

Wet'suwet'en & Crown Conflict: Resources for Understanding

February 19, 2020

Over the last weeks, the eyes of Canadians have turned to Wet'suwet'en territory in north-central British Columbia as the Crown, RCMP and Coastal Gaslink have sought to remove Indigenous land defenders from their homelands in order to continue work on a natural gas pipeline. Many in the church have questions about how to understand the situation. The following is a list of resources—news articles, videos, church statements, technical reports, books and more—that can help us learn, facilitate further and perhaps different questions, encourage prayer... and maybe even acts of solidarity. It is by no means exhaustive, and the content varies in substance and the ways in which it narrates the various relationships. Nonetheless, we hope it will serve to open compassionate conversation and deeper comprehension.

In friendship,

Steve Heinrichs

*Indigenous-Settler Relations Director
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Understanding the Situation

- Past & Present Developments on the Land
 - [How did we get here? Timeline from the Unist'ot'en Camp](#)
 - [Conflict with Wet'suwet'en years in the making--CBC](#)
 - [News videos & releases from Unist'ot'en Camp, the Indigenous re-occupation of Wet'suwet'en land](#)
 - [Video Interview with Molly Wickham, Governance Director for the Office of the Wet'suwet'en--Democracy Now](#)
 - [Audio interview with Dr. Karla Tait, Unist'ot'en house member--Legalease](#)
 - [BC's UN Declaration Act \(Bill 41\) and how that impacts this situation--Tye](#)
 - [Arrests of land defenders on Wet'suwet'en territory--Narwhal](#)
 - [Reconciliation cannot be achieved at gunpoint--CBC](#)
 - [Divergent voices in Wet'suwet'en and across Canada--APTN](#)
 - [Who do you support when a community is divided?--Canadian Mennonite](#)
 - [Protestors or land defenders of unceded territory?--Straight](#)
 - [On the RCMP and their relationship with corporations--Briarpatch](#)
 - [Video--Panel press conference with AFN leaders--CPAC](#)
 - [Video--Your questions about Wet'suwet'en--Pam Palmater](#)
- Aboriginal Title, Land Rights, and the Rule of Law
 - [First Peoples Law Explainer--Canadian Dimension](#)
 - [Whose rule of law?--Tye](#)
 - [Whose land? Whose law?--Times Colonist](#)
 - [On the Delgamuukw Case \(SCC 1997\) and its implications--CBC](#)
 - [Indigenous Foundations--Aboriginal Land Rights and Title](#)
 - [Resources on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, including Free, Prior and Informed Consent](#)
- Coastal Gaslink Pipeline
 - [Backgrounder from KAIROS Canada](#)
 - [An Analysis of Coastal GasLink's Notice of Application for Injunction--Yellowhead Institute](#)

- Hereditary System & Indian Act Band Council System
 - [Beyond bloodlines--Globe & Mail](#)
 - [The Wet'suwet'en are more united than pipeline backers want you to think--Macleans](#)
- Indigenous Land Reclamation
 - [Land Back--A Yellowhead Institute 'Red Paper'](#)
- Climate Change
 - [Wet'suwet'en chiefs launch climate lawsuit--Globe & Mail](#)
 - [House chiefs launch legal challenge over impacts of fossil fuel projects--Raven Trust](#)
 - [6 awkward realities behind B.C.'s Liquefied Natural Gas giveaway](#)

Statements of Solidarity

- Church Statements
 - [Anglican Church](#)
 - [United Church - Moderator & National Indigenous Elders Council](#)
 - [Ecumenical Leaders](#)
 - [KAIROS Canada](#)
 - [Presbyterian Church in Canada](#)
- Indigenous/Human Rights/Social Justice Group Statements
 - [Academics & Lawyers Open Letter to Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Horgan](#)
 - [Assembly of First Nations](#)
 - [Canadian Union of Public Employees](#)
 - [The Council of Canadians](#)
 - [Idle No More](#)
 - [Union of BC Indian Chiefs](#)
 - [University of Northern British Columbia](#)
 - [Further List of Support Statements on the Unist'ot'en Camp Website](#)

Prayers

- [United Church](#)
- [Mennonite Church Canada](#)
- [Christian Peacemaker Teams](#)

How to Support Wet'suwet'en

- [Wet'suwet'en Supporter Toolkit--Unist'ot'en Camp](#)
- [Amnesty--3 Ways to Support](#)
- [Christian Peacemaker Teams--Faith Action Toolkit](#)
- [Council of Canadians--Write your Member of Parliament](#)

Books Specifically for Churches on the Doctrine of Discovery & the UN Declaration

- [Yours, Mine, Ours--Unravelling the Doctrine of Discovery](#)
- [Wrongs to Rights--How Churches Can Engage the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#)

General Resources on Indigenous Settler Relations

- Please see www.commonword.ca/go/1479