sands crude oil through the Fraser's headwaters, and then use giant oil tankers to carry the oil through very dangerous waters. An oil spill in our lands and rivers would destroy our fish, poison our water, and devastate our peoples, our livelihoods, and our futures. An oil spill on the coast would destroy sources of seafood and fish, like crabs, for thousands of people. It could destroy the extremely rare spirit bear – a bear with white fur that is as beautiful as the Chinese panda bear. Enbridge company has many pipeline oil spills every year, including the large 2010 spill into the Kalamazoo river in the United States. We refuse to be next.

We will protect the fish, the seafood, the water and the people of British Columbia, Canada, from the danger of Enbridge oil spills. We have written to the Chinese government to offer our great respect to the Chinese people all around the world – but we will not allow Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper to violate our rights as nations in order to build the Enbridge pipeline.

We are the Yinka Dene Alliance.

  
Nadleh Whut'en

  
Takla Lake First Nation

  
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