

**A letter to prospective financiers of pipeline projects Coastal GasLink Phase 2 and Prince Rupert Gas Transmission, from faith leaders across Canada**

Sept. 25, 2025

To: **Mark Carney**, Prime Minister of Canada  
**François-Philippe Champagne**, Minister of Finance and National Revenue  
**Raymond Chun**, CEO of Toronto-Dominion Bank  
**Guy Cormier**, CEO of Caisse Desjardins  
**Ehren Cory**, CEO of Canada Infrastructure Bank  
**Victor Dodig**, CEO of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce  
**Robert Dumas**, President and CEO of Sun Life Quebec  
**Laurent Ferreira**, CEO of Banque Nationale  
**Tim Hodgson**, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources  
**Naveed Irshad**, President and CEO of Manulife Canada  
**Mélanie Joly**, Minister of Industry  
**Dominic LeBlanc**, Minister of the One Canadian Economy  
**Paul Mahon**, CEO of Great-West Lifeco  
**David McKay**, CEO of Royal Bank of Canada  
**Alison Nankivell**, CEO of Export Development Canada  
**Gregor Robertson**, Minister of Housing and Infrastructure  
**Maninder Sidhu**, Minister of International Trade  
**L. Scott Thomson**, CEO of Scotiabank  
**Jessica Tan**, President of Sun Life Canada  
**V. Prem Watsa**, CEO of Fairfax  
**Darryl White**, CEO of Bank of Montreal  
**Philip Witherington**, President and CEO of Manulife

Dear executives and ministers,

We are faith leaders from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Quaker, Mennonite, and Unitarian Universalist communities across Canada. We are writing to advise you of our deep concern about and moral opposition to Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) projects that have been proposed in northern British Columbia, especially Coastal GasLink (CGL) Phase 2 and the Prince Rupert Gas Transmission (PRGT) pipelines. We urge you not to commit any new corporate or project level financing in support of these projects. There are clear environmental, economic, and reputational risks associated with these projects, particularly as they have not been given Free, Prior, and Informed Consent by Hereditary Indigenous leaders and impacted community members.<sup>1,2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Dinī ze' Na'Moks, John Ridsdale, T'sayu; Tsakē ze' Howilhat, Freda Huson, Dark House Howilhat; Woos, C'asYikh (Grizzly House), Frank J Alec; Simoogyet Malii Glen Williams, President and Chief Negotiator for Gitanyow Hereditary Chiefs; and Simoogyet Watakhayetsxw Deborah Good. (2025, January). [Letter to Financiers to Stop Financing LNG](#).

<sup>2</sup> The right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent is laid out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) which has been ratified by both the Canadian and BC governments.

Our faiths share a moral imperative to provide caring stewardship of the Earth, which we hold sacred. We are compelled to speak out when decisions threaten the delicate balance of the natural world and the well-being of present and future generations. Our faiths' commitment to justice compels us to stand with Indigenous Peoples protecting their lands and waters from appropriation, destruction, and pollution by extractive industries. Free, Prior, and Informed Consent is not only a moral imperative, but a requirement of international and Canadian law, and it must be respected.

CGL Phase 2 and PRGT threaten to poison multiple salmon-bearing rivers and disrupt complex forest, river, and marine ecosystems, all of which are central to Indigenous lifeways and a rich culture dating back millennia. These impacts will exacerbate existing inequalities, disproportionately impacting the Indigenous communities that are already facing many substantial challenges. The Wet'suwet'en, Gitksan and Gitanyow people are prepared to defend their sacred lands, as they have for generations; as faith leaders, we are called to stand with them. This is an extension of our duty to care for all of creation.

Over the past several years, Wet'suwet'en people have acted to protect a sacred river on their territory from Phase 1 of CGL and hundreds of thousands of Canadian and international allies have stood with them. The Royal Bank of Canada, as the primary funder of this project, sustained serious reputational damage,<sup>3</sup> negative media attention,<sup>4</sup> and increased shareholder attention on sustainable finance and Indigenous rights.<sup>5</sup> Rejecting other projects of this kind is not only responsible from an environmental and social perspective, but will help to protect your company from reputational risk.

