

# What is Responsible Development?

*How do we ensure development is in the best interest of local communities?*

Greg Knox

Executive Director



# Who we are and what we do

## The Skeena Watershed

- 100,000 People
- 3-10 Million Returning Salmon
- 300 Million Juvenile Salmon

## Our Goals

Conserve & strengthen fish populations

Sustain healthy families & communities

Empower Skeena salmon communities to improve decision-making and long-term planning

Support the internationally recognized right of Indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent

## Current Threats

Destruction of salmon habitat from climate change, forestry, mining, and energy development

Leaching of metal and acid from existing and proposed mining

Irresponsible fisheries practices and management in all sectors

Increased air pollution causing acid rain and health impacts

Inappropriate industrial development

## Our Work:

The foundation of our regionally-based organization is the effective use of science, laws and convening to protect and strengthen vulnerable salmon populations, improve management decisions, empower communities and deepen people's connection to wild salmon.

Our approach is simple - we support responsible development, whether it be mining, forestry, fisheries, or energy, that does not put salmon or our communities at risk.

## Protecting Habitat

We work with communities and all levels of government to increase understanding of impacts from existing and proposed industrial development, inform strategies to mitigate and avoid impacts and support sustainable, community-led land use planning.

## Improving Fisheries

We partner with First Nations to protect and rebuild vulnerable salmon populations, work with DFO and all sectors to improve fishing plans and participate in the Pacific Salmon Commission to reduce impacts from Alaskan fisheries.

## Connecting People & Place

SkeenaWild has a profound relationship to this place and this place has a profound relationship with salmon. Our job is to protect and defend those relationships.

Contact us to learn more about our current initiatives.

Background Photo: Tavish Campbell

Circle Photos 1: Ken Morrish • 2: Brian Huntington • 3: Naomi Gouhey • 4: Tavish Campbell





Photo: Ivan Hunter



### PHOTOS: Rival protests highlight B.C.'s divide over pipeline project

Kinder Morgan's Trans Mountain pipeline drew thousands to rally in support and against the project

ASHLEY WADSWORTH / May 10, 2016 10:50 a.m. / NEWS

### Fight looms over Fish Lake

By Andrew Finchay on August 25th, 2010 at 12:02 PM



Teasdale Mining has proposed turning Fish Lake, which is 118 kilometers southwest of Williams Lake, into an impoundment reservoir for their mine-waste tank. Opponents claim that the company's mining project will kill up to 35,000 rainbow trout.

**Mining firm promises a new lake, but Native leader says that's the Creator's job.**

### Clark battles B.C.'s 'forces of No,' on LNG, trade deal; says she's no quitter

By Will LeRoy — The Canadian Press — Jan 26 2016



Premier Christy Clark has sharp words for what she calls "the forces of No" in British Columbia who mount resistance efforts to government initiatives purely out of a fear of change.

# What type of Development do we support?

*Asked by the community to talk about what we are for*

## Getting out into local communities

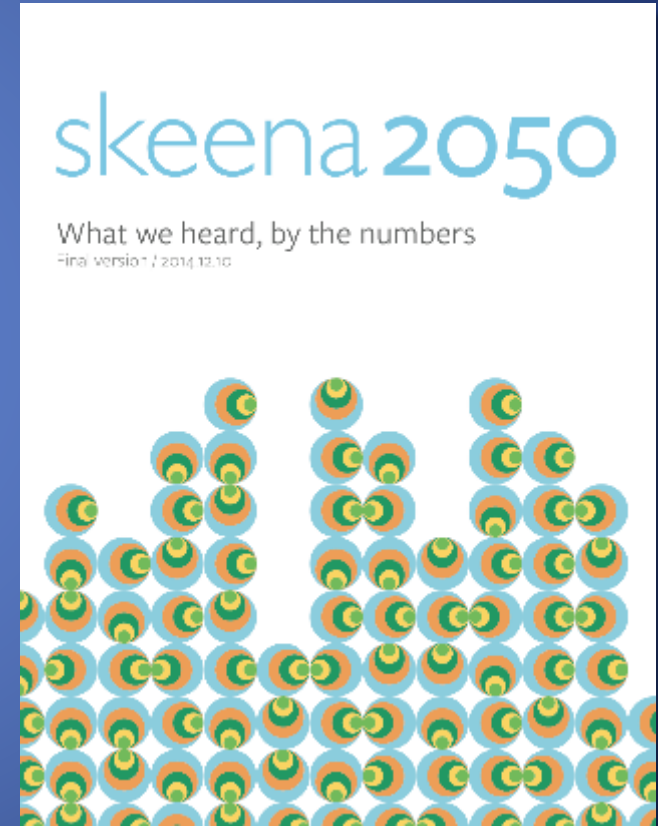
- Discuss our approach (based on science, research & best practices) to different resource industries including mining, energy, forestry
- Hear peoples perspectives & refine our approach

