

Honorable David Eby
Premier of British Columbia
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC, V8W 9E1

Groningen, 2023

Dear Honourable David Eby,

I wish to express my concern regarding the Coastal GasLink (CGL) pipeline being constructed on Wet'suwet'en territory and the ongoing criminalization of Wet'suwet'en land and water defenders. The Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs, matriarchs and community members continue to face violence, surveillance, intimidation and harassment from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, CGL employees and CGL's private security forces on a daily basis.

Nine land defenders, who have been charged with criminal contempt, have already started trial in April and July 2023, or will go on trial in October 2023, and January 2024. They have been charged with defying a court order to stay away from pipeline construction sites, even though these sites are situated on the Nation's unceded, ancestral territory. If found guilty, they could be sentenced to prison.

It is appalling to learn that the Canadian government is operating this way. I therefore respectfully request that you take all measures to end the criminalization of Indigenous land and water defenders and drop the criminal charges against these individuals.

Yours sincerely,