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January 4, 2017

## LETTER OF INVITATION

To: All British Columbia Chiefs and Councils

### SAVE THE DATE!

### **Internal Strategy Session on National Energy Board Modernization Friday, February 17, 2017 at Richmond, BC**

The B.C First Nations Energy and Mining Council (FNEMC) is holding an internal strategy session for Chiefs, leaders and First Nations energy/regulatory technicians on the National Energy Board (NEB) modernization review announced by the federal government. A five-member Expert Panel was appointed November 8, 2016 by the Minister of Natural Resources Canada to review the NEB's structure, role and mandate. The strategy session is scheduled for Friday, February 17, 2017 in Richmond at the River Rock Casino Resort from 9:00-16:00. 45 hotel rooms have been reserved at a rate of \$165.00+ taxes, per night. This special rate will be held until Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> so please book your room and register for the event this week.

The workshop travel budget is limited so FNEMC will only be able to provide a subsidy of \$150.00 for accommodations (in addition to a per diem) for 1 member per First Nation. More than one member can attend although one subsidy is only available per First Nation. The February 17<sup>th</sup> date was chosen to assist with the limited budget as this date coincides with the conclusion of the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs Council February meeting in Vancouver. Thus we expect there will be a large number of eligible workshop participants in the city. It was only after the decision on a workshop date that Natural Resources Canada, the secretariat for the NEB review, determined the dates of the Expert Panel sessions. The Vancouver dates for the Expert Panel sessions are February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and unfortunately occur before the workshop. Expert Panel session dates for Fort St. John are scheduled for March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

FNEMC will prepare and circulate an NEB backgrounder and issues paper to all First Nations in BC later in January. The session and materials will assist First Nations to prepare written and oral submissions to the Expert Panel.

Attached is a registration form and if you would please submit to FNEMC's Joanna Prince as soon as possible, in order to finalize logistics. I encourage you to make every effort to attend the strategy session so as to best prepare your First Nation for submissions to the Expert Panel.

Please refer to the FNEMC website for updated information and should you have any questions or comments, please contact [Joanna.Prince@fnemc.ca](mailto:Joanna.Prince@fnemc.ca)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Porter', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dave Porter  
CEO FNEMC

Attachment: Registration Form

cc: First Nations Leadership Council