# What does the Community want?

Skeena 2050, focus groups and polling

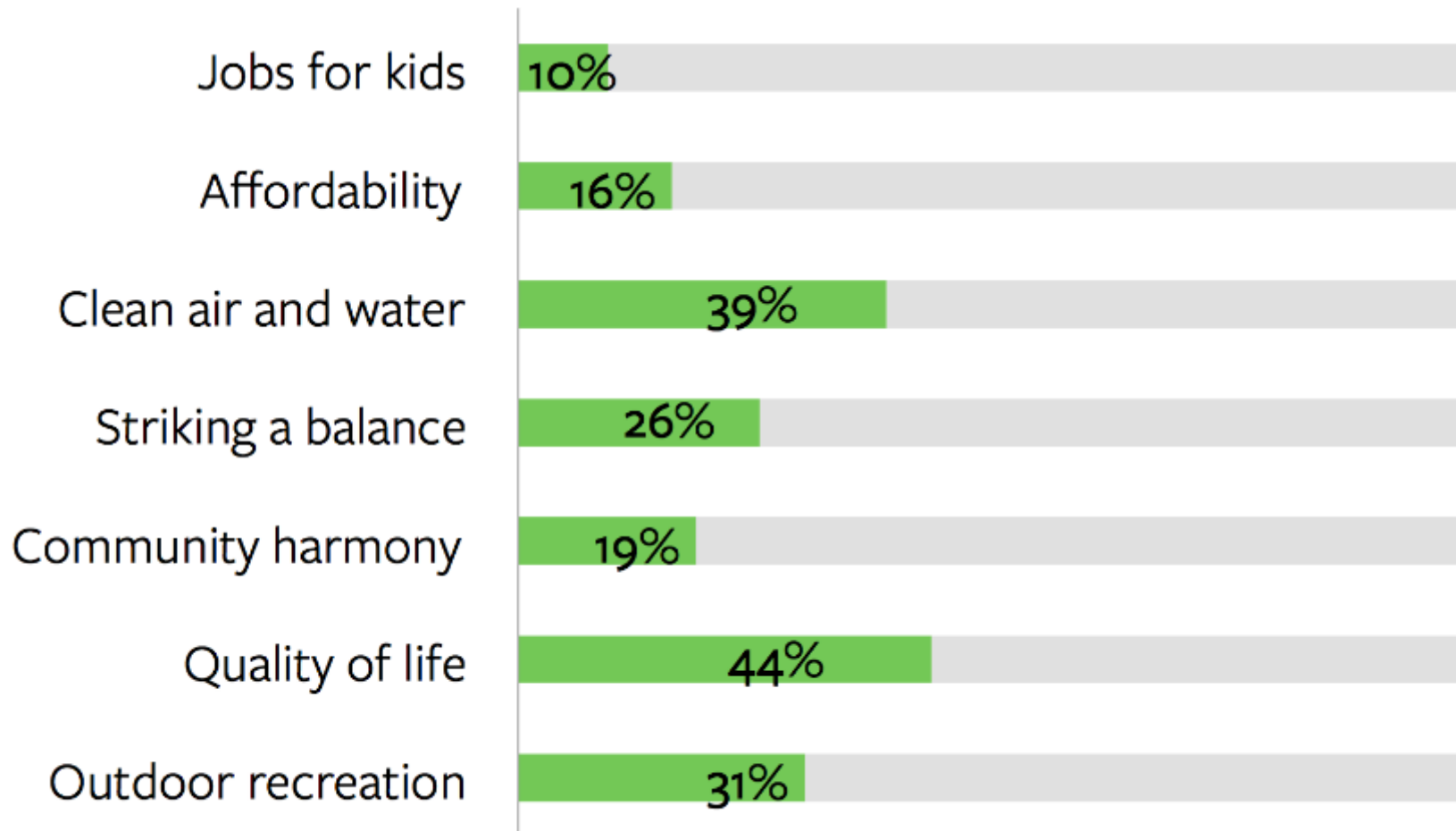
Support development as long as it protects our values

- Health
- Clean air
- Clean water
- Fish and wildlife
- Real benefits to communities



## [1.2] Question 1 — Specific issues

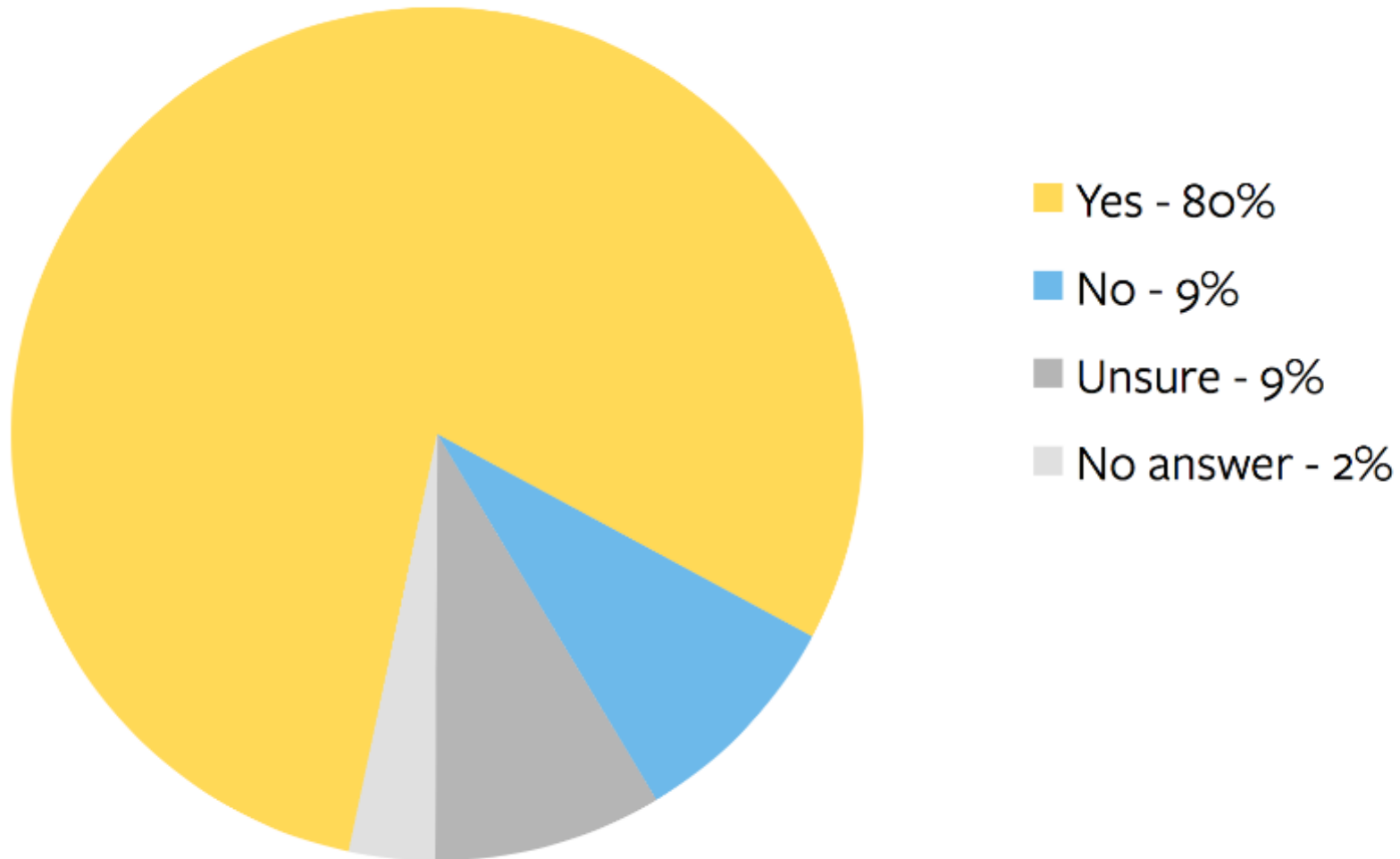
Percentage of people who mentioned the following issues in their answer to Q1, **What's important to you and your family?**



