

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

March 1, 2011

### DISTRICT OF KITIMAT JOINS WESTAC

The Western Transportation Advisory Council (WESTAC) is pleased to welcome the District of Kitimat as the Council's newest member. Mayor Joanne Monaghan, will be Kitimat's official representative to the Council. Mr. Trafford Hall, Municipal Manager will be the alternate representative.

Kitimat is located on Western Canada's Pacific Inland Coast, one of only two wide, flat valleys on the west coast of British Columbia. Kitimat is attracting substantial investment in new marine terminals for energy related products. It is also an underutilized tidewater manufacturing location and one of the few locations in North America where private container terminal development can take place within a private port location.

The District of Kitimat describes its port as the deepest and closest inland port on Canada's Northwest Transportation and Trade Corridor and offers both inbound and outbound transportation cost savings to shippers. CN, which services Kitimat, recognizes this location has Vancouver comparable service to the Chicago region and mid-west heartland of United States. With minor rail modifications up-valley, this location could grow to serve substantial North American import and export markets. Kitimat is a private port, deproclaimed as a public port by Transport Canada in 1998 during the implementation of the new Canada Marine Act.

Current investors are moving forward with billions of dollars of new terminal investments. For example, in December 2010, Kitimat LNG made an application to the National Energy Board for approval to export 10 million metric tons of LNG for a period of 20 years. Kitimat LNG Inc. expects to begin construction on the terminal in late 2011, with commercial operation beginning at the end of 2015. Front-end engineering and design will be conducted during 2011. The terminal will create up to 1500 jobs during the construction phase (three years) and up to 100 permanent jobs during operation.

#### **About WESTAC**

WESTAC is a non-profit association of major transportation organizations, represented by senior business, labour and government decision-makers. Its objective is to promote transportation as a critical sector supporting trade, jobs and our high standard of living. Visit [www.westac.com](http://www.westac.com) for more information.

-30-

For further information:

Ruth Sol, President WESTAC  
Phone: (604) 687.8691