

For Immediate Release

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Local leaders launch *Alliance of Resource Communities* to advocate for resource jobs

Victoria – At the “[Get it Done](#)” conference hosted by Resource Works on Monday, mayors from around BC came together to advocate for resource development.

“It’s time for an alliance of community leaders from all corners of the province to come together and strongly advocate for a secure and brighter economic future through the responsible development of our abundant natural resources,” said Campbell River mayor Kermit Dahl.

“While it’s encouraging that the federal and provincial governments are becoming more vocal in support of major projects, thousands of people in my community who rely on natural resource industries face an uncertain future,” added Dahl.

Dahl was joined by 11 other mayors in issuing five calls-to-action last week, through a [joint op-ed](#):

- 1) Effective and co-ordinated government action in support of natural resource industries facing external economic threats
- 2) Faster approvals of responsible natural resource projects
- 3) Increasing the momentum for First Nations economic participation in resource development.
- 4) Stronger “can-do” advocacy from all levels of government in the responsible development of natural resources in B.C.
- 5) The active involvement of local government and First Nations from the beginning, and not as an afterthought.

Mayor Brad West, City of Port Coquitlam:

“Resource development is not just a rural issue. Natural resources pay the bills for thousands of families in Port Coquitlam. Whether it’s a pipeline, a cutblock, or a copper mine, we benefit in the Lower Mainland.”

Mayor Lillia Hansen, City of Fort St. John:

“We have abundant resources in BC. We have everything we need to have strong, prosperous communities and First Nations. All levels of government need to collaborate and focus on the key opportunities right in front of us.”

Mayor Herb Pond, City of Prince Rupert:

“We have learned in the past year that we can’t rely on the U.S. for stable trade. We have no option but to urgently expand and diversify our markets in order to protect our communities. The world needs our critical minerals, our LNG, our lumber, our coal, our salmon and many, many other exports that flow through our Pacific gateways. Let’s get it done.”

Convened by Mayor Kermit Dahl, the Alliance of Resource Communities will move forward in the coming weeks to advocate for effective and coordinated action to protect and grow resource jobs, in rural and urban communities around BC.

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For more information:

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