April 29, 2019

Sent via e-mail: enev@send.parl.gc.ca

 Honourable Senators,

Re: Submission to Senate Standing Committee on Bill C-69

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Bill C-69.

The Campbell River Environmental Committee supports Bill C-69 with the following inclusions:

• KEEP upstream and downstream activities and effects in the Bill;
• NO restrictive timelines to ram projects through;
• Sustainability and climate action must be guaranteed;
• Requirement to uphold indigenous rights and UNDRIP must apply to all projects, not just major projects;
• Must consider all relevant environmental, social, economic and health effects;
• Projects must consider the extent to which projects help or hinder climate goals;
• Must also consider other environmental commitments (e.g., biodiversity);
• Decisions must consider climate, sustainability and Indigenous rights;
• Introduce 180-day planning phase to identify key issues and studies;
• Enable better cooperation with provinces & Indigenous authorities;
• Remove standing test = anyone can participate;
• Require participation be meaningful;
• Public engagement on how they participate;
• Reviews must consider science and Indigenous knowledge;
• Climate, sustainability and GBA from pipeline and oil sands reviews must be kept;
• Include a mandatory bottom line against approving unsustainable and climate-intensive projects;
• Pipelines be given the same timelines as other projects;
• Industry short-term economic interest must not trump environmental and community needs;
• Provide assurance that regional and strategic assessments will occur and be well done;
• Require strategic and regional assessment outcomes be binding on project-level decisions instead of just a consideration; and
• Decision makers must provide justification for decisions.

In conclusion, Bill C-69 is needed to implement important changes to the current assessment regime, but clear direction is needed for confidence that promises will be guaranteed.

Respectfully yours,

The Campbell River Environmental Committee,
Per,

Leona Adams, President, Campbell River Environmental Committee