

The Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Project benefits all of us

The Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion project will reap benefits throughout Canada.

The project will create tens of thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in economic activity, taxes and other revenues that will help to fund government investments in healthcare, education, roads and bridges. The mutual benefits agreements Kinder Morgan has signed with First Nations and Métis Nation communities in Alberta and British Columbia will provide those communities with revenues and other opportunities, including training, procurement and servicing contracts, community services and infrastructure. All of these benefits will disappear if the project dies.

Just as important to Canada as the immediate economic and environmental protection benefits of this project is the message we send to the world if we cannot get the project built. The Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion was approved following a multi-year, rigorous and scientifically sound review process that included consultations with thousands of individuals and meaningful engagement with First Nations and Métis Nation communities.

If the project does not proceed, it will perpetuate Canada's dependence upon the United States as our sole oil and gas customer, a customer that currently buys our resources at a discount price because we have no other markets we can access.

Some believe we should apologize for our oil and gas inheritance. The opposite is true. Oil and gas production is something Canadians do better — and to higher standards — than anyone else in the world. The sector is innovative and high tech, and it has the potential to supply the energy needed to allow millions now living in poverty to enjoy higher living standards. This should be a source of pride for every Canadian, and getting Canadian resources to global markets responsibly should be the goal of every politician who purports to be serving his or her constituents.

The debate over the Trans Mountain Expansion project raises questions about how we govern ourselves as a country. The decision we make will affect all of us. For a more prosperous future, we need to build it now.

Hon. Perrin Beatty
President & Chief Executive Officer
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Dr. David Chartrand.
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