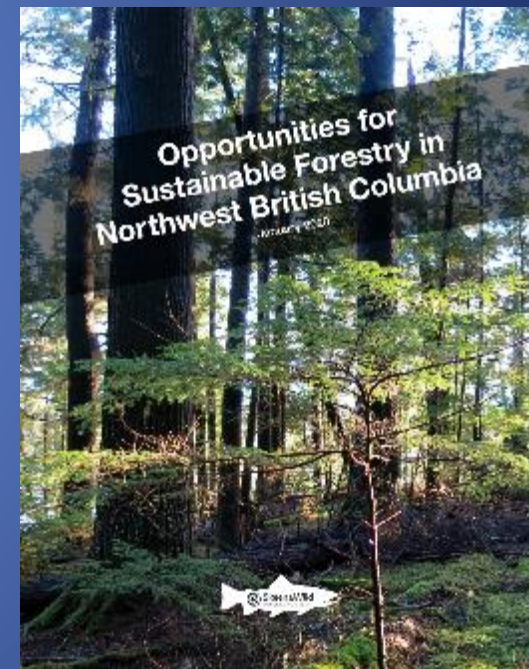
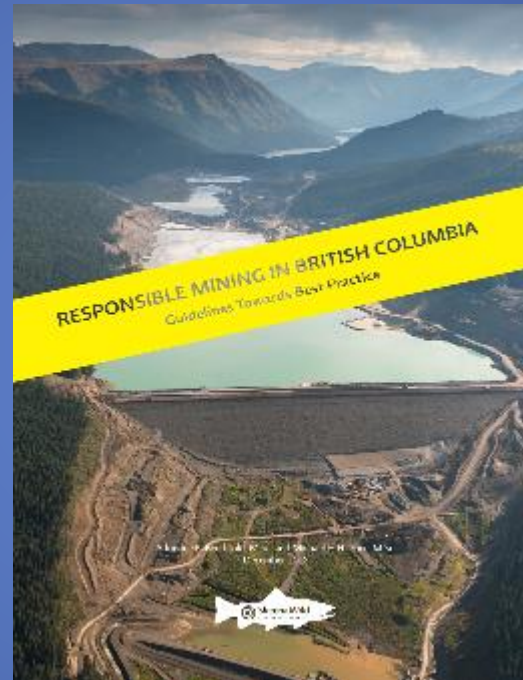
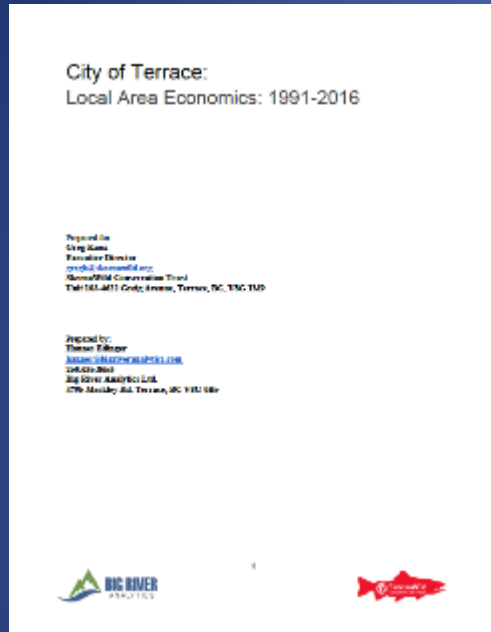


## [4.1] Question 4

Percentage of people who gave each of the following overall answers to Q4,  
**Do you think there is a tipping point with regard to development?**



# Making sure we are coming from an informed place





# Challenges with the current approach

- Insufficient planning
- Lack of cumulative effects assessment & management
- Lack of revenue sharing
- No community input on big decisions
- Proponent driven science, assessments and monitoring
- Weak laws and regulations
- Lack of government capacity – managing, monitoring, enforcement

# How do we achieve Responsible Development?

*Seven aspects we feel are important*

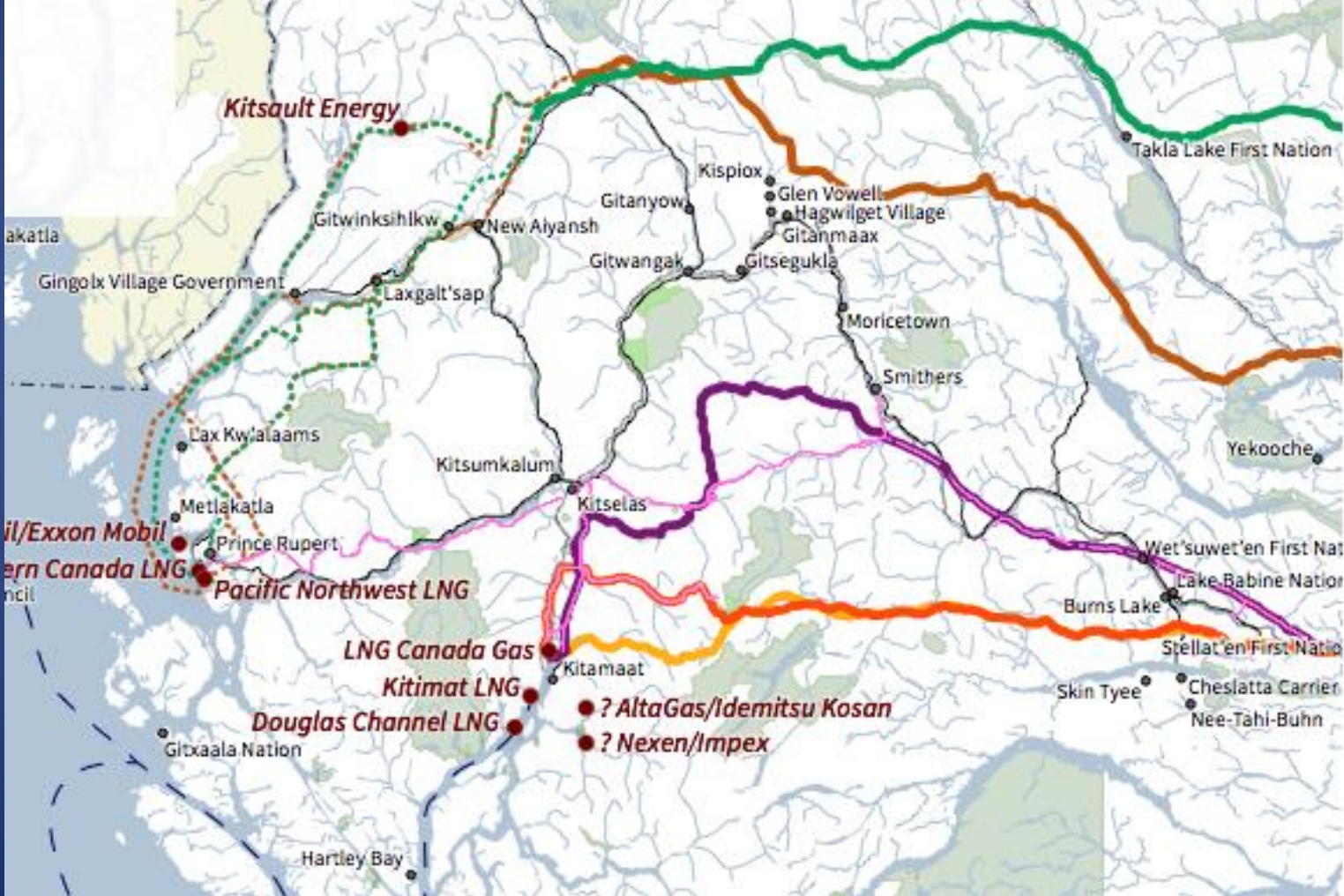
# *1 - Responsible development is well planned*

This means government , indigenous and local communities playing an active role in determining appropriate sites for developments such as LNG plants.

- Instead, the past seven years saw a “Wild West” scenario in which 16 LNG companies proposed 18 liquefaction facilities and 6 pipelines with no coordinated planning.



Creating multiple pipeline corridors with the same origin and terminus poses unnecessary environmental impact. So does siting an LNG plant on top of critical juvenile Salmon habitat in the Skeena estuary.



If senior governments provide leadership early on, it not only prevents environmental damage, it also provides greater certainty for proponents.



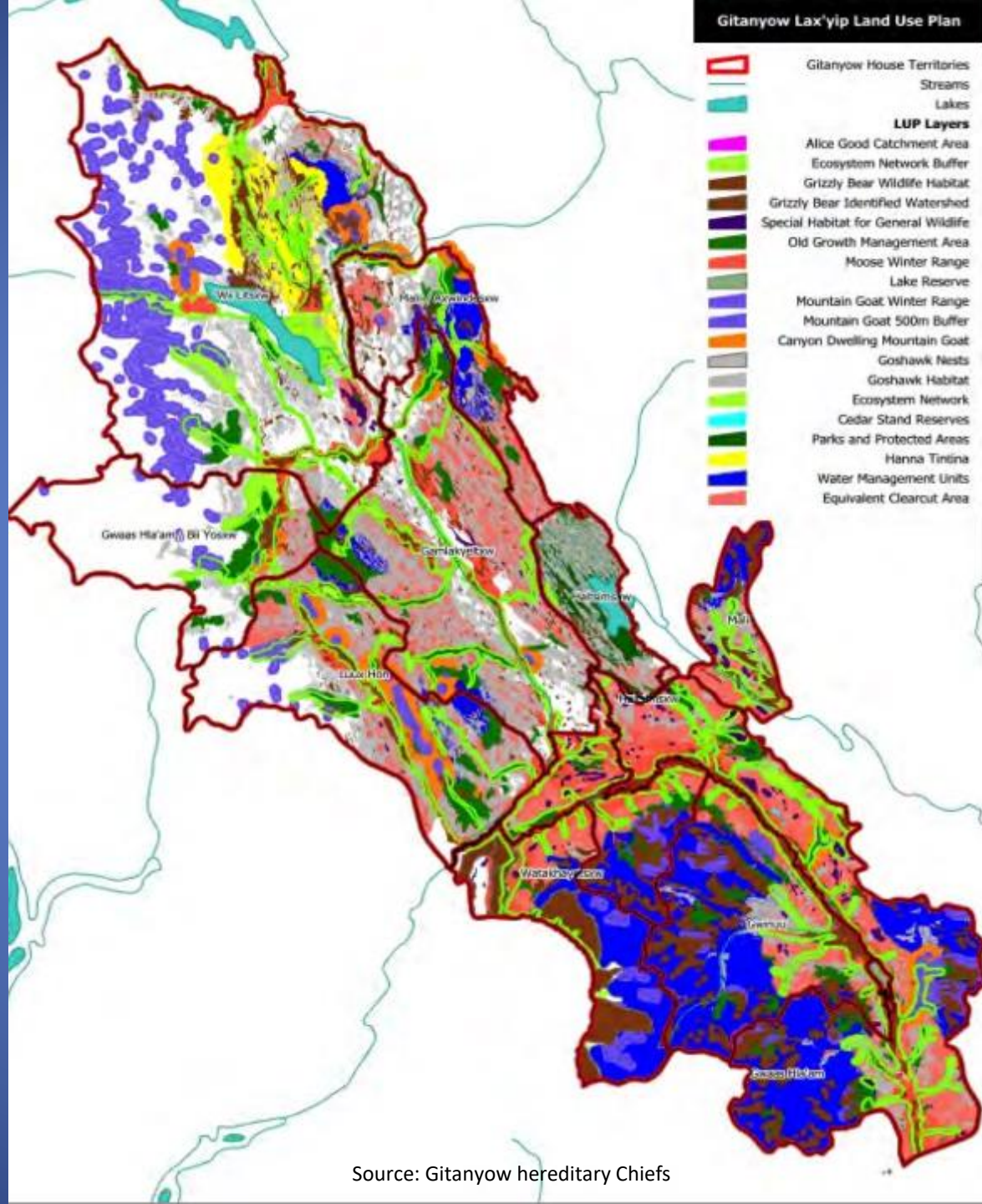
Brian Huntington Photo



# Land use planning

- LRMP's, SRMP's
- Gitanyow, Gitwangak, Taku River Tlingit, Great Bear Rainforest
- New commitments & initiatives

## Regional Environmental Assessments



Source: Gitanyow hereditary Chiefs



## *2 - Responsible development is assessed objectively, in the interest of communities and the environment*

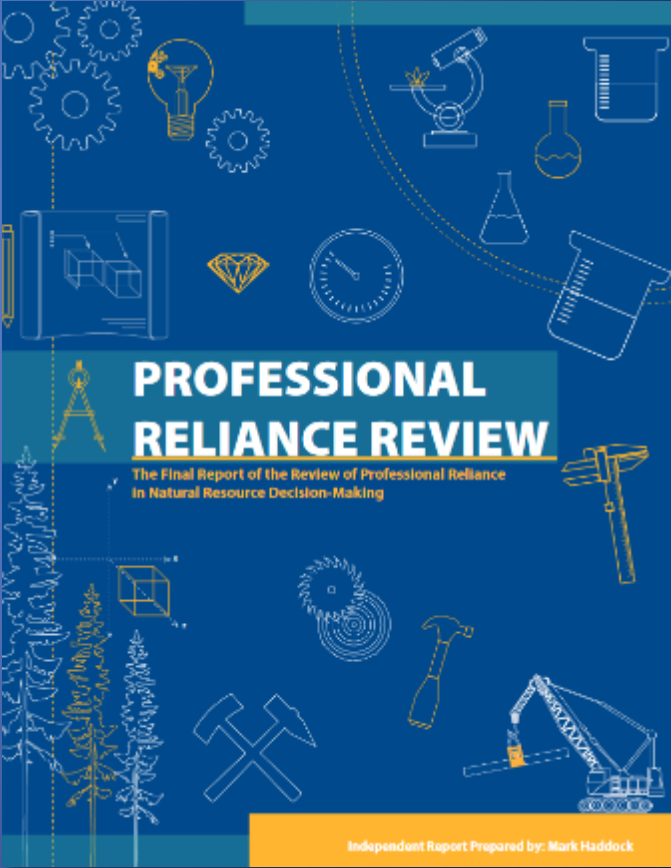
Our environmental assessment process's have been flawed because they rely mostly on information generated by development proponents themselves, through consultants.

- There have been issues with the validity of such information, which undermines the integrity of the assessments.
- Information / baseline data is often proprietary and impact assessment methodology often lacks transparency.
- Requires fully objective, arms length assessment / review of project impacts.

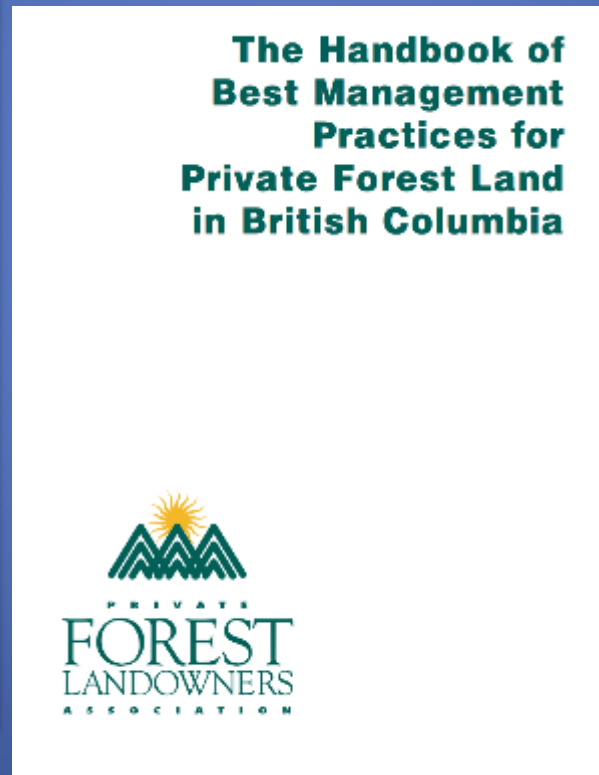
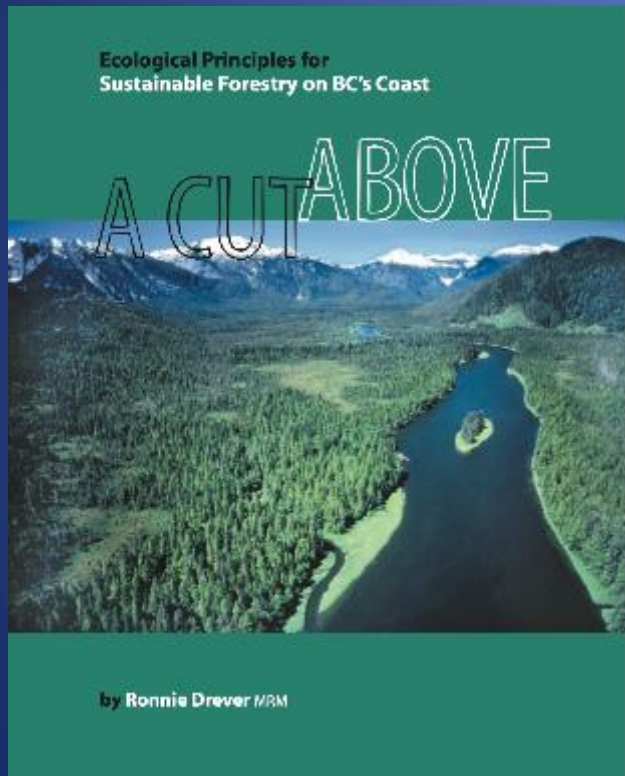
Until now EA's have not allowed public input on project siting and design

- Requires that local communities and indigenous groups have an opportunity to provide feedback before the big decisions are made

B.C.'s new environmental assessment process and "professional reliance" system.



# 3 - Responsible development uses industry best practices





# 4 - Responsible development is properly monitored and enforced

British Columbia

## Auditor general slams B.C. for failing to adequately monitor mines



Report calls for independent compliance and enforcement unit

The Canadian Press - Posted: May 03, 2016 5:00 PM PT | Last Updated: May 3, 2016



Concretes from a tailings pond is pictured going down the Hazelton Creek into Quesne Lake near Hazelton, B.C., on August 5, 2014. (Constable Hayward/The Canadian Press)

British Columbia

## Forestry watchdog highlights 'major weaknesses and gaps' in B.C.'s enforcement of logging laws



Forests Ministry says it's already implementing some of the report's recommendations

Marysa Zeldin - CBC News - Posted: Apr 28, 2019 3:06 PM PT | Last Updated: April 28, 2019



British Columbia's natural resource officers investigate forest practices like logging in the province. A recent report from the Forest Practices Board says they're stretched too thin. (B.C. Compliance and Enforcement Branch)

The Narwhal



NEWS

## Groups call on B.C. to fund Indigenous monitoring of mines in traditional territories

As the province considers reforms to mining laws, 30 organizations are advocating for increased transparency and more independent enforcement — including an increased role for Indigenous communities to oversee projects approved on their lands.

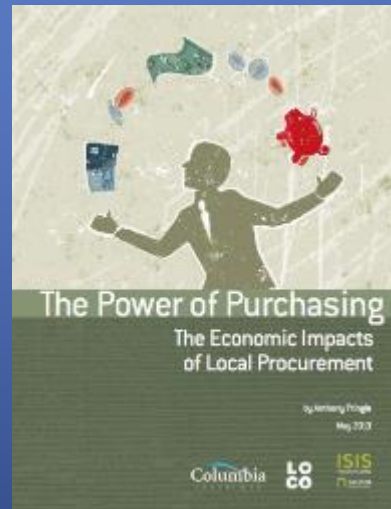
Judith Lewis • Oct 30, 2019

1:7 minutes

# 5 - Responsible development keeps a fair share of benefits in the communities where the development takes place

The Northwest must be more than a giant funnel that extracts wealth in our region and sends it to southern B.C., with a trickle coming back in the form of grants for which communities must compete.

- The Northwest Resource Benefits Alliance
  - an initiative that aims to gain a fair share for our region's communities.
  - every local government from Haida Gwaii to Vanderhoof.
- Local procurement
- Revenue Sharing agreements with indigenous groups
- Agreements must be transparent, provide for community engagement and not be tied to support for the project



## *6 - Responsible development embraces the shift towards First Nations co-management*

This is the new reality in our region, a positive one.

To fully realize the potential of this shift to co-management, investments must be made to enhance First Nations' capacity.

Requires transparency and accountability

Local non-indigenous communities must also have a stronger voice in resource development.





# *7 - Responsible development takes a long view of the future of our region*

## Boom & Bust

- Diversification is key
- Our opportunities are changing

## Actions today have impacts tomorrow

- mid-term timber supply
- tailings ponds for open pit mines



Gath Lenz Photo



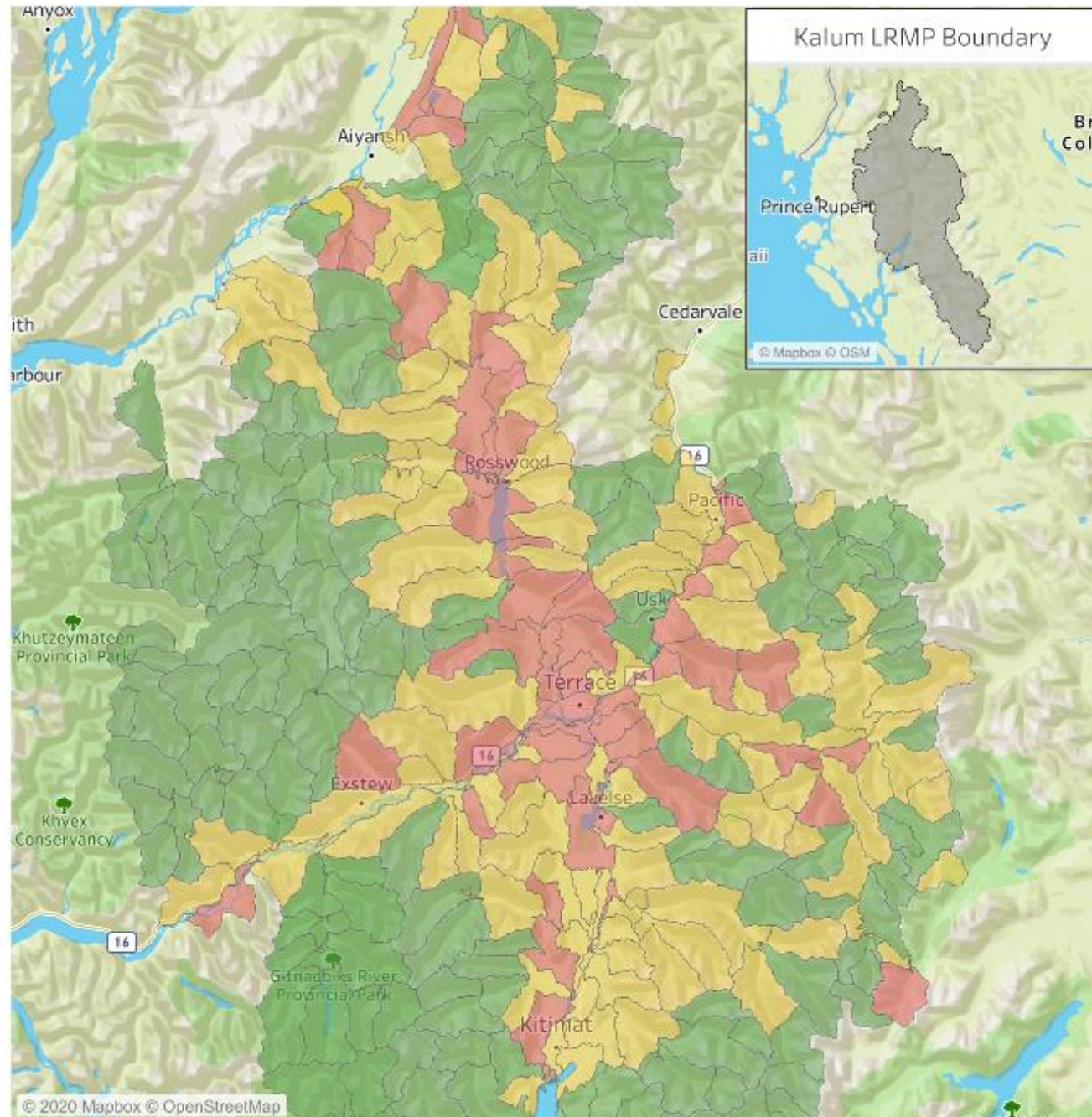
Brian Huntington Photo



## PSF Indicator Analysis Results for the Kalum LRMP Area - All Salmon Species

### Cumulative effects

- New & existing tools
- Government (Stewardship Baseline Objectives Tool)
- Indigenous initiatives (Environmental Stewardship Initiative)
- Salmon Habitat Impact Assessments





*The world is changing*

Climate change is  
impacting our resources  
in serious ways



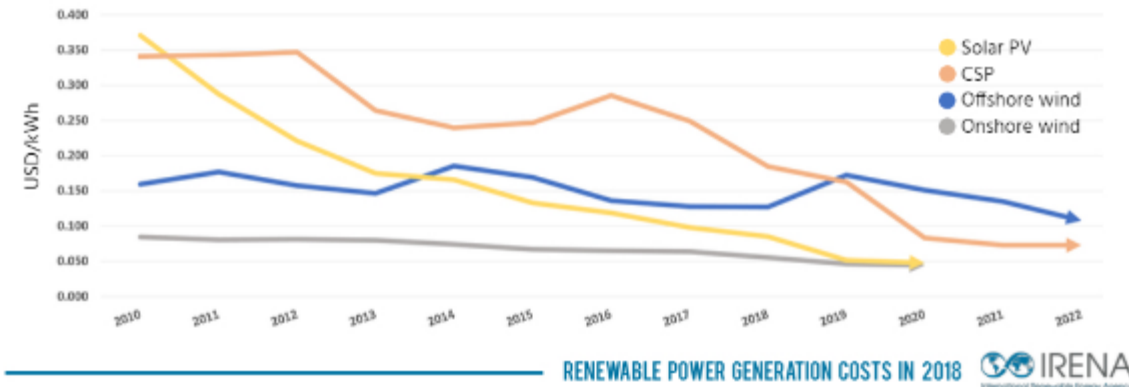
Black Press photo



Brian Huntington photo

# Fossil fuel industry starting to decline

By 2020, **onshore wind** and **solar PV** will be a less expensive source of new electricity than the cheapest fossil fuel alternative.

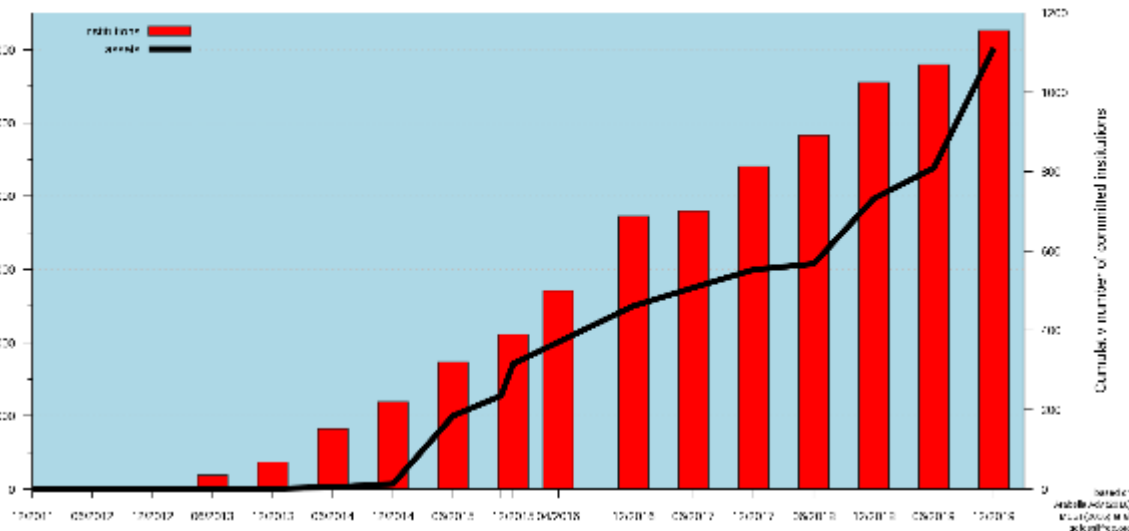


CNN.COM

**Exxon's market value has crumbled by \$184 billion**

ExxonMobil used to have bragging rights as the world's most valuable publi...

Growth of Fossil-Fuel Divestment



RENEWECONOMY.COM.AU

**Nordic steel giant to use renewable hydrogen to produce fossil-free steel by 2026**



# Renewable energy / sustainability issues driving demand for responsible practices

Increasing Demands for “green mining”, certified forestry practices

## BMW becomes first car manufacturer to join IRMA mining standards initiative

By Andrew Fawthrop 09 Jun 2020

MINING SAFETY

With demand for minerals like cobalt and lithium on the rise, the German auto firm has agreed to adopt ethical mining standards across its supply chain



## Renewables promising for miners, but edge may go to most responsible operators

Author: Taylor Kaykondill | S&P Global Market Intelligence  
Theme: Energy, Metals

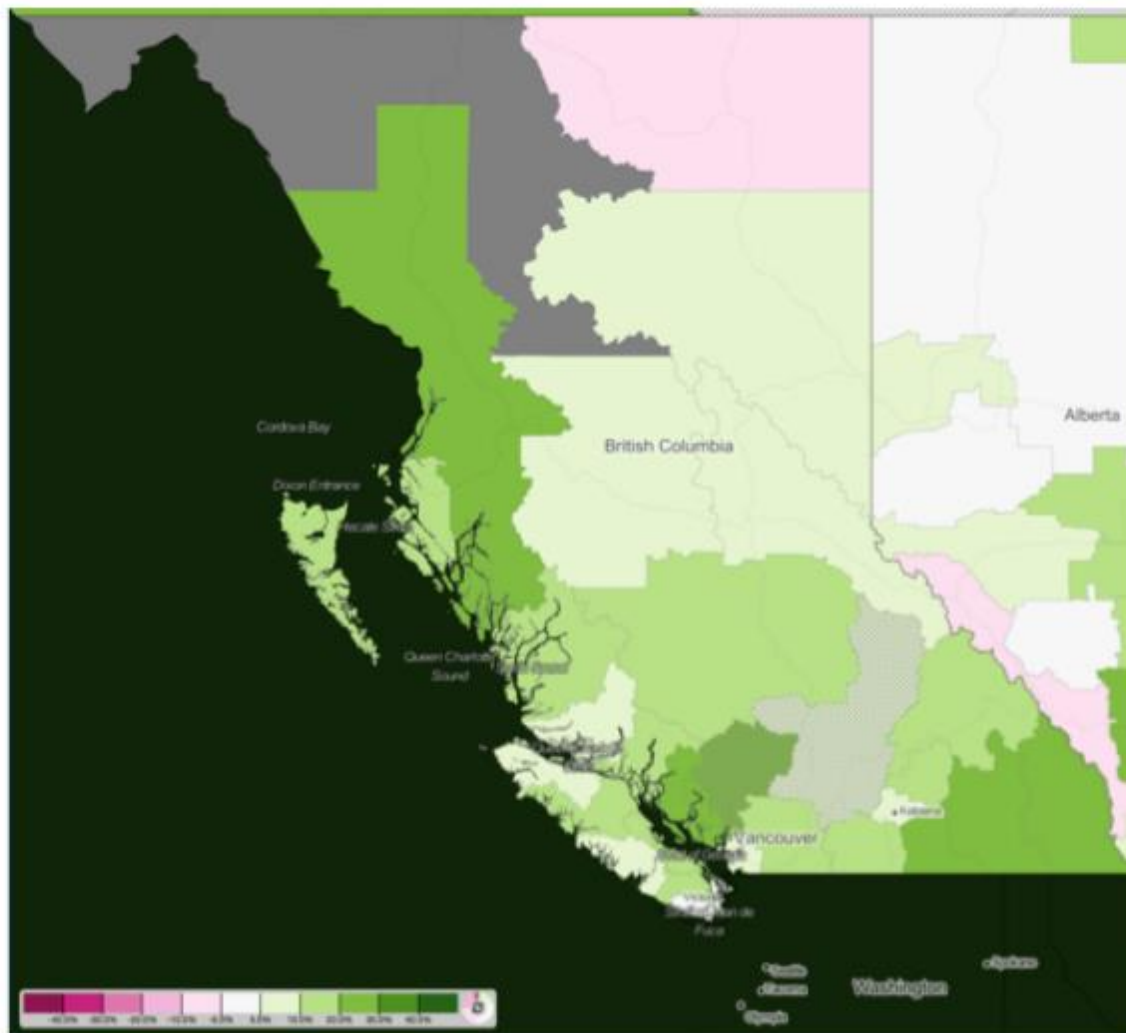


Codelco, the National Copper Corporation of Chile, operates the Chuquibambilla copper mine in Calama, Chile.  
Source: Grego Uetey, courtesy of Earthworks



# Young people are moving to NW BC

Figure 14: Provincial distribution of net migration of people aged 25 to 29 by within-region net migration. Darker green implies positive net migration.



Source: Censusmapper.ca (2011 and 2016 Census)



# Opportunities to strengthen the NW BC economy

Stories of local entrepreneurs and innovators who are un-tapping the potential in our regional economy



4:15

## Responsible Development: Coastal Shellfish

7.3K views · October 4, 2018



2:26

## Responsible Development: Hype Tea

811 views · September 17, 2018



3:38

## Responsible Development: Lake Drive Lumber

14K views · August 27, 2018



3:33

## Responsible Development: White Goat Coffee

9.1K views · August 10, 2018



2:54

## Responsible Development: Hazelton Hops

11K views · July 20, 2018



1:56

## Responsible Development: Seaton Forest Products

7.3K views · July 6, 2018



2:28

## Responsible Development: Maple Leaf Green World

2.6K views · June 27, 2018



2:09

## Tiny Life Supply

7.2K views · June 20, 2018



2:14

## Responsible Development: Ft. Babine Sawmill



1:47

## Responsible Development: Energy Alternatives



7:06

## Our Approach to Responsible Development



1:38

## The Invisible Migration

2.4K views · May 20, 2018



# Forestry



*Source: Gitanyow*





Amazay Lake

*Source: Tye*

# Kemess underground

Kemess Tailing facility



*Source: Hemmera*