Choosing to finance LNG expansion while our communities face wildfires, floods, hurricanes, and deadly heat waves goes against the principles shared by all our faiths. Our congregations are increasingly aware of the role that financial institutions play in financing the climate crisis. If you choose to continue down this path, you will be held accountable by your religious clients.<sup>6</sup> We are increasingly unwilling to work with financial institutions who act in ways that are completely contrary to our values, and will inevitably have to reconsider our relationship with any financial institution that involves itself with CGL Phase 2 or PRGT.

We hereby express our deep and abiding opposition to CGL Phase 2 and PRGT, and our solidarity with Wet'suwet'en, Gitksan, and Gitanyow leaders. We implore you to listen to the growing chorus of opposition to these projects, to honour your climate and racial equity commitments, and to prioritize your responsibility to youth and future generations. A small group of us would very much like to meet with you to discuss the concerns raised in this letter. Please reach out to Martha Asselin ([martha@mminternational.ca](mailto:martha@mminternational.ca)) if you are willing to meet.

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<sup>3</sup> The Canadian Press. (2023, April 5). [RBC CEO defends climate plan as shareholders criticize record](#). The Financial Post. Retrieved March 31, 2025.

<sup>4</sup> Dobby, C. (2024, April 11). [RBC Tightens Security as Protesters Rally Outside Annual Meeting](#). Bloomberg. Retrieved March 31, 2025.

<sup>5</sup> Bickis, I. (2024, April 11). [RBC faces questions on climate, Indigenous rights at annual general meeting](#). The Financial Post. Retrieved March 31, 2025.

<sup>6</sup> Speare-Cole, R. (2023, December 18). [Churches and religious charities ditch Barclays over fossil fuel ties](#). Retrieved March 25, 2025.

Signed,

**Leaders of National and Regional Bodies**

1. Mireille Church, Coordinator for the Care for Creation Ministry, Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall
2. Rev. Ma. Christina Conlon, President of the Shining Waters Regional Council of the United Church of Canada, representing all United Churches in in South and Central Ontario
3. Ted Glover, Social Justice and Advocacy Committee, Anglican Diocese of Toronto
4. Randolph Haluza-DeLay, PhD, Central Ontario Animator, Development & Peace - Caritas Canada
5. The Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, Moderator of The United Church of Canada
6. Barbara Henshall, Creation Matters Working Group, Anglican Church of Canada
7. The Very Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, Past Moderator of The United Church of Canada
8. Fr. Prakash Lohale, OP Director, Dominicans of Canada
9. Agnes Richard, Canadian Chapter Animator, Mouvement Laudato Si' Movement
10. Luke Stocking, Interim Executive Director, Development and Peace - Caritas Canada
11. Rev. Mardi Tindal, Past Moderator of The United Church of Canada
12. Matthew Wiens, co-chair of Mennonite Church Manitoba's Climate Action Working Group
13. Sue Wilson, Executive Director of Office for Systemic Justice, Federation of Sisters of St. Joseph of Canada

**Congregation Leaders**

14. Shaikh Hamdy Abdelghaffar, Imam of Jami Mosque
15. Revd. Canon Simon Bell, Trinity and St Margaret of Scotland
16. Rev. Lynell Bergen, Hope Mennonite Church
17. Rev. Aaron Billard, The United Church of Canada
18. Sisters Theresa Boland, Charlotte Fitzpatrick, Cathy Hickey, Patricia March, Geraldine Mason, Betty Morrissey, Rona O'Gorman, Maureen O'Keefe, and Mary Tee of Sisters of Mercy of Newfoundland

19. Rev. Peter C. Boullata, Unitarian Fellowship of Peterborough
20. Rev. Jeffrey Brown, Campus Chaplains Association
21. The Reverend Donald C. Brown, Christ's Church Cathedral
22. Rev. Lloyd Bruce, Central United Church
23. Board members of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ottawa: Nanci Burns, Katie Lunn, Bahram Nabatian, and Hoppy Roy
24. Pastor Beth Carlson-Malena, Open Way Church
25. Sabrina Chiefari, Integral Ecology Specialist, Ministry for Social Justice, Peace, and Creation Care - Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto
26. Fr. Michael Charles Dechant, former pastor and school chaplain, Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
27. Reverend Karen Dickey, United Church of Canada
28. Rev. Douglas duCharme, Bloor Street United Church
29. Rev. Susan Eagle, Grace United Church
30. Rev. Judith Friesen Epp, Home Street Mennonite Church
31. Rev. Wendy Evans, GreenFaith Montreal
32. Sisters Mary A. Fatta, Roberta Freeman, Rosemary Fry, and Georgette Gregory of Sisters of St Joseph of Toronto
33. Rev. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Janetville Pastoral Charge
34. Sisters Mary-Ellen Francoeur and Mary Halder, Sisters of Service
35. Rev. Sally Fritsche, Neighbourhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation
36. Père Armand Le Gal, Oblat de Marie Immaculée
37. Rev. Shawn Gauthier, Vancouver Unitarians
38. Rev. Karen Fraser Gitlitz, Unitarian Universalist Community Minister
39. Rev. Lynn Harrison, Unitarian Universalist Minister
40. Sister Joyce Harris, Sisters of St. Ann
41. Rev. Dr. Jessica Hetherington, United Church of Canada
42. Rev. Angie Hocking, Regent Park Community Ministry

43. Rev Jim Houston, Church of the Holy Trinity
44. Rev. Won Hur, The United Church of Canada
45. Rev. Hannah Johnston, Anglican Church of Canada
46. Rev. Elaine Julian, United Church of Canada
47. The Rev'd Dr. Alison Kemper, St. Matthias, Bellwoods
48. Rob Kennedy, Guest Preacher, Westdale United Church
49. Rev. Karlene Kimber, Belmont United Church
50. Rev. G. David King, Alderville First Nation United Church
51. Rev. Karen Koiter, Anglican Church of Canada
52. Rev. Andrew Kuhl, Anglican, Parish of Craighurst and Midhurst
53. The Reverend Daniel Martin, Becoming Church, the United Church of Canada
54. Rev. Gwen McAllister, St. Matthew's Anglican Church
55. Rev. Barba McGill, Trillium United Church
56. Rev. Brian McIntosh, Applewood United Church
57. Rev. Wendy McNiven, Comox Valley Unitarian Fellowship
58. Rabbi David Mivasair, Ahavat Olam Synagogue
59. Rev. Harold Morgan, Haliburton United Church
60. Rev. Karen Orlandi, Silver Spire United Church
61. Pastor Jon Osmond, FreeChurch Toronto
62. Rev. François Paradis, Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Lacombe Canada
63. Ha Na Park, Co-Lead Minister, Broad View United Church
64. Rev. Bob Paterson-Watt, Woodbine Heights Baptist Church
65. Rev. Stanley Dale Perkins, United Church of Canada
66. Rev. Wendy Luella Perkins, Unitarian Universalist Minister
67. Rev. Dr. Kristin Philipson, Rosedale United Church
68. Imam, Nayef Abu Qaddum, Daleel Islamic Association

69. Rev. Paul Reed, United Church of Canada
70. Rev. Canon Lucy Reid, All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church
71. Rev. A. Leo Reilly, Pax Christi Toronto
72. Pastor Thomas Reimer, Rockway Mennonite Church
73. Rev. Jeff Rock, Canadian Memorial United Church
74. Rev. Dr. Mervyn Russell, St John's United Church
75. The Reverend Margaret Sagar, United Church of Canada
76. Rev. Dr. Jonathan Schmidt, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
77. Rev. Trevor Scott, Jesuit Forum for Social Justice and Faith
78. Rev. Rob Shearer, Abbey Church and the Emmaus Community, United Church clergy
79. Fr. Robert Smith, Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
80. Rev. Susan Snelling, Parish of North Essa
81. Janice C. Steven, Commissioned Chaplain, Mennonite Church of Eastern Canada
82. The Rev. Canon Claudette Taylor, Anglican Church of Canada
83. Fr. Ken Thorson, Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Lacombe Canada
84. Rev. Michael Van Dusen, Anglican St. Aidan's in the Beach
85. Canon Paul Walker, St. John's Church
86. Rev. Dr. Robin Wardlaw, East End United Regional Ministry
87. Rev. Cameron Watts, Fairlawn Avenue United Church
88. Rev. Alexander Wilson, St. Andrew's Presbyterian
89. The Rev. Adam Yates, St. Faith's Anglican Church
90. The Rev. Rebecca Yeo, Anglican Church of Canada

#### **Leaders of Faith-Based Organizations**

91. Lyn Adamson and Michael Polanyi, co-chairs of Faith & Climate Action Toronto
92. Jo-Anne Atherley, interim chair of Islamic Social Services and Resources Association
93. K. Braun, editor of Mennonite World Conference

94. Susan Draper, Network Coordinator for KAIROS Victoria
95. Audrey Ferrer, Director, The Mary Ward Centre for Education, Spirituality & Justice
96. Taha Ghayyur, Executive Director, Justice For All Canada
97. Tara Hurford, Director, Centre Oblat - A Voice for Justice
98. Aasiya Hussain, CEO, Ecohesian
99. Madelyn MacKay, board member of Conscience Canada, Argenta Friends Meeting (Quaker)
100. Joe Mihevc, former Professor of Theology at the University of Toronto and former Toronto City Councillor
101. Dr. Denise Nadeau, former Associate Professor of Religions and Cultures at Concordia University
102. Aadil Nathani, Co-Founder, Green Ummah
103. Bruna Nota, former president of Conscience Canada
104. Oblate in Residence, Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation, Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Lacombe Canada
105. Areej Riaz, Director of Climate Programs, EnviroMuslims Canada
106. Linda Scherzinger, KAIROS Halifax Coordinator and Corresponding Secretary
107. Dr Eric J. Schiller, former professor, Ottawa Quakers
108. Maryo Wahba, Climate Justice Policy Analyst, Citizens for Public Justice

### **Congregation Associates**

109. Martha Asselin, Eco-Spirituality Leader, St Aidan's Anglican Church
110. Margaret Bott, St Basil's Green Team
111. F.G. Colella, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, associate of the Sisters of St. Joseph
112. Arlene Dashwood, Chair of the Social Justice Committee, Salt Spring Island United Church of Canada
113. Robin Goodfellow-Baikie, Ecology Working Group, United Church East
114. Alice Harrison, Prayer & Care Coordinator, Shediac Bay Community Church
115. Linda Heron, Green Sanctuary Group of the First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto

116. Judy Jones, Regional Representative, Trinity United Church
117. Robert Loten, Esquimalt United Church Justice Team
118. Murray Lumley, Sowing For Peace committee, Danforth Mennonite Church
119. Tom Mitchell, Property Chair, Salt Spring Island United Church of Canada
120. Jessica Murray, Here & Now Sangha (Buddhist)
121. Melanie Neufeld, Co-Chair of the Mennonite Coalition for Indigenous Solidarity, a mutual partnership between Mennonite Church Manitoba and Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba
122. Robyn Newton, Team Lead, Social and Environmental Justice Team, Unitarian Universalists of the Salish Sea
123. Donna Day Peerless, Social Justice Committee, Salt Spring Island United Church of Canada
124. Dorothy Peers, Parish Lay Leader, Epiphany and St. Mark Anglican Church
125. Richard Peisinger, representative of the Halifax Shambhala Centre
126. Karl Perrin, Vancouver Unitarians Environment Team
127. Donelda Rose, representative of the South Fraser Unitarian Congregation
128. Jon Samson, Justice Team and Lay Worship Team, Esquimalt United Church
129. Angela Orellana Schwalm, former Loreto Sisters associate
130. Marcia Stephenson, North Shore Unitarians Environmental Action
131. Eric Unger, former board member of Conscience Canada, former deacon and present Sunday school teacher at Glenlea Mennonite Church
132. Linda Washburn, former worship leader, Toronto United Mennonite